



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

Release: IMMEDIATE
Date: April 7, 2009

Phone: (919) 733-3083
Cell: (919) 291-6507
bhorner@ncdot.gov

Contact: Beth Horner, Communications Officer

TRAFFIC-RELATED FATALITIES DECREASE 17 PERCENT
Transportation Secretary Announces 2008 Figures

RALEIGH — State Transportation Secretary Gene Conti today announced that traffic-related fatalities in North Carolina decreased by more than 17 percent last year.

“Safety is our top priority,” Conti said. “This decrease is significant and demonstrates what can be accomplished when state and local agencies work together to make North Carolina a safer place to travel.”

According to the N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles, from 2007 to 2008:

- Traffic-related fatalities decreased from 1,705 to 1,406;
- Alcohol-related fatalities decreased 19.8 percent from 489 to 392; and
- Motorcycle fatalities declined 26 percent from 192 to 142.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that nationwide, 37,313 people were fatally injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2008. The nation also saw the lowest fatality rate ever recorded in 2008 at 1.28 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, down from 1.36 in 2007.

According to DMV, traffic-related fatalities are down approximately 12 percent so far this year compared to this time last year.

###

For more information about this or other highway safety issues, contact Communications Officer Beth Horner at (919) 733-3083, or visit the GHSP Web site at: www.ncdot.gov/programs/ghsp.

MAILING ADDRESS:
NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM
1508 MAIL SERVICE CENTER
RALEIGH NC 27699-1508

TELEPHONE: 919-733-3083
Fax: 919-733-0604
[/WWW.NCDOT.GOV/PROGRAMS/GHSP/](http://WWW.NCDOT.GOV/PROGRAMS/GHSP/)

LOCATION:
215 EAST LANE STREET
RALEIGH NC 27601