



You are driving along the side of a major road as you make your way towards the highway.

The photograph shows the view from the driver's seat. A light rain has begun to fall, and you watch as a man crosses at the crosswalk, holding an umbrella. The light ahead of you is green, so you plan to continue forward to turn right at the intersection.



Your Position



Weather



Time of Day

You are planning to turn right at the intersection ahead.

Q. What should you be looking at right now?

RISK PREDICTION → Answer

You should be looking at the white umbrella visible just over top of the fence.

Number of vehicle accidents involving pedestrians

- 1 While crossing the road (at crosswalks, etc.) 19,444
- 2 While crossing the road (other) 12,263
- 3 From behind (on the road) 2,962
- 4 Head-on (on the road) 1,720
- 5 While stopped on the road 1,282

Source: Institute for Traffic Accident Research and Data Analysis (Using 2015 statistics)

Crosswalk Accidents

The table on this page gives a breakdown of car accidents involving pedestrians, and you'll notice that crosswalks are the number one area that such accidents occur. Drivers must follow the law, but pedestrians should also keep in mind the dangers of traffic, and always look right and left before crossing.

● Read Nagayama's risk prediction commentary online. (Japanese only)

Chart by Hideaki Kinjoh
Photography by Norihiro Ochiai

A man comes into the road from the right, and you just avoid an accident. If you look carefully at the initial photograph setting the scene, you can see a white umbrella sticking up over top of the fence. With elevated roads like this, fences, pillars and other structures cause blind spots to form, making it difficult to see when a pe-

destrian is about to cross. The yellow signs on the right read "Watch for pedestrians!", so you should have been paying extra care as you approached. So remember: unless it is clearly obvious that no one is about to cross, always approach crosswalks at a speed you can easily stop from.

