Speeding-related crashes killed an estimated **10,134 people** in 2012 in the United States, an average of **28 people a day**.

*Source: Daily fatality based on National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s (NHTSA) Early Estimate of Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities, August 2013, multiplied by 30 percent average of all fatalities being speed related.*

In 2011, **9,944 people died** in speeding crashes in the U.S., a **24% decrease** from 2007.

*Source: 2007-2011 report generated by National Center for Statistics and Analysis, an office of the NHTSA.*

**From 2007-2011 an average of...**

- **11,205 people died** each year in speed-related crashes.

- **934 people were killed** each month in speeding crashes.

- **$5.6 billion** was lost each month to speeding-fatality related costs.

In 2011, **25% of speed-related fatalities** occurred on streets with a posted speed limit of **35 mph or less**.


- **87% of speed-related fatalities** occurred on roads that were **not interstate highways** in 2011.

**Myth V. Fact**

**Myth** – Higher speeds are safer for traffic.

**Fact**: **Speeding-related fatalities remained level** for the first 10 years since the national maximum speed limit repeal, but **should have decreased** if higher speeds are safer.

*Source: Governors Highway Safety Administration.*

**Myth** – Speeding is not a problem.

**Fact**: Speeding is one of the most prevalent factors contributing to traffic crashes. In 2011, speeding was a contributing factor in **30.7%** of all fatal crashes, and **9,944 lives were lost** in speeding-related crashes.

Myth – Speed cameras can generate false readings.

Fact: Most speed-measuring devices are equally accurate measuring approaching or receding traffic speeds and are accurate to within 1 mph when used properly.
Source: NHTSA: Speed Enforcement Camera Systems Operational Guidelines.

Myth – Speed safety cameras violate citizens’ due process rights under the Fifth and 14th Amendments by presuming the driver is guilty, preventing the driver from confronting his/her accuser and delaying immediate notice of the offense.

Fact: There is no presumption of guilt in a ticket issued from camera-based evidence. A citation is a summons. Every person who receives a citation for speeding has the opportunity to contest their ticket, just as they can with a traditional traffic ticket. They may confront the police officer who approves the citation based on photographic evidence and notices the accused within the statute of limitations.

Fact: Citations are mailed to the vehicle’s registered owner, who has the option to sign a legal affidavit stating he/she was not driving the vehicle at the time of the violation.

Fact: In 2010, the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that speed cameras in Akron, Ohio, did not violate due process, stating. “As the district court found, the ordinance provides for notice of the citation, an opportunity for a hearing, provision for a record of the hearing decision, and the right to appeal an adverse decision. We agree with the district court that the ordinance and its implementation, as detailed in the stipulations, satisfy due process.”

Research Shows Speed Cameras Improve Safety

Outside the United States, countries with longer histories of using speed safety cameras as part of their enforcement programs have reported reductions in speed-related fatalities of 15% to 20%.

A speed camera program reduced injury crashes by 28% to 48% in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that fixed speed cameras reduce injury crashes by 20% to 25%, and mobile speed cameras reduce injury collisions by 21% to 51%, and that “automated enforcement systems can result in measurable safety improvements at high crash locations.”