Richland and Lexington counties recorded 1,086 traffic deaths in ten years; the 2024 death rate is 1.4 times the national rate

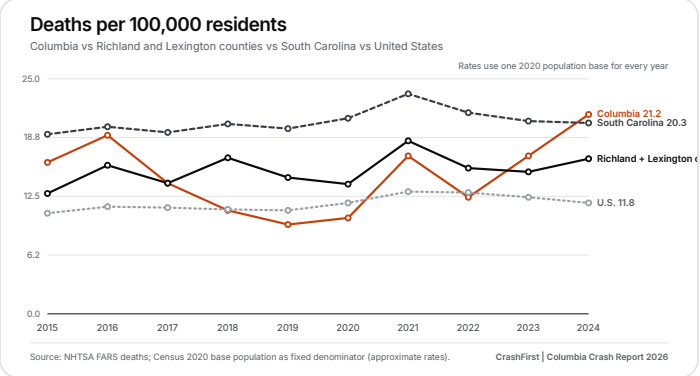
The Columbia, SC Crash Report 2026 analyzes ten years of federal fatal-crash records (NHTSA FARS, 2015-2024) to show where, when and to whom serious crashes happen in Columbia and Richland and Lexington counties, South Carolina.

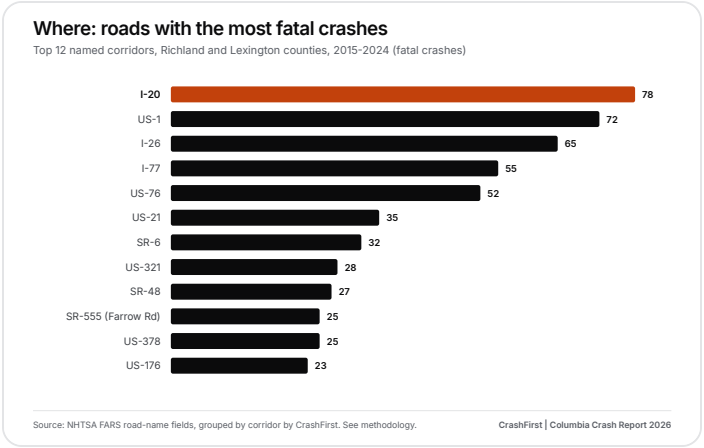
131
deaths in 2021, the ten-year peak (117 in 2024)

16.5
deaths per 100,000 residents in 2024 vs 11.8 for the U.S. and 20.3 for South Carolina

21%
of people killed were pedestrians (224 deaths, 2015-2024)

43%
of fatal crashes with a known time occurred between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m.





- **Corridors:** I-20 (78 fatal crashes), US-1 (72) and I-26 (65) lead the 2015-2024 count.
- **When:** 47% of fatal crashes fell Friday through Sunday; the busiest slot was Wed at 21:00.
- **Hit-and-run:** fatal hit-and-run crashes went from 2 in 2015 to 7 in 2024 (peak 9).
- **Trend:** 117 deaths in 2024, +14% versus 2019 (103).

Sources: NHTSA FARS 2015-2024 (nhtsa.gov/research-data/fatality-analysis-reporting-system-fars); U.S. Census Bureau Vintage 2024 estimates (April 2020 base) for rates (approximate). FARS covers fatal crashes only. Full report, charts, methodology and data: crashfirst.com/reports/columbia-crash-report/. CrashFirst is not a law firm and does not give legal advice; this is general information from public records and does not assign fault in any crash. Attorney review pending.