

Massachusetts

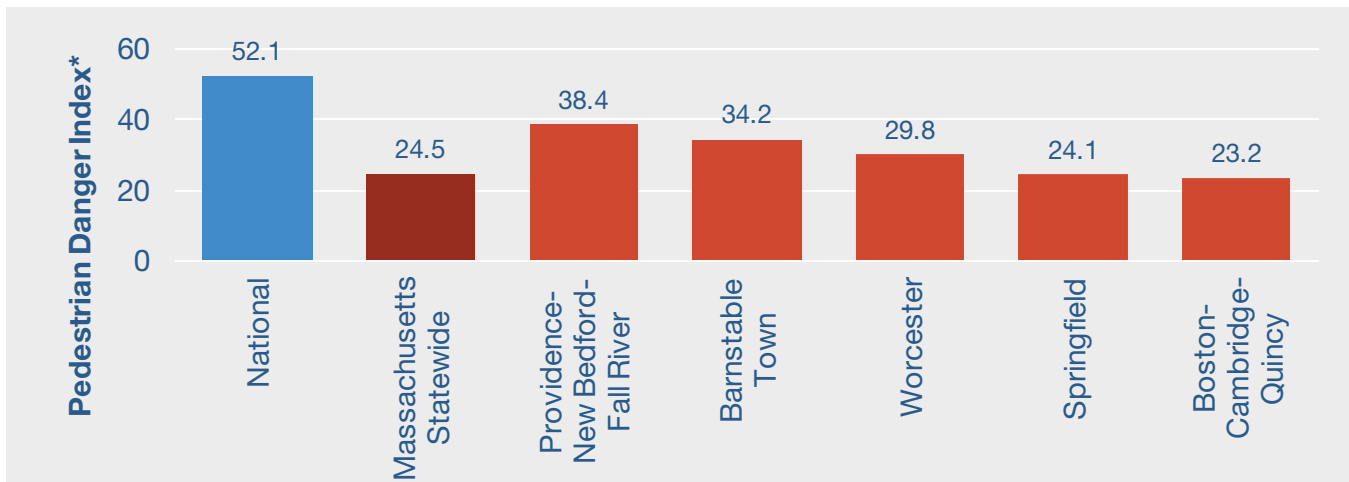


Walking on streets designed more for speeding cars than for people on foot can be deadly. More than 4,500 Americans died last year while crossing the street, walking to school, going to a bus stop, or strolling to the grocery store. But *not* walking is equally as hazardous. Partly out of traffic safety fears, people are walking less these days, with serious consequences for our weight and health. The CDC reports that two-thirds of Americans are now overweight or obese.

The good news is that communities that choose to change road policies and invest in safer designs see fewer deaths and injuries, even as they make their neighborhoods more livable and invite more people to walk and bicycle. Though growing in number, these places are still the exception rather than the rule.

Statewide
Pedestrian
Fatalities
(2007-2008)
138

The Risk of Walking in Selected Massachusetts Metro Areas



**The Pedestrian Danger Index is a measure of the relative risk of walking, adjusted for exposure. It is calculated by dividing the average pedestrian fatality rate (2007-2008), by the percentage of residents walking to work (2000).

Total traffic deaths that were pedestrians

11.8%
US AVERAGE

17.7%
MASSACHUSETTS

Pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 people

1.53
US AVERAGE

1.06
MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Metropolitan Areas Ranked by the Danger to Pedestrians

Rank	Metro Area	Population (2008)	Pedestrian Danger Index	Pedestrian Fatalities (2007-2008)	% of Total Traffic Deaths that Were Pedestrians	Avg. Annual Fed. \$ Spent on Bike/Ped per Person
1	Providence-New Bedford-Fall River	1,596,611	38.4	40	17.5%	\$4.01
2	Barnstable Town	221,049	34.2	4	8.5%	\$4.56
3	Worcester	783,806	29.8	14	11.5%	\$0.42
4	Springfield	687,558	24.1	16	16.8%	\$3.98
5	Boston-Cambridge-Quincy	4,522,858	23.2	96	20.3%	\$1.11
6	Pittsfield	129,395	21.8	3	13.0%	\$0.00

Federal Funds Spent on Pedestrian Projects in Massachusetts (FY2005-FY2008)

Total Federal Transportation Funds Available in Massachusetts

\$2.28
Billion

Portion of Federal Funds Spent on Pedestrian Projects

1.2%

Amount Spent per Person on Pedestrian Facilities and Safety

\$1.03