

crashes place on societies and can help prioritise injury prevention efforts.

**Objectives** To estimate the incidence and cost of motor vehicle-related fatal and non-fatal injuries in the United States in terms of medical care, treatment, rehabilitation services and productive life-years lost due to premature death or long-term disability.

**Methods** Incidence and cost data for 2005 were derived from several data sources. Unit costs were calculated for medical spending and productivity loss for fatal and non-fatal injuries, and unit costs were multiplied by incidence to yield total costs. Injury incidence and costs are presented by age, sex and road user type.

**Results** Motor vehicle-related fatal and non-fatal injury costs exceeded \$99 billion. Costs associated with motor vehicle occupant fatal and non-fatal injuries accounted for 71% (\$70 billion) of all motor vehicle-related costs, followed by costs associated with motorcyclists (\$12 billion), pedestrians (\$10 billion) and pedalcyclists (\$5 billion).

**Discussion** The substantial economic and societal costs associated with these injuries and deaths reinforce the need to implement evidence-based, cost-effective strategies. Evidence-based strategies that target increasing seat belt use, increasing child safety seat use, increasing motorcyclist and pedalcyclist helmet use and decreasing alcohol-impaired driving are available.

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#### INCIDENCE AND TOTAL LIFETIME COSTS OF MOTOR VEHICLE-RELATED FATAL AND NON-FATAL INJURY BY ROAD USER TYPE IN THE UNITED STATES

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**Background** Each year, more than a million people are killed in motor vehicle crashes worldwide. Crashes place a tremendous burden on societies not only in terms of lives lost but also in terms of cost. While there are many evidence-based road safety interventions that exist, many of these interventions are underutilised. Economic studies are a useful tool to illustrate the full range of consequences that