

California Traffic Deaths Continue Rising as Infrastructure Funding Lags Behind Safety Research

California traffic deaths are climbing despite safety initiatives, raising concerns over infrastructure, enforcement, and community protection.

LOS ANGELES, CA, UNITED STATES, September 9, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Sacramento County has recorded [103 traffic fatalities through September 2025](#),

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Michael Avanesian

according to recent data, while an August street racing incident in Temecula resulted in four deaths, including two teenagers.

The Sacramento County fatalities have affected individuals across all age groups, with pedestrians and cyclists representing a significant portion of casualties recorded through mid-2025.

"The data reveals concerning patterns in California traffic safety outcomes," said Michael Avanesian, Personal Injury Attorney, Avian Law Group. "Sacramento County's current fatality rate, combined with incidents like the Temecula tragedy, indicates ongoing challenges in road safety infrastructure and enforcement."

Current Safety Initiative Status

Sacramento adopted Vision Zero policies targeting elimination of traffic fatalities by 2027. However, [over 300 people have died on city streets since the initiative began](#) eight years ago. The city has committed to implementing 40 "quick-build" safety projects annually as part of its response strategy.

West Sacramento has allocated \$350,000 toward Vision Zero goals after research identified 101 serious vehicle collisions over seven years, resulting in an average of four deaths annually.

California Highway Patrol data indicates distracted driving remains the leading cause of accidents statewide in 2025.

Infrastructure Research Findings

Transportation safety research demonstrates that specific infrastructure modifications can reduce crash rates. Protected bike lanes decrease crash occurrence by 35-45 percent, while Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons and Pedestrian Hybrid Beacons achieve 35-55 percent reductions in crash rates.

California's Strategic Highway Safety Plan notes that [more fatalities occur on local roadways compared to state highways](#), despite most vehicle miles traveled happening on state roads. This data suggests local infrastructure design significantly influences safety outcomes.

"Research shows infrastructure modifications can substantially impact traffic safety statistics," Avanesian noted. "Design elements including lane width, crossing protection, and speed management features directly correlate with crash reduction data."

California ranks second nationally for total traffic fatalities.

Data from 2023 indicates that approximately 30 percent of fatal crashes involve speeding as a contributing factor. The Temecula incident occurred on a highway segment where the suspected racing vehicle crossed the center median at high speed, resulting in the fatal collision.

Legal Perspective on Traffic Safety

"Legal cases involving traffic fatalities often reveal infrastructure factors that contribute to incident severity," Avanesian explained. "Systematic examination of these cases provides data that can inform policy discussions and infrastructure planning decisions."

His firm represents families affected by traffic incidents while documenting patterns that emerge from case analysis. This approach combines individual legal representation with broader examination of systemic factors influencing road safety outcomes.

California Traffic Safety Crisis Demands Immediate Action

The Sacramento County statistics align with broader California trends showing persistent challenges in traffic safety despite various policy initiatives. The county's current pace suggests it will exceed 2024's total fatalities if current trends continue through the year-end.

The Temecula victims—two teenagers returning from youth soccer activities—represent demographic patterns showing young people remain vulnerable to traffic incidents involving high-speed driving. Their deaths occurred during what investigators believe was illegal street racing activity.

Traffic safety data indicates that effective interventions require coordination between infrastructure design, enforcement strategies, and community education programs.

About Michael

Michael Avanesian is the founder and driving force behind Avian Law Group. With a strong background in personal injury law, he brings both strategic acumen and heartfelt advocacy to

every case. Recognized as Glendale's #1 Personal Injury Attorney and a Super Lawyers "Rising Star," Michael is committed to ensuring justice for injury victims across the Southwest. His leadership has propelled the firm to secure over \$2.2 billion in settlements and verdicts. Fluent in multiple languages and deeply invested in his community, Michael is as approachable as he is relentless in the courtroom. For more details, please visit avianlawgroup.com/contact-us

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