Traffic-related Deaths in the City of Miami , 2005-2007

Miami-Dade County Injury Facts

Motor vehicle traffic deaths are the leading cause of death to Miami-Dade residents. Included in this category of injury are occupants of motor vehicles, motorcyclists, pedestrians and bicyclists that were killed in traffic incidents. Data was obtained from the City of Miami Police Dept. traffic logs to describe characteristics of traffic-related fatalities for the years 2005-2007.

Between 2005-2007, 164 traffic-related deaths occurred within the City of Miami. Pedestrian deaths were most frequent (72, 44%) followed by motor vehicle occupant deaths (65, 40%), motorcycle/scooter deaths (20, 12%) and bicycle deaths (7, 4%).
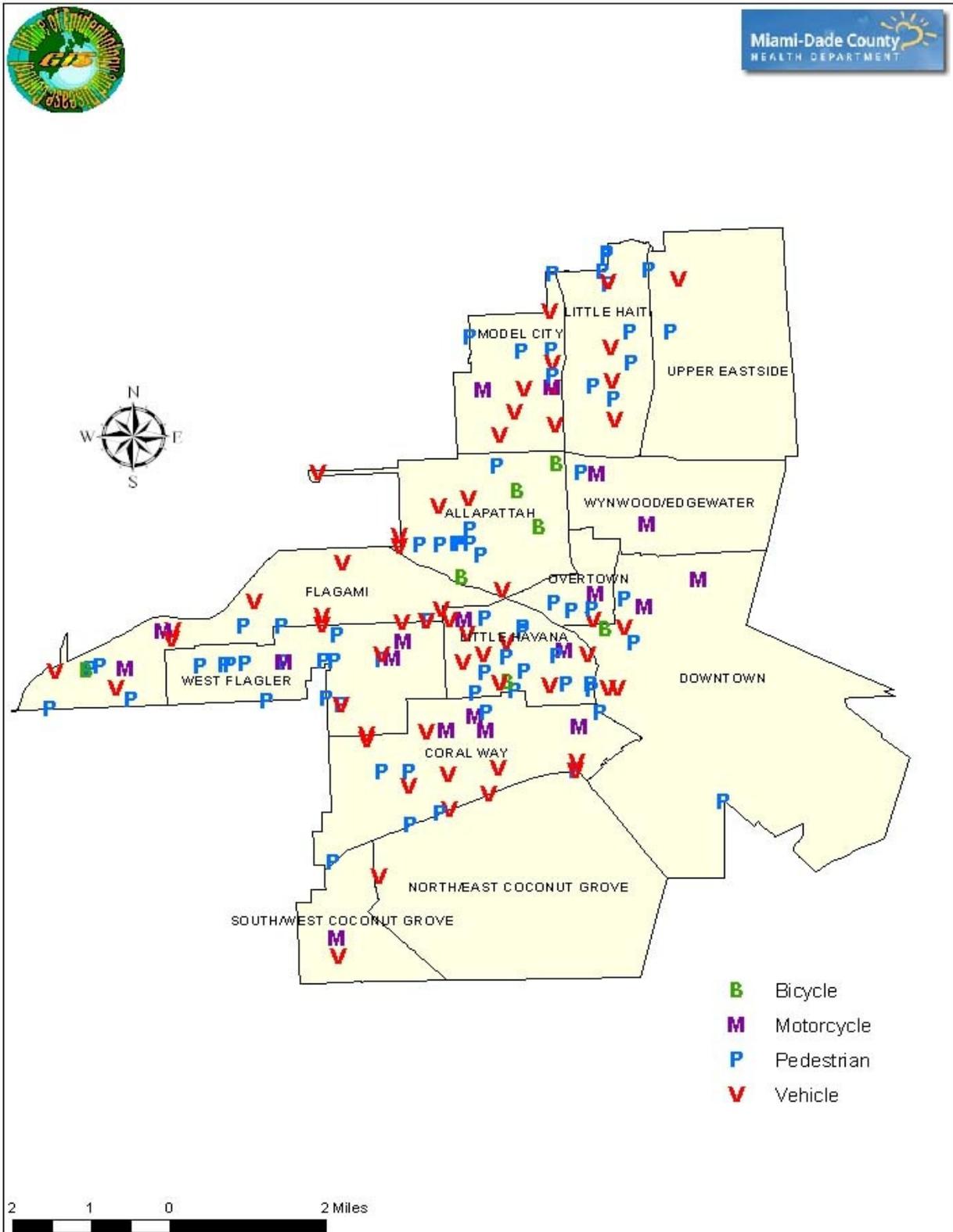
Victim Type	2005	2006	2007	Total
Vehicle Occupant	26	18	21	65
Pedestrian	19	31	22	72
Motorcycle	6	7	7	20
Bicycle	2	4	1	7
Total	53	60	51	164

The City of Miami is divided into 13 NET (Neighborhood Enhancement Team) Areas. The NET areas that experienced the greatest number of traffic deaths between 2005-2007 were Little Havana (24 deaths), Coral Way (21 deaths), West Flagler (17 deaths) and Allapattah (17 deaths). Fourteen deaths could not be assigned to a single NET area because they occurred at street intersections that composed the borders of 2 NET areas.

NET Area	Type of Traffic Death				
	Vehicle	Pedestrian	Motorcycle	Bicycle	TOTAL
Little Havana	9	12	2	1	24
Coral Way	10	7	4	0	21
West Flagler	2	12	3	0	17
Allapattah	5	8	0	4	17
Model City	9	5	2	0	16
Flagami	7	5	2	1	15
Little Haiti	5	8	0	0	13
Downtown	3	4	2	1	10
Overtown	1	3	1	0	5
SW C. Grove	1	0	2	0	3
Upper E. Side	1	2	0	0	3
Wynwood	0	1	2	0	3
NE C. Grove	1	0	0	0	1
Border of 2 NETs	9	5	0	0	14
Unknown	2	0	0	0	2
TOTAL	65	72	20	7	164

All Traffic-related Deaths by City of Miami NET Area, 2005-2007

Vehicular deaths and motorcycle deaths occurred most frequently in Coral Way (10 and 4 deaths respectively). Pedestrian deaths occurred most frequently in the adjacent NET areas of Little Havana (12) and West Flagler (12). Although there were only 7 bicycle deaths, 4 of them occurred in Allapattah.
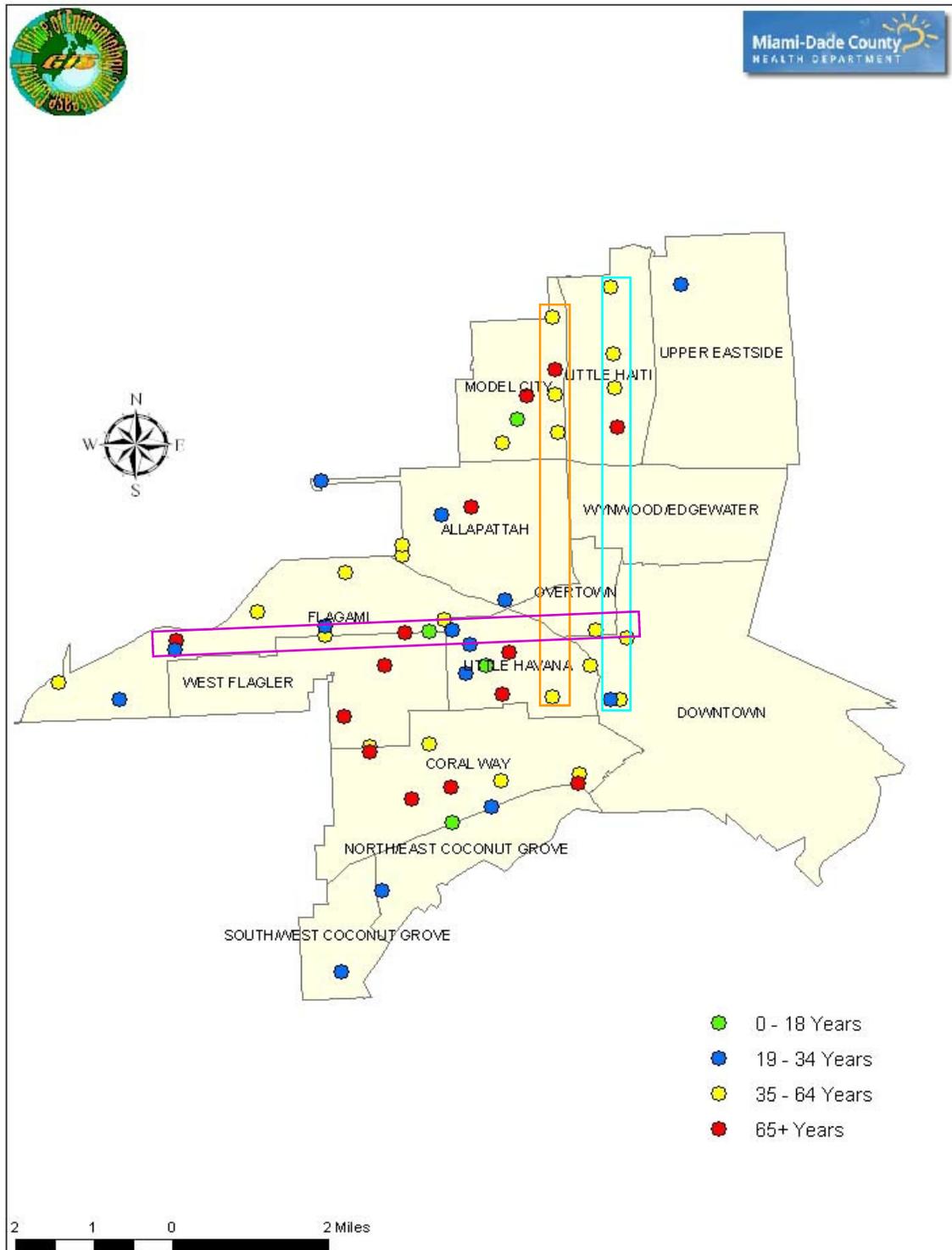
Motor Vehicle Occupant Deaths by City of Miami NET Area, 2005-2007

Age Group of Victim
- The age group distribution for vehicular victims was 35-64 yrs. old (27, 42%), 18-34 yrs. old (17, 26%), > 64 yrs. old (16, 25%) and < 18 yrs. old (5, 8%).

Location of Crash
- Vehicular deaths occurred most frequently on NW 7th Ave. (7 deaths, highlighted in orange rectangle), NW 7th St. (7 deaths, purple rectangle) and N. Miami Ave. (6 deaths, blue rectangle).
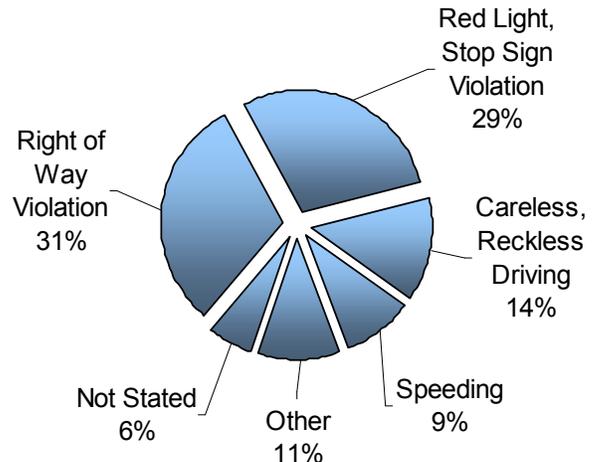
Motor Vehicle Occupant Deaths by City of Miami NET Area, 2005-2007

Cause of Vehicular Death

- More than 1/2 of motor vehicle fatalities were caused by the driver's failure to yield the right of way (31%) or red light or stop sign violations (29%).

- Vehicular deaths attributed to failure to yield the right of way were most likely to occur in Coral Way (7 of 20 deaths, 35%).

- Vehicular deaths attributed to red light or stop sign violations occurred most often in Model City (5 of 19 deaths, 26%) and Little Havana (4 of 19 deaths, 21%).
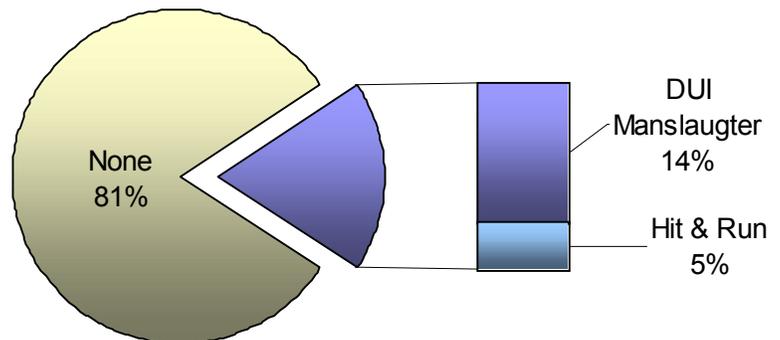
Causes of Motor Vehicle Deaths City of Miami, 2005-2007

Red Light, Stop Sign Violation 29%

Right of Way Violation 31%

Careless, Reckless Driving 14%

Not Stated 6%

Other 11%

Speeding 9%

Driver Criminal Violations

- Twelve (19%) of the 65 vehicular fatalities involved criminal violations by the driver. The majority of these involved DUI manslaughter (9 of 65 deaths, 14%) followed by hit and run incidents (3 of 65 deaths, 5%). The 12 criminal violation incidents did not cluster into any particular NET area.

Percentage of Vehicular Deaths Resulting in Criminal Violations, City of Miami, 2005-2007
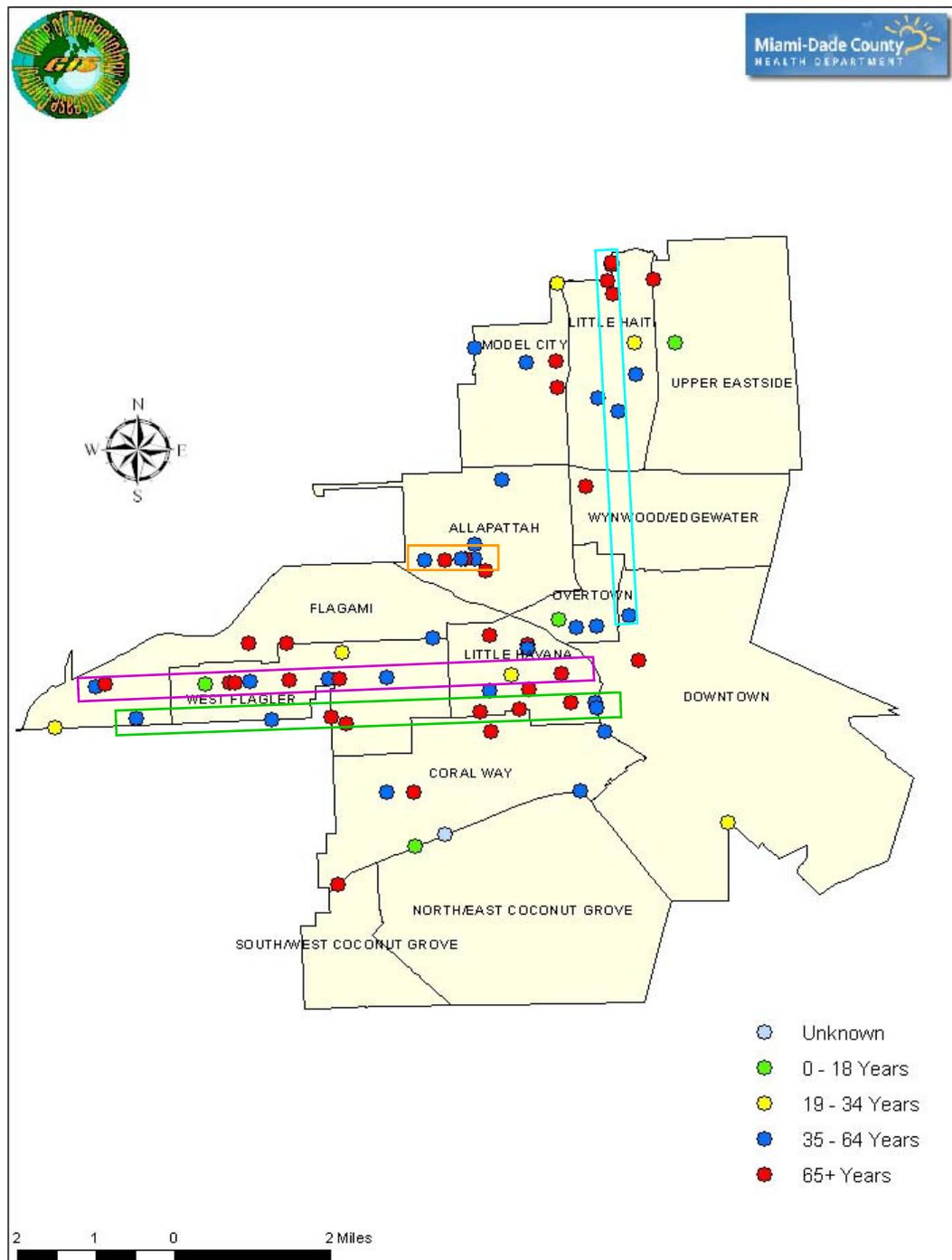

None 81%

DUI Manslaugter 14%

Hit & Run 5%

Pedestrian Deaths by City of Miami NET Area

Age Group of Victim

- The age group distribution for pedestrian victims was 35-64 yrs. old (31, 45%), > 64 yrs. old (29, 39%), 18-34 yrs. old (7, 10%) and < 18 yrs. old (4, 8%). Elderly victims over 64 years of age were killed more frequently in Little Havana (19%) and West Flagler (19%).

Location of Crash

- Pedestrian deaths occurred most frequently on W. Flagler St. (9 deaths highlighted in purple rectangle), SW 8th St. (6 deaths, green rectangle) N. Miami Ave. (5 deaths, blue rectangle) and NW 20th St. (5 deaths, orange rectangle).
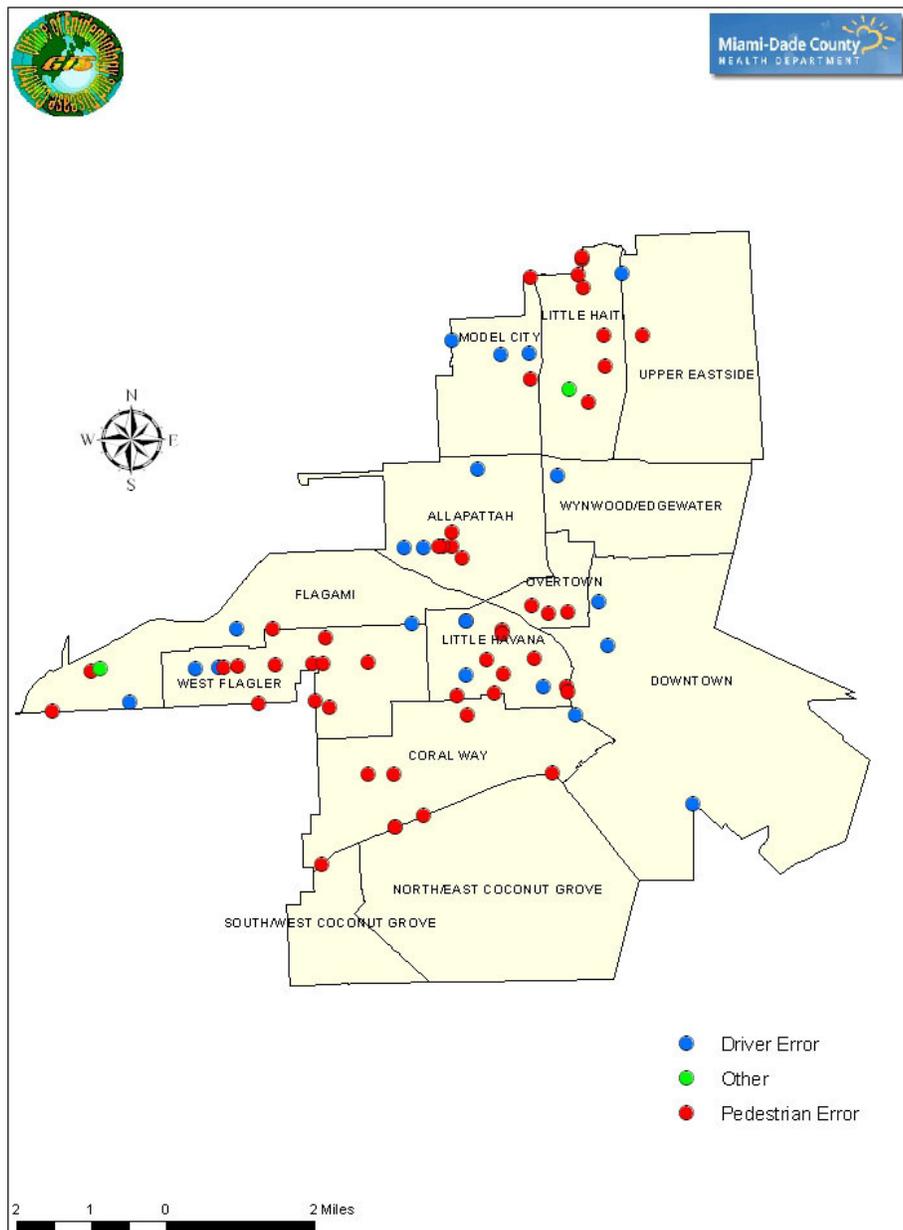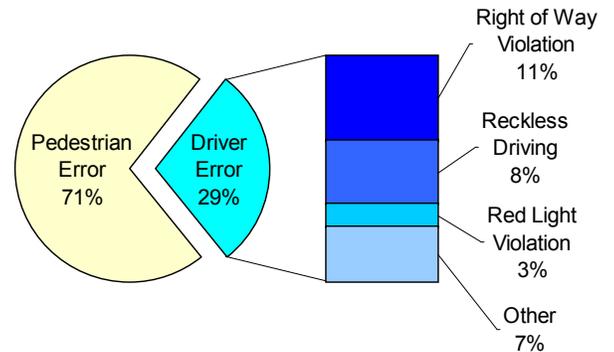
Pedestrian Deaths by City of Miami NET Area

Cause of Pedestrian Death

- 71% of the 72 pedestrian death were documented by police as being cased by pedestrian error. Of the 29% involving driver error, 11% were due to the driver's failure to yield the right of way, 8% were for reckless driving and 3% were due to red light violations.

- More than 1/2 of the pedestrian error fatalities (highlighted by red circles on the map) occurred in 3 adjacent NET areas: West Flagler (20%), Little Havana (17%) and Coral Way (14%).
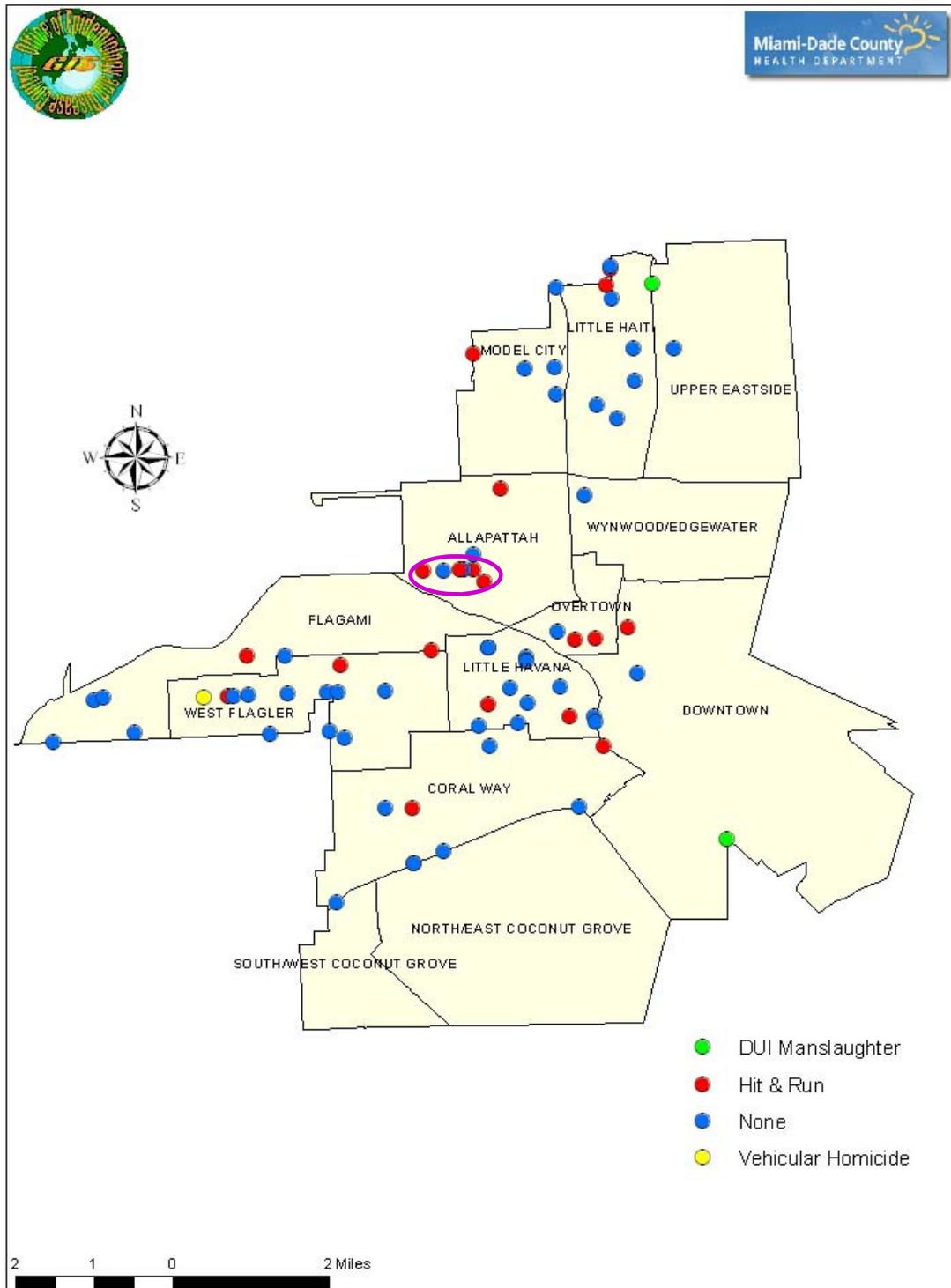
**Cause of Traffic-related Pedestrian Deaths
City of Miami, 2005-2007**

Pedestrian Error 71%

Driver Error 29%

Right of Way Violation 11%

Reckless Driving 8%

Red Light Violation 3%

Other 7%

Driver Error

Other

Pedestrian Error

Pedestrian Deaths by City of Miami NET Area: Criminal Violations

Driver Criminal Violations in Pedestrian Deaths

The map below plots the pedestrian fatalities by whether there was a citation for criminal behavior by the driver. The circles in red show that 19 of the 72 pedestrian deaths (26%) were classified as hit and run incidents. Of these 19 hit and incidents, nearly 1/2 (9 cases) were documented by police as involving pedestrian error. Four hit and run incidents occurred within a 6-block area of Allapattah around NW 20th St and NW 18th St (highlighted in purple). In addition to these hit and run incidents, there were two DUI manslaughter deaths and one vehicular homicide.

Preventing Traffic Deaths

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