

Line of Duty Deaths for the Third Quarter of 2018



National Law Enforcement Officers
MEMORIAL
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31

Law Enforcement Officer Deaths in Third Quarter of 2018

A SEVEN PERCENT DECREASE COMPARED TO 33 OFFICER FATALITIES DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 2017

According to preliminary data from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 31 officers were killed during the third quarter of 2018, a seven percent decrease compared to 33 officer fatalities during the third quarter of 2017.



Firearm-related fatalities were the leading cause of officer deaths during the third quarter of 2018, with 12 officer fatalities, up 20 percent from 10 fatalities during the same time in 2017.

Traffic-related fatalities (7) were the lowest cause of officer deaths during the third quarter of this year, decreasing 42 percent from the 12 officers killed during the third quarter of 2017. Of the seven traffic-related fatalities, four officers were struck and killed while outside their patrol vehicles, two officers were killed in motorcycle crashes, and one officer was killed in a vehicle crash.

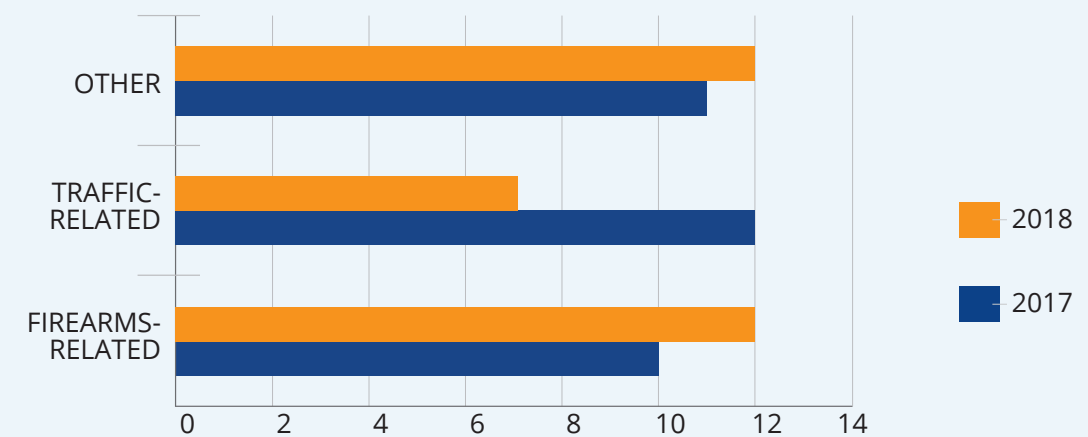
Of the remaining 12 officer fatalities, eight died from job-related illnesses (heart attack or stroke), two officers were beaten to death, one died of an illness related to recovery work from the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and one officer drowned.

California and Texas suffered the most fatalities in the third quarter of the year, with four deaths each, followed by Florida, Minnesota, Mississippi, and New York with two fatalities each. Arizona, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts,

Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Washington, and Wisconsin each sustained one officer fatality during the third quarter of this year. Thirty states did not suffer a law enforcement fatality during the third quarter of 2018.

The average age of the officers killed in the line of duty was 40 years old, and the average length of service was 11 years. Of the 31 fallen officers, one officer was female, and 30 were male. On average, each officer left behind two children.

Third Quarter-Year Fatalities for 2018



This report is part of an innovative partnership with NHTSA to promote law enforcement officer safety. The data and statistics contained in this report are preliminary and do not represent a final or complete list of individual officers who will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in 2019.

RECENTLY FALLEN

Police Officer
Diego Moreno



Kent
Washington
Police Department

END OF WATCH: July 22, 2018

Police Officer Moreno was struck and killed while deploying spike strips during a vehicle pursuit.



Deputy Sheriff
Benjamin LeMont
Zirbel

Clay County
Florida
Sheriff's Office

END OF WATCH: August 21, 2018

Deputy Sheriff Zirbel succumbed to injuries sustained in a motorcycle crash two days earlier.

Police Officer
Kirt R. Ricks, III



Montgomery
Louisiana
Police Department

END OF WATCH: September 7, 2018

Police Officer Ricks was killed in an automobile crash when his patrol car collided with an oncoming vehicle.

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7 Traffic-Related Fatalities

Of the seven traffic-related fatalities, four officers were struck and killed while outside their patrol vehicles, two officers were killed in motorcycle crashes, and one officer was killed in a vehicle crash.

STRUCK OUTSIDE VEHICLE

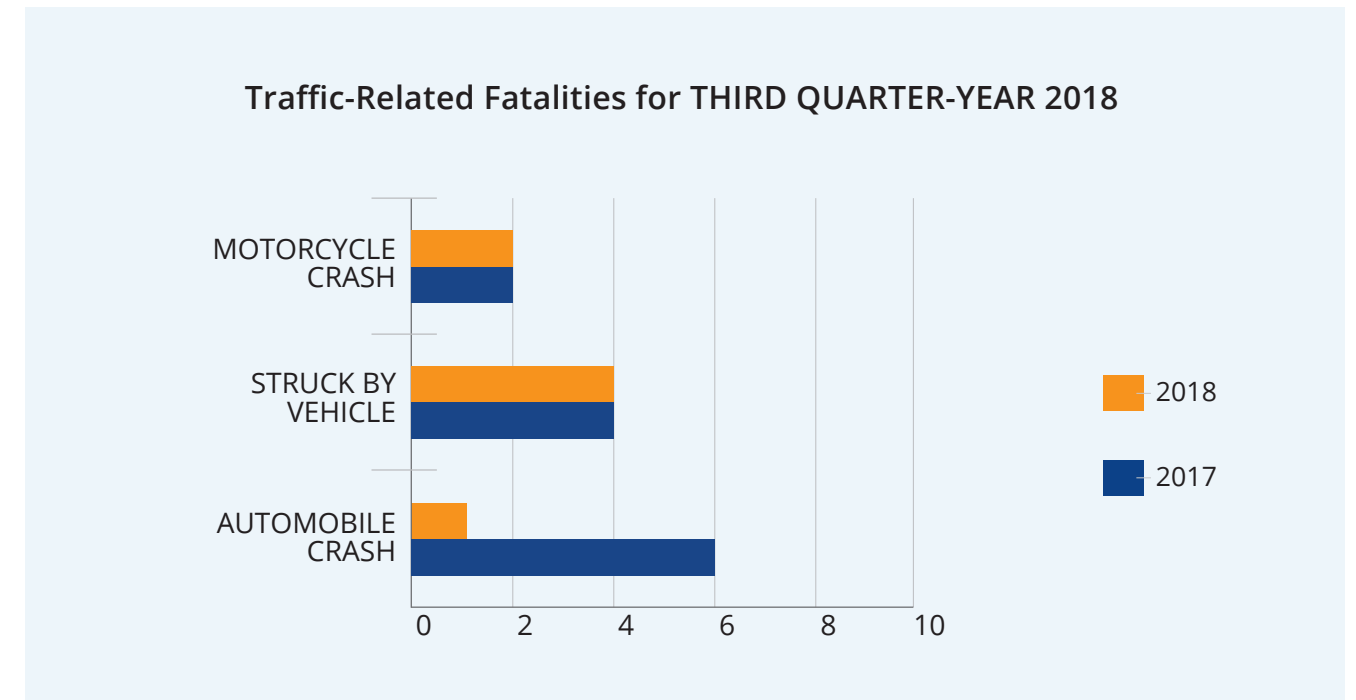
Fifty-seven percent of officers killed in traffic-related incidents were killed while outside their patrol vehicles. This number remains constant during the same period of 2017.

One officer was inadvertently killed by another patrol vehicle involved in the pursuit of an impaired driver. The officer killed was deploying spike sticks at the time of the incident.

Another officer was struck and killed while conducting a traffic stop. A distracted driver drifted into another lane and struck both the officer and the subject of the traffic stop.

A third officer was struck and killed by a hit-and-run driver. The officer was assisting other officers with crowd control at a nightclub when he was struck.

The fourth officer struck and killed was stopping traffic and hit by an impaired driver traveling at a speed of 100mph.



MOTORCYCLE CRASHES

Twenty-nine percent of officers killed in traffic-related incidents involved motorcycle crashes. This is equal to the number during the same period in 2017.

One of the officers killed in a motorcycle crash was hit by an impaired driver while assisting in a funeral procession for another officer.

The other officer was killed by a man driving a truck pulling a lawn trailer.

The driver failed to yield the right of way and the two vehicles crashed.

VEHICLE CRASHES

One officer was killed when his patrol car left the roadway, colliding head-on with an oncoming vehicle. During the third quarter of 2017, there were six officers killed in vehicle crashes.



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