

Drivers – What to Know?

Distraction – Inattention

The 3 Main Types of Distracted Driving



Taking your eyes off the road



Taking your hands off the wheel



Taking your mind off driving

About 1 in 5 of the people who died in crashes involving a distracted driver in 2018 were not in vehicles—they were walking, riding their bikes, or otherwise outside a vehicle.

Speed

Speed is a factor in 26% of total traffic fatalities. When speeding, drivers increase the risk for a collision with a bicyclist or pedestrian.

The higher the speed, the more likely serious injury of death for the pedestrian.

The likelihood of a pedestrian dying from a collision with a motor vehicle increases from 8 percent at 31 mph to 50 percent at 47 mph.

Alcohol

Alcohol involvement reported in 48% of traffic crashes resulting in pedestrian fatalities

In Texas, it is illegal to drive with a BAC at or above 0.08%.

Estimated 16% of fatal pedestrian crashes had a driver with a BAC of .08 % or higher

PERCENTAGE OF ADULTS WHO REPORT DRIVING AFTER DRINKING TOO MUCH

In the Past 30 Days

NATIONAL
1.7%

TEXAS
2.2%

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2018

Sharing the Road – Driver Tips

Pedestrians

1. Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times. Safety is a shared responsibility.
2. Use extra caution when driving in hard-to-see conditions, such as nighttime or bad weather.
3. Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
4. Yield to pedestrians in crosswalks and stop well back from the cross-walk to give other vehicles an opportunity to see the crossing pedestrians so they can stop too.
5. Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing that you can't see.
6. Never drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.
7. Follow the speed limit, especially around people on the street.
8. Follow slower speed limits in school zones and in neighborhoods where children are present.
9. Be extra cautious when backing up—pedestrians can move into your path.

Bicycles

- People on bicycles have the same rights and responsibilities as people behind the wheel of a vehicle.
- Yield to bicyclists as you would motorists and do not underestimate their speed. This will help avoid turning in front of a bicyclist traveling on the road or sidewalk, often at an intersection or driveway.
- In parking lots, at stop signs, when packing up, or when parking, search your surroundings for other vehicles, including bicycles.
- Drivers turning right on red should look to the right and behind to avoid hitting a bicyclist approaching from the right rear. Stop completely and look left-right-left and behind before turning right on red.
- Obey the speed limit, reduce speed for road conditions and drive defensively to avoid a crash with a cyclist.
- Give cyclists room. Do not pass too closely. Pass bicyclists as you would any other vehicle—when it's safe to move over into an adjacent lane.

Drivers - School Zones

Tips for drivers

- Stay alert.
- Watch for children might run between vehicles.
- Be mindful of children at bus stops.
- Put away your cellphone.
- Slow down.
- Obey school zone speed limit signs and all traffic rules.
- Drive safely around school buses.
- Drop off and pick up children in the designated areas.

