

# Car & Truck Crashes

Car crashes are the second-leading cause of injury deaths in the NWT. During the 1990s, 55 people died because of a car or truck crash.

Most of the people who died in a vehicle crash were driving or riding in the vehicle. Other people who died were walking on the road or riding a bike. (Children under the age of 15 who died in a car crash were more likely to be walking or riding a bike.)

Young men between the ages of 15 and 24 are most likely to die or hurt themselves in car and truck crashes. Dene are more likely to die or be hospitalized from car crashes. People who live outside Yellowknife are more likely to be hospitalized than people who live in Yellowknife.



## What can I do to be a safer driver?

- **Wear a seat belt every time you go for a drive.** Many NWT residents don't wear them. Seat belts keep you safer if you're in a crash. You are less likely to die or be badly hurt.
- **Put your kids in a car seat.** Make sure it's the right size for your kids and that it's put in the car the right way.
- **Be extra careful if you're a new driver.** If you're not used to driving, it can be hard to deal with tough situations. Follow all speed limits, and be careful when you pass other drivers.
- **Be extra careful on NWT highways.** Between communities, there aren't many emergency services, and it could take hours before a nurse or doctor can treat people in an accident.
- **Never drink and drive.** Alcohol was involved in almost a quarter of NWT injuries and deaths from car and truck crashes.