

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
Office of Analysis, Research and Technology



2008 National Truck and Bus Crash Picture

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Major Changes from 2007 to 2008

1. Large Truck fatalities down 12%
2. Large Truck occupant fatalities down 15%
3. Exceeded FMCSA Safety performance goal
4. Motorcoach occupant fatalities up 116%, but motorcoaches in fatal crashes down 46%

1. Drop in Large Truck Fatal Numbers from 2007 to 2008

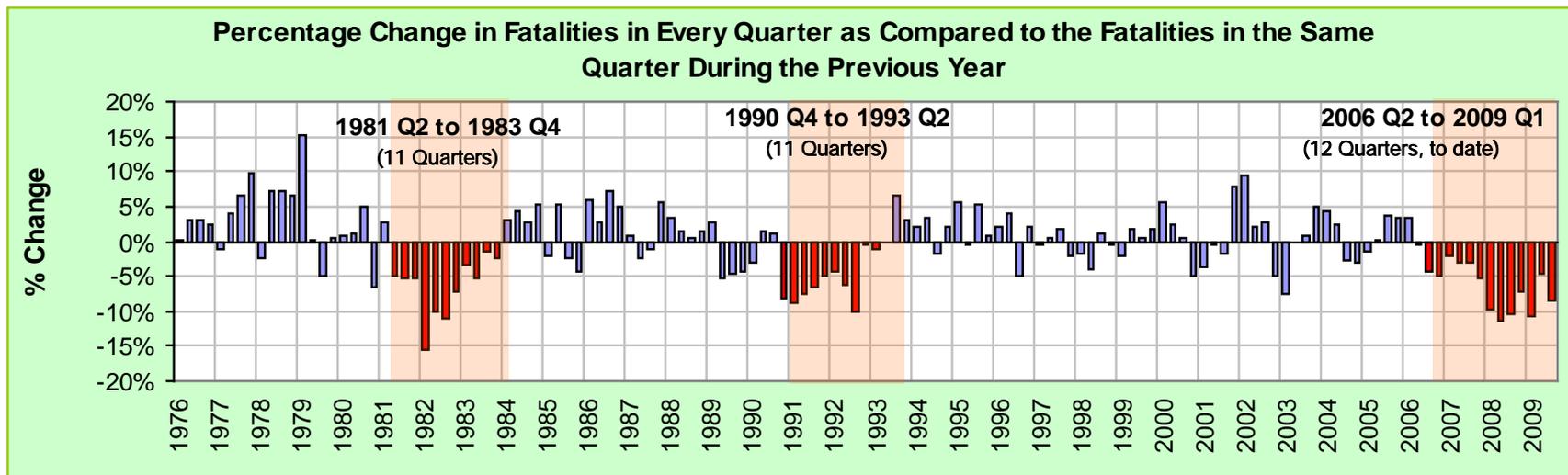
◆ Three Levels of Crash Data

- People – 4,229 **People** Killed: Down 12.3%
- Trucks – 4,068 **Large Trucks** involved in Fatal Crashes: Down 12.2%
- Crashes – 3,733 Fatal **Crashes** involving at *least one* Large Truck: Down 11.2%

Note: Declines will probably continue in 2009

Source: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 2008

Long Term Year-to-Year Quarterly Changes in All Fatalities

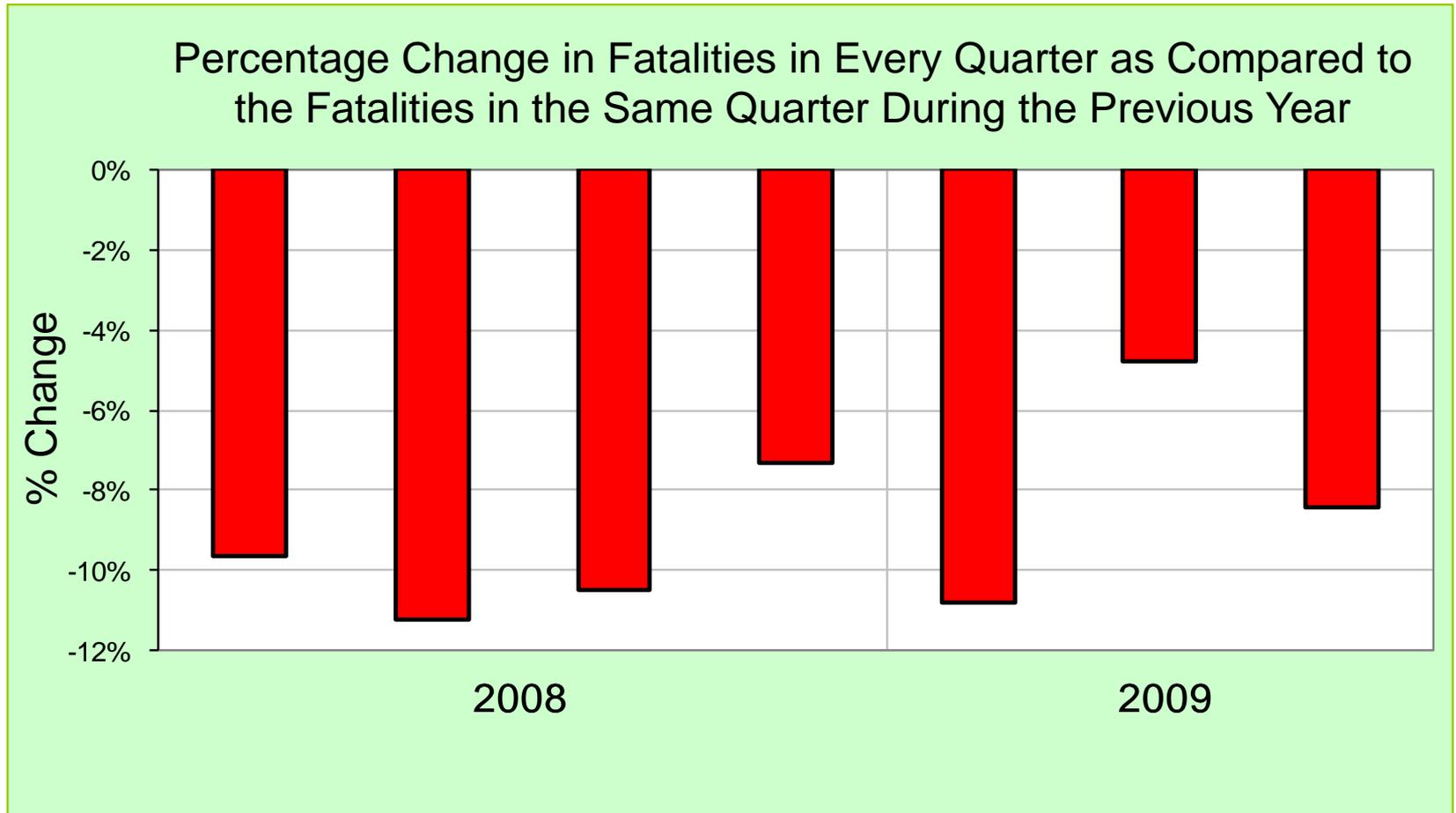


- ◆ Recessions in each of the three previous periods of 10+ quarters of fatality declines
- ◆ Now in the longest such period of consecutive quarterly declines since FARS started in 1975, and the worst recession

Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2009

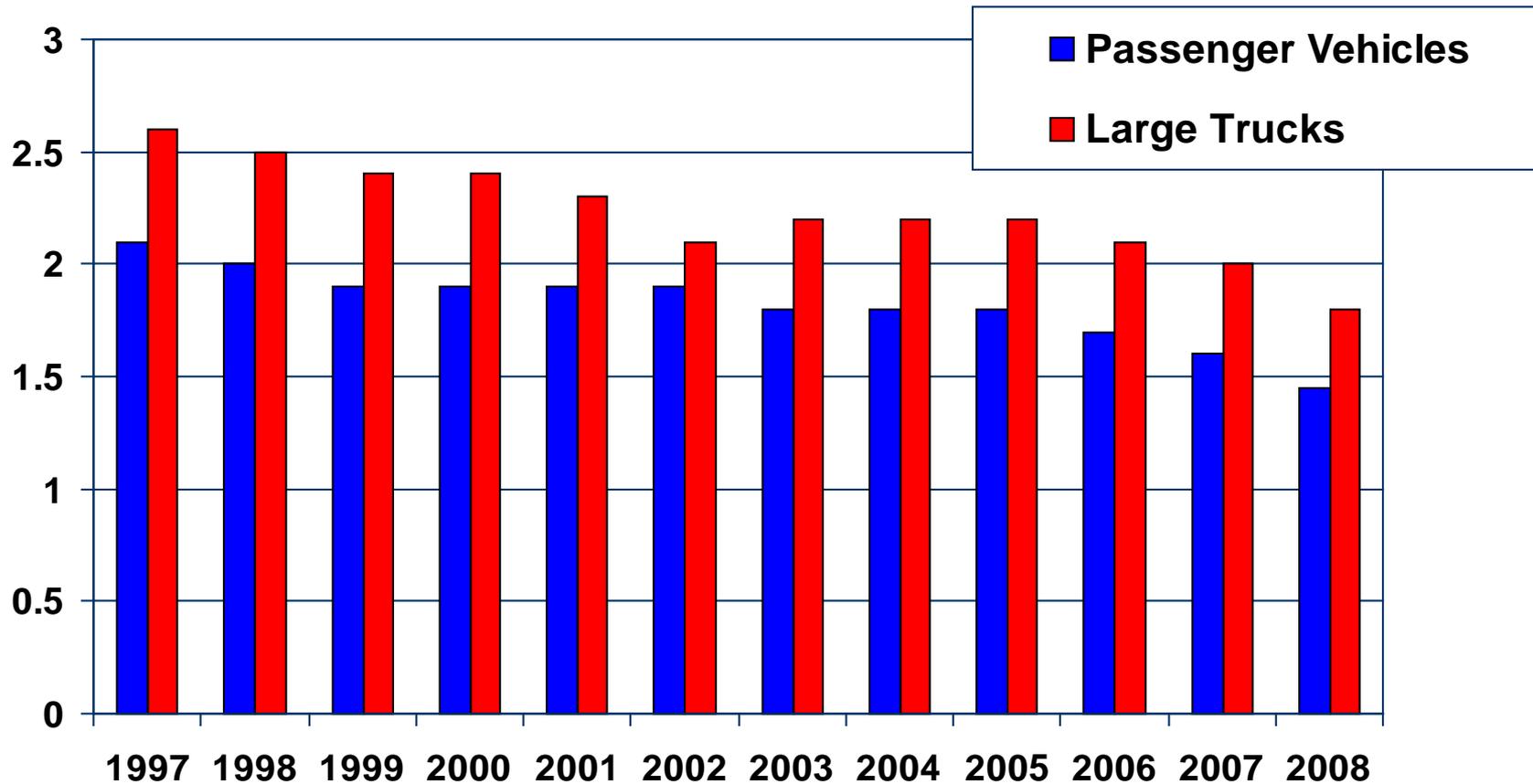
2008–2009

Quarterly Changes in All Fatalities



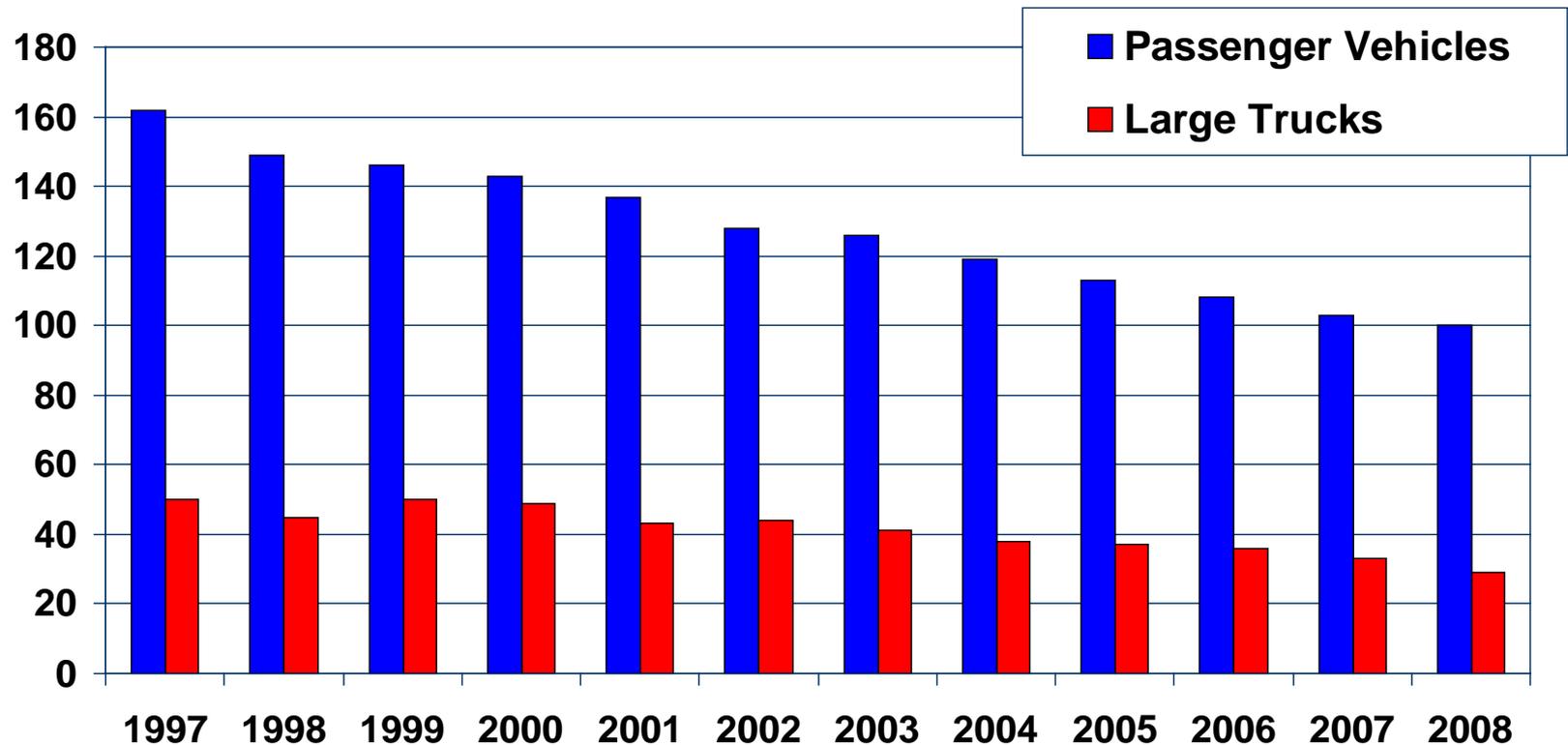
Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2009

Vehicle Involvement Rates: Fatal Crashes (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled)



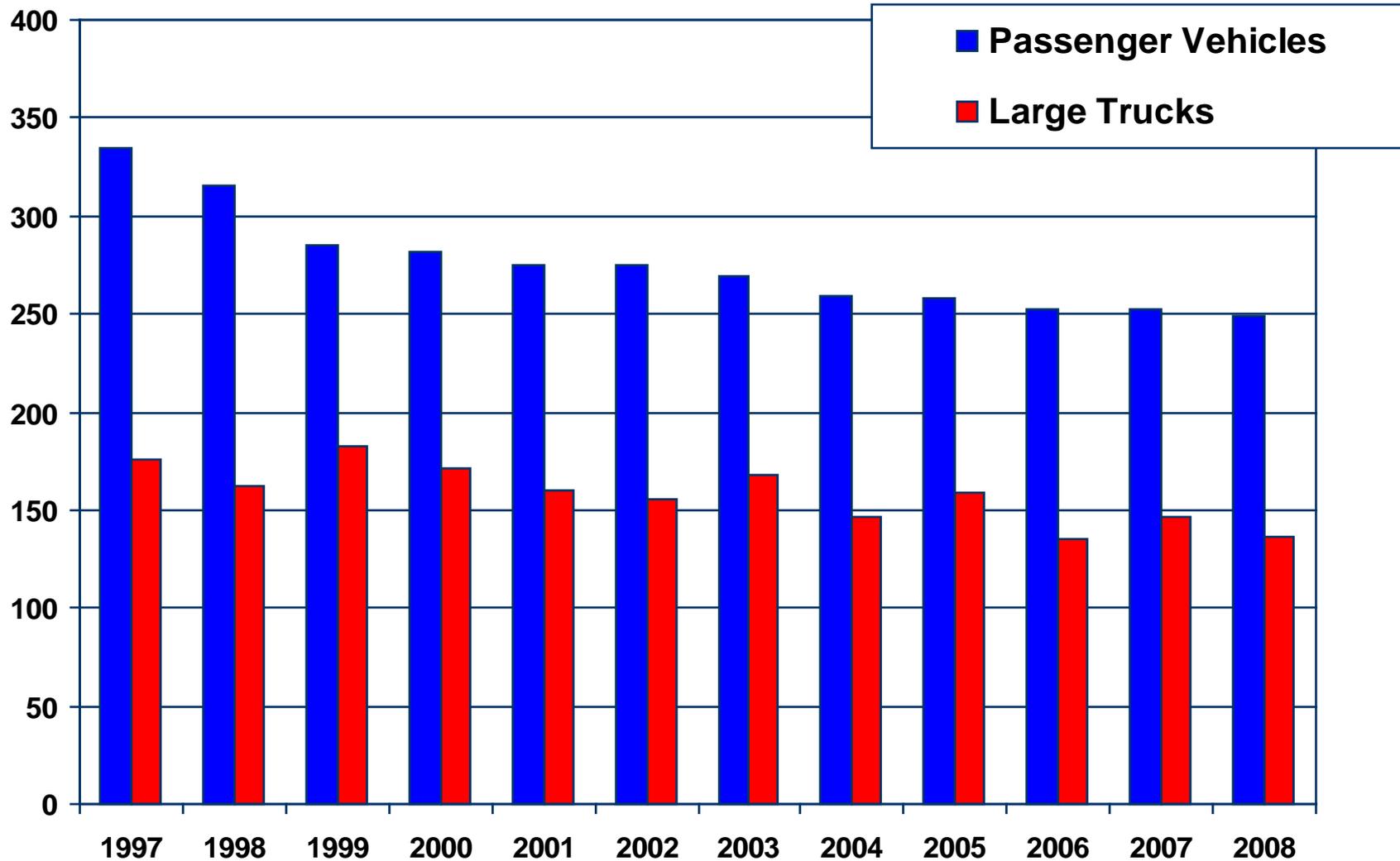
Source: FARS, NHTSA, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), 2008

Vehicle Involvement Rates: Injury Crashes (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled)



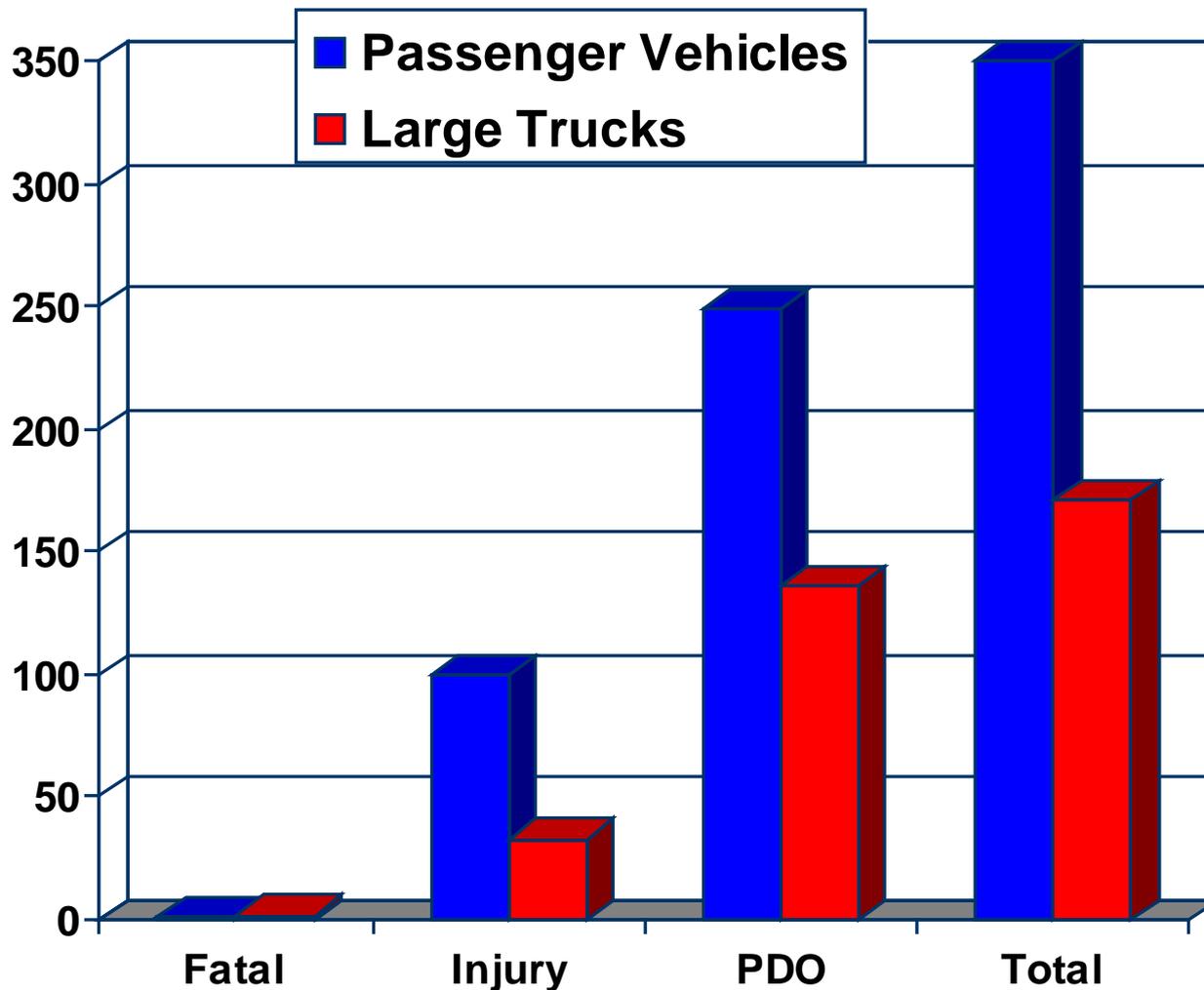
Source: General Estimates System (GES), NHTSA, FHWA, 2008

Vehicle Involvement Rate: Property Damage Only (PDO) Crashes (per 100 million vehicle miles traveled)



Source: GES, NHTSA, FHWA, 2008

Total Crash Rates, 2008



Source: GES, NHTSA, FHWA, 2008

Motor Vehicles in Crashes, 2008

Crash Type	Large Trucks	Other Vehicles	Percent Trucks
Fatal	4,066	46,532	8%
Injury	66,000	2,818,000	2%
PDO	309,000	6,857,000	4%
Total	379,000	9,722,000	4%

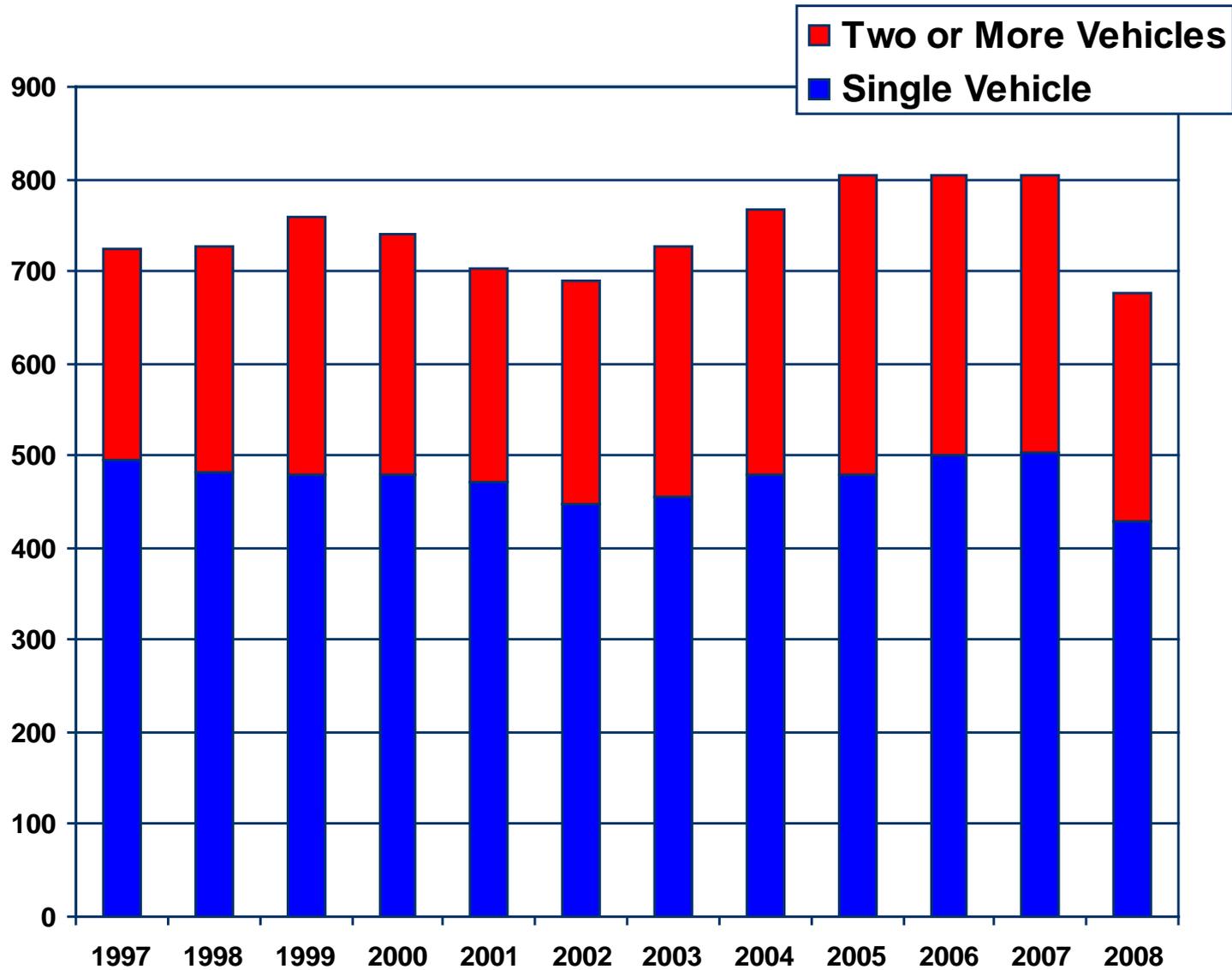
Source: FARS, GES, NHTSA, 2008

Fatalities in Crashes, 2008

Year	Trucks	Passenger Vehicles	Motorcycles	Total
2004	5,235	38,759	4,103	42,836
2005	5,240	38,933	4,668	43,510
2006	5,027	38,140	4,935	42,708
2007	4,824	36,460	5,270	41,259
2008	4,229	32,479	5,402	37,261

Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

2. Large Truck Occupant Deaths



Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

Seat Belts, 2008

◆ Truck Driver Deaths

- No restraint use, full or partial ejection: Down 35
 - 2007 – 138 died
 - 2008 – 103 died (down 25%)
- No restraint use, no ejection: Down 39
 - 2007 – 169 died
 - 2008 – 130 died (down 23%)
- Total: Down 74 (59% of occupant fatality reduction)

3. Safety Performance Measure: Truck and Bus Crash Rates

Large Truck and Bus Fatalities per 100 million **Total** VMT

Calendar Year	Target	Actual
2007	0.175	0.169
2008	0.171	0.152
2009	0.167	
2010	0.164	

Vehicle Configuration, 2008

◆ Registration

1. Combination Trucks – 2,215,856: **25%**
2. Single Unit Trucks – 6,790,882: 75%

◆ Vehicle Miles Traveled

1. Combination Trucks – 143,507 million: **63%**
2. Single Unit Trucks – 83,951 million: 37%

◆ Involved in Fatal Crashes

1. Combination Trucks – 2,991: **74%**
2. Single Unit Trucks – 1,060: 26%

Source: FARS, NHTSA; FHWA, 2008

Large Truck Crash Type – Fatal Crashes, 2008

- ◆ Collision with Another Vehicle in Transport – **75%**
- ◆ Collision with Fixed Object – 9%
- ◆ Collision with Pedestrian – 7%
- ◆ Rollover – 5%
- ◆ Bicycle – 2%
- ◆ Parked Motor Vehicle – 1%
- ◆ Other, Unknown – 1%

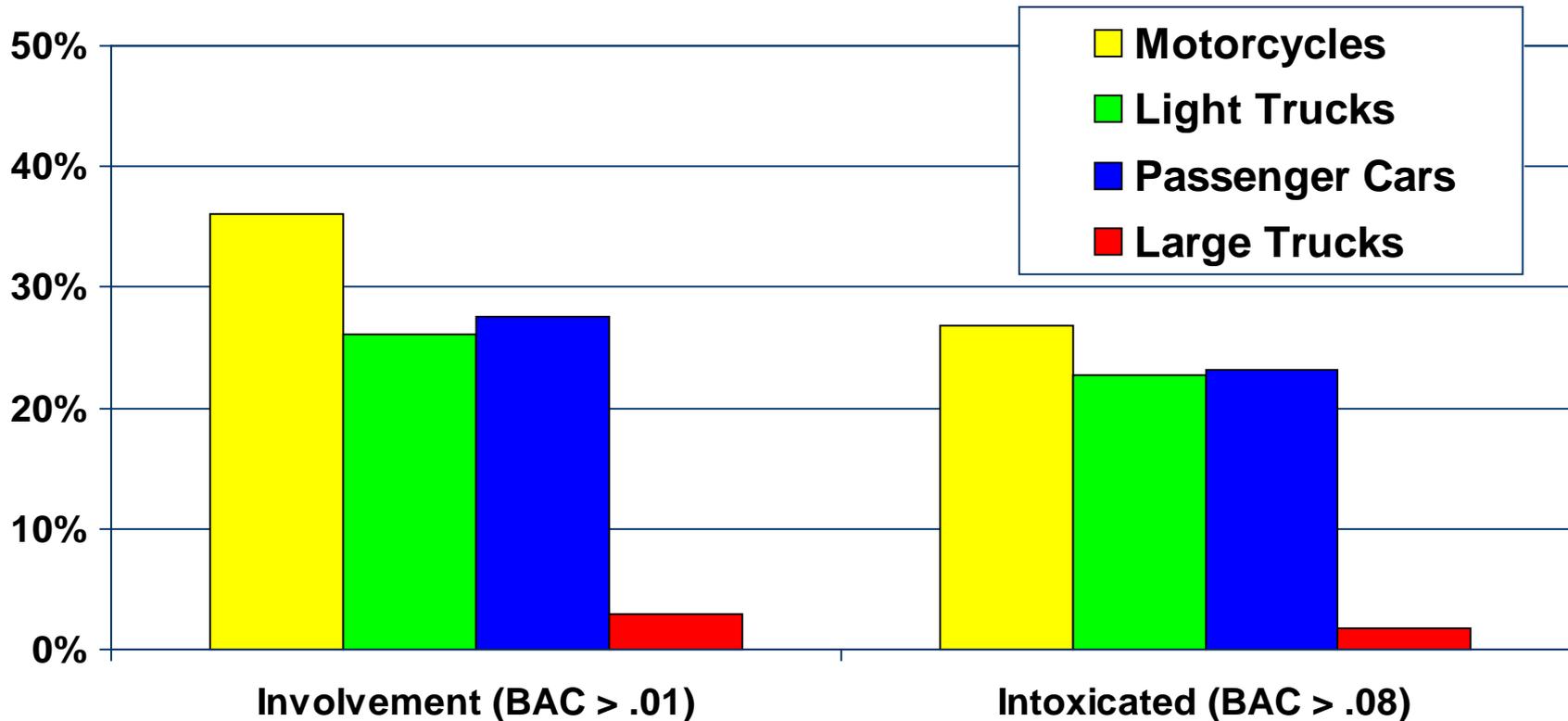
Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

Large Truck-Passenger Vehicle Crashes, 2008

<u>Fatal Crash Type</u>		
Rear end:	Truck strikes car	5%
	Car strikes truck	16%
Head on:	Truck strikes car	4%
	Car strikes truck	17%
Other:	Truck strikes car	32%
	Car strikes truck	21%

Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

Drivers in Fatal Crashes: Alcohol Involvement, 2008



Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

Truck Driver-Related Crash Factors, 2008

Total (Percent of drivers)	36.7%
<u>Selected Factors</u>	
Failure to keep in proper lane	10.6%
Driving in excess of posted maximum	8.0%
Inattentive/Careless Driving	5.9%
Failure to yield right of way	3.8%
Failure to obey traffic signs	2.4%
Following improperly	1.7%
Swerving or sliding due to snow, wet leaves, etc.	1.7%
Drowsy, asleep, fatigue	1.6%
Overcorrecting	1.5%
Under influence of alcohol, drugs, medications	1.4%

Source: FARS, NHTSA, 2008

Hazardous Materials, 2008

- ◆ Large trucks carrying hazardous materials
 - Fatal crashes – 3.5% (142 trucks)
 - Injury crashes – 2.1% (1,067 trucks)
 - Towaway crashes – 1.9% (1,457 trucks)
- ◆ Hazardous materials released during crash
 - Fatal crashes – 30.2% (43 trucks)
 - Injury crashes – 7.1% (76 trucks)
 - Towaway crashes – 9.7% (142 trucks)

Source: FARS, MCMIS Crash Study, FMCSA, 2008

4. Motorcoach Fatalities, 2007-08

- ◆ Fatalities **up** 51 to 52
- ◆ Occupant fatalities **up** 19 to 41 (3 big crashes)
- ◆ Motorcoaches in fatal crashes **down** 35 to 19
- ◆ Total bus fatalities **down** 322 to 307

- Fatalities: Motorcoach – 52
Large truck – 4,229
- Vehicle Registrations: Motorcoach – 151,424
Large Truck – 9,006,748

Contact Information

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2008 Crash Facts Report:

[http:// www.fmcsa.dot.gov/facts-research/art-analysis_Large-Truck-and-Bus-Crash-Facts-2008.aspx](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/facts-research/art-analysis_Large-Truck-and-Bus-Crash-Facts-2008.aspx)