

New York Bus Crash Claims Five Lives Including New Jersey Residents

August 24, 2025

— Categories: General News



Five people have been confirmed dead following a devastating tour bus crash on Interstate 90 near Pembroke, New York, as authorities release details of the victims and ongoing investigations. The incident, which occurred on Friday afternoon, involved a bus travelling from Niagara Falls to New York City carrying 54 passengers, including tourists and students.

Officials confirmed that the fatalities include a 65-year-old man from Madhubani, India; a 22-year-old Columbia University student from Beijing; a 60-year-old woman from East Brunswick, New Jersey; and two residents of Jersey City, aged 55 and 56. State police stated that three of the victims were American, underlining the diverse backgrounds of those affected.

The crash happened when the driver reportedly lost control, causing the vehicle to veer off the highway, strike the median, and overturn. The impact ejected several passengers and left dozens injured. Emergency crews responded quickly, transporting the injured to local hospitals. Authorities confirmed that 49 people were treated for injuries ranging from minor cuts to serious trauma. Thankfully, no children were among the deceased, though several younger passengers were injured.

Investigators have ruled out mechanical failure and driver impairment at this stage. Preliminary findings suggest overcorrection by the driver may have played a role in the bus overturning. Officials noted that many passengers were not wearing seatbelts at the time, which may have contributed to the severity of injuries and fatalities. The National Transportation Safety Board and New York State Police are continuing a full investigation to determine the exact cause.

Authorities are appealing to anyone with dashcam footage or eyewitness accounts to assist in piecing together the events leading up to the crash. Investigators are also reviewing the bus company's maintenance records, driver history, and safety protocols to assess compliance with federal and state transport regulations.

Communities connected to the victims have been deeply affected. Columbia University confirmed the loss of one of its students, offering condolences to the family and counselling support to peers. Indian community leaders have also expressed their grief, noting the tragic death of a man visiting the United States. Local officials in New Jersey described the impact on families who were preparing for weekend activities but are now mourning the loss of loved ones.

The incident has reignited discussions around passenger safety on commercial buses, particularly the use of seatbelts. Transportation experts highlight that, despite improvements in vehicle safety standards, many long-distance buses still lack seatbelt enforcement, leaving passengers vulnerable during rollovers.

The tragic crash has underscored the unpredictability of travel and the importance of adherence to safety measures. As authorities continue to investigate, families of the victims are left grappling with sudden loss, while survivors face recovery and trauma. The case serves as a stark reminder of the risks on busy interstate routes and the ongoing need for stricter safety practices in public transportation.