

**Motor-vehicle deaths down 9% in first five months of 2009.**

Motor-vehicle deaths through May of 2009 totaled 13,890. This figure is down 9% from the corresponding 5-month period in 2008. The May figure for 2009 was 19% lower than the 2007 figure. The 5-month total for 2008 was 15,230, an 11% decrease from 2007. The 2007 figure was 4% lower than 2006. The estimated annual population death rate is 11.7 deaths per 100,000 population, a decrease of 9% from 2008. The estimated annual mileage death rate is 1.2 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, a decrease of 8% from 2008.

Disabling motor-vehicle injuries for the first five months of 2009 are estimated to be about 736,000, a 14% decrease from 2008.

The estimated cost of motor-vehicle deaths, injuries, and property damage through May was \$82.8 billion, a 10% decrease from 2008. The costs include wage and productivity losses, medical expenses, administrative expenses, employer costs, and property damage.