

## Danger zone fatalities hit historic low

Five children in the U.S. were killed in school bus loading or unloading accidents in the 2007-08 school year, marking the lowest total on record.

Four of those children were struck by a passing vehicle. One was struck by the school bus.

The victims' ages were 5, 6, 9, 10, and 17. Four were male; one was female.

The accidents occurred in Florida, Maryland, Ohio, Utah and West Virginia.

Two of the accidents occurred on a Thursday. One was on a Tuesday, one was on a Wednesday and the other was on a Friday.

The danger zone report is compiled annually by the Kansas State Department of Education's School Bus Safety Education Unit.

The statistics have been collected since the 1970-71 school year. During that year, there were 75 danger zone

fatalities, which is the highest total on record.

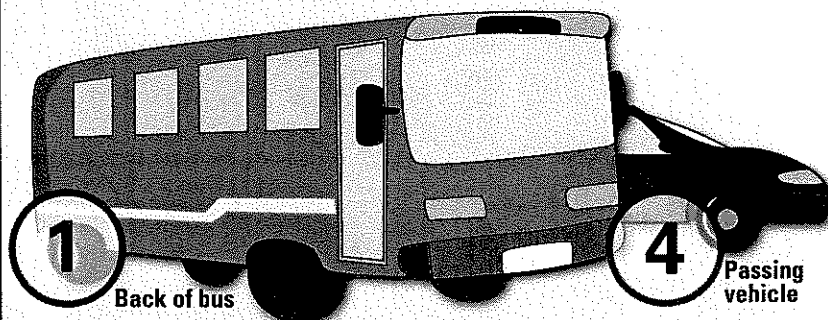
Throughout the report's 38-year history, there have been 1,157 danger zone deaths — an average of about 30 per year. However, the average over the past 10 years is much lower: about 13 per year.

The report says that it aims to show "the continuing need for force-

ful, advanced instruction to school bus drivers and students, as well as the need to increase our efforts to thoroughly inform the driving public about the requirements of the school bus stop law."

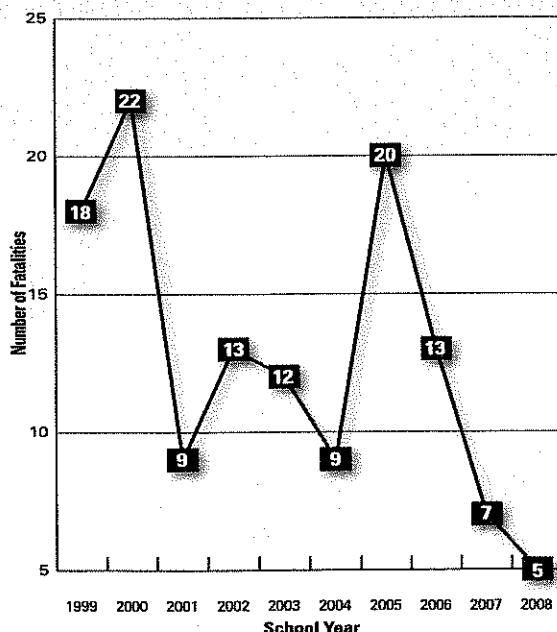
An archive of the danger zone reports from past years is available at [www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=346](http://www.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=346).

### Location of Accident



Four children were killed by a passing vehicle; one was killed by the school bus.

### Fatalities Over Past 10 Years



Over the past 10 years, there has been an average of about 13 danger zone fatalities per year.

### Age of Child

	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008
2-4	0	3	1	0	0
5-7	5	11	4	2	2
8-10	2	2	3	1	2
11-13	1	2	4	1	0
14-17	0	2	1	3	1
n/a	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>