School Bus Safety

From 2016-2018, 3,962 traffic crashes involving school buses\(^1\) were reported in Ohio. Over the 3-year period, 4 fatal crashes occurred killing 4 people and injuring 1,268. None of the people killed in these crashes were on a school bus. In fact, the last fatality to occur on a school bus happened in 2010.

School bus-involved crashes were down overall during the first six months of 2019 compared to the previous three-year average. However, three fatal school bus-involved crashes have already occurred this year.

Passing Stopped School Buses

Motorists approaching a school bus from either direction should remember they are required to stop at least 10 feet back from buses displaying red flashing lights and an extended stop arm. Drivers may not resume driving until the school bus begins moving. From 2016-2018, OSHP troopers wrote 1,803 citations for violations of this law.

School Bus Inspections

Ohio law requires that OSHP conduct school bus inspections for the state. Every bus used to transport pupils is inspected before the beginning of each school year and once randomly during the year. From 2016-2018, OSHP performed 121,876 such inspections, an average of 40,625 per year.

\(^1\)School buses with 16 or more seats only.