



sobering statistics

Become familiar with the serious facts and risks associated with young drivers

The facts surrounding teen driving illustrate the seriousness and urgency of the issue:

- A teenager is killed in a car crash on the average of every 64 minutes.
- A teenager is injured in a car crash every 55 seconds.
- 85% of crashes by 16-year-olds are attributed to driver error.
- There is no in-car driver training in the high school systems of 25 states.
- More than 50% of fatal crashes involving teens occur between 3 p.m. and midnight and 54% occur on week- ends.
- Research shows that when parents do not limit when, where and how frequently their teens can drive, the number of violations and crashes rises.
- Studies show there is no relationship between a teen's report card and driving behavior.
- In a 2007 teen driving study, 64% of teen drivers said they speed, and 62% admitted to using a cell phone while driving and 33% said they don't regularly wear seat belts.
- Teen drivers are four times more likely to crash than older drivers.
- Crash risk has been proven to be significantly higher during the first year that teenagers are eligible to drive.
- Six out of ten parents say the number one health and safety risk facing their teenager is driving safety.
- Car crashes are far and away the leading cause of death among teens.
- Texting and driving causes 1,600,000 accidents per year – National Safety Council
- Texting and driving causes 330,000 injuries per year – Harvard Center for Risk Analysis Study
- Texting and distracted driving cause 11 teen deaths EVERY DAY – Ins. Institute for Hwy Safety Fatality Facts

- Texting and driving makes you 6x more likely to crash than driving intoxicated
- Texting and driving slows your brake reaction speed by 18%
- Texting and driving leads to a 400% increase of time with eyes off the road
- 37 percent of teens that rate text messaging while driving as “extremely” or “very” distracting, continue to send and receive text messages in their moving vehicles anyway
- 52 percent of teens who say their parents are unlikely to follow through on punishment if they drive and text-message will continue to do -- compared to only 36 percent of teens who believe their parents would penalize them
- Driving while texting or using a cell phone reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37%
- The estimated economic cost of police-reported crashes involving drivers between the ages of 15 and 20 was **\$40.8 billion** in the United States in 2002 alone
- 77% of all drivers report that they use their cell phone to talk or text when they are driving.