



Put Your Phone Away or Get Ready to Pay

Distracted Driving Is a Growing and Deadly Threat

- Too many drivers are ignoring their responsibilities behind the wheel.
- According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 3,477 people were killed and an estimated 391,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers in 2015. That is a 9-percent increase in fatalities as compared to the previous year.
- Texting while driving has become an especially problematic trend among millennials. According to NHTSA, young drivers, 16 to 24 years old, have been observed using handheld electronic devices while driving at higher rates than older drivers since 2007.
- Nine percent of all drivers, 15 to 19 years old, involved in fatal crashes were reported as being distracted at the time of the crashes in 2015. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted at the time of fatal crashes.
- Handheld cellphone use while driving is highest among 16 to 24 year old drivers, but female drivers 15 to 39 years old are most at-risk for being involved in a fatal crash involving a distracted driver.
- Female drivers with a cell phone have been more likely to be involved in fatal distracted driving crashes as compared to male drivers every year since 2011.

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- Don't follow the pack, be a leader. When you get behind the wheel, be an example to your family and friends by putting your phone away.
- In 46 States, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands, texting while driving is an illegal, ticketable offense.
- Speak up. If your friends text while driving, tell them to stop. Listen to your passengers; if they catch you texting while driving, and tell you to put your phone away, put it down.
- No one likes to be called out by a friend for doing something wrong, but it's even worse to get caught by law enforcement and end up paying a fine.