

Have you ever swerved while driving and realized that you have not been paying attention?

Driver distraction is a dangerous problem.

The National Motor Vehicle Crash Causation Survey (NMVCCS) is a nationally representative survey specifically focused toward documenting events and conditions leading up to crashes.

NMVCCS captures distraction as an associated factor to the crash and/or as the critical reason that made the crash imminent. Driver distraction was coded as the critical reason in 18 percent of the crashes.

Distracting activities include:

- Using a cell phone
- Eating and drinking
- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a PDA or navigation system
- Watching a video
- Changing the radio station, CD, or Mp3 player

Police-reported data from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and the National Automotive Sampling System (NASS) General Estimates System (GES) show that:

*In 2008, there were a total of 34,017 fatal crashes in which 37,261 individuals were killed. In 2008, 5,780 people were killed in crashes involving driver distraction (16% of total fatalities).

* The under-20 group had the highest proportion of distracted drivers involved in fatal crashes (16%). The age group with the next greatest proportion of distracted drivers was the 20-to-29-year old age group (12%).

*Motorcyclists and drivers of light trucks had the greatest percentage of total drivers reported as distracted at the time of the fatal crashes (12%).

*An estimated 21% of 1,630,000 injury crashes were reported to have involved distracted driving.

Distracted driving can be dangerous and deadly. Please be careful behind the wheel and **PAY ATTENTION** to the road. Other people's lives depend on it!!!



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"The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above average drivers." ~ Dave Barry

"Safety doesn't happen by accident.' ~ Author Unknown