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**CONTACT: James Scott Baron**  
 540/368-1701 office  
 540/368-2530 home  
 540/842-1855 cellular

**Work Zone Statistics Reveal Record High Number of Fatalities**

Fredericksburg, Va. – Work zone fatality statistics have been released for calendar year 2000. One thousand ninety three is the figure, up 225, or 26 percent, from the 868 killed in work zones in 1999.

“This data drives home the need for training, the presence of law enforcement in work zones and better data collection,” said Roger A. Wentz, executive director of the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA).

“I believe in reality, the number is probably higher,” said Wentz. “When accidents occur, they are usually filed as simply occurring on roadways, not in work zones.”

Wentz added, “The presence of law enforcement officers in work zones also tends to “calm” traffic, and adequately trained workers have the tools to be able to react when an emergency is occurring or is about to. By taking these basic steps, the numbers of those killed in work zones could dramatically be reduced. We need to take steps such as “positive separation” and use crash cushions and impact attenuators to better protect workers and motorists.”

Calendar year 1999’s figure – 868 – was an all time high for the nation; however, “the 2000 figures are frightening,” said Wentz, “especially as we look forward to greater reconstruction of our highways in the years ahead.”

Visitors to [www.atssa.com](http://www.atssa.com) can access the database that contains the latest figures by first clicking on the “Public Information” link, then clicking on “Statistics.”

ATSSA represents the segment of the roadway safety industry whose member’s manufacture and install roadway safety features such as signs, roadway striping, guardrails and lighting. The chart below represents a breakdown of the latest figures. (*Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) Web-Based Encyclopedia.*) ATSSA also manages the National Work Zone Memorial that recognizes work zone fatalities nationwide as well as the Roadway Worker Memorial Scholarship Program that provides monetary assistance to children of those killed or permanently disabled as a result of work zone accidents.

Roadway Function Class	Person Type						Total
	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Pedalcyclist	Other Nonmotorist	Unknown	
Principal Arterial							
Interstate	157	80	38	0	5	0	280
Freeway or Expressway	30	11	13	0	0	0	54
Other	181	70	49	4	3	0	307
Minor Arterial	104	35	21	4	0	0	164
Collector	89	33	17	2	0	0	141
Local Road or Street	57	23	13	1	1	0	95
Unknown	34	12	6	0	0	0	52
<b>Total</b>	652	264	157	11	9	0	1,093