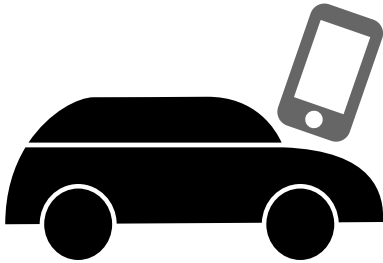
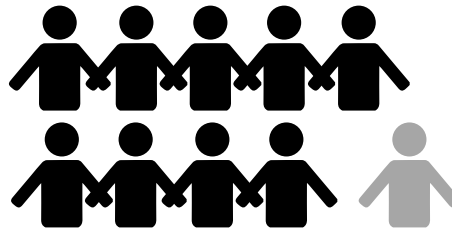


Distracted Driving in Missouri



70% of the motor vehicle accidents in Missouri in 2018 due to texting and driving were in people over the age of 22



9 out of 10 people use their smartphones in some way while driving



Missouri is 1 of 3 states that do not explicitly ban texting and driving for ALL drivers

- Distracted driving is texting, eating, talking, changing the radio, etc. while driving. It's the cause of up to **80% of all automobile accidents**.
- The **current law** in Missouri prohibits drivers **under the age of 21** and **bus drivers** from texting and driving. All Missouri drivers can make calls with cell phones.
- **Fourteen percent** of 2015-2017 **crashes** involved some form of **distracted driving**.
- Drivers who check their phones are three times more likely to be involved in a crash than those who don't.
- Texting drivers spend up to 400% more time with their eyes off the road. At 55 mph, a vehicle can travel the length of a football field in the time it takes to text.
- Nationally, vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15-25 year-olds.
- 50% of teen drivers say they text while driving.
- Missouri's population is 30% rural, yet 62% of traffic fatalities occur on rural roads.
- On average, there is a distracted driving car crash in Missouri every 3 hours.

What is Missouri doing about distracted driving?

- Since 2009, Missouri has had a law banning texting while driving for persons under age 21. Penalty is a \$200 fine and 2 points added to license.
- Senate Bill 15 prohibits drivers of all ages from cell phone use. Hands-free devices are accepted. If passed, the bill would take effect August 28, 2019.
- The fine for texting and driving would be \$50.00, \$100.00 if texting and driving in a school zone.

We urge legislators to make Missouri roads safer by passing laws banning texting while driving for all drivers regardless of age.