



# 1 in 6 vehicle crashes in Texas involves driver distraction.

Distracted driving continues to be a problem in Texas and takes many forms. TxDOT's *Talk. Text. Crash.* statewide public awareness campaign educates Texans on the dangers and risks of driving distracted while also raising awareness of statewide laws. The campaign addresses and discourages all forms of distracted driving when behind the wheel, with the overall goal of saving lives and reducing crashes.

## IT'S THE LAW

Since September 1, 2017, it has been illegal to read, write, or send a text while driving in Texas. Violators can face a **fine of up to \$200**.

## TALK

Research shows that regardless of whether you use a voice-to-text program, a hands-free device, or a handheld device, the distraction will affect your driving. TxDOT offers these tips to prevent distracted driving that can lead to a ticket—or worse—a crash:

- Always give driving your full attention.
- Pull off the road entirely and come to a complete stop before you talk or text.
- Put your phone away, turn it off, or use an app or your phone settings to block texts and calls and/or send auto reply texts while you are driving.
- Tell friends, family, and coworkers you won't respond to calls or texts when you're behind the wheel.
- Remember that all distractions are dangerous, so pay full attention when behind the wheel.

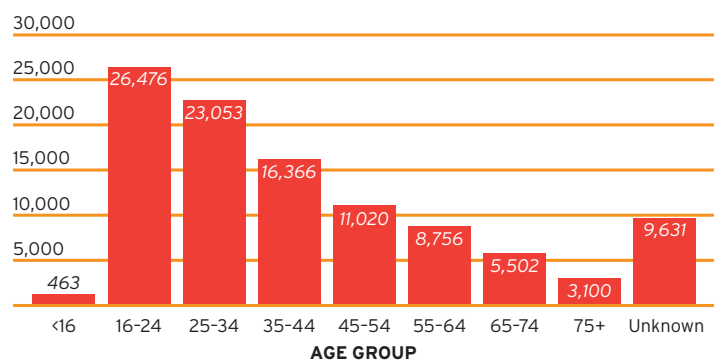
## TEXT

Distracted driving is any activity that takes your attention away from driving and includes anything from texting and talking on a mobile phone to eating and drinking, putting on makeup, shaving, reading, programming a navigation system, watching a video, and even adjusting the radio. All distractions can be dangerous. Every driver and every passenger, regardless of age, can be impacted by distracted driving.

## CRASH

Distracted driving was responsible for 95,777 crashes in Texas in 2022. More than 2,824 people were seriously injured as a result, and 487 died. The number of crashes was highest among young drivers.

## TOTAL DISTRACTED DRIVING CRASHES 2022



The information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from the Texas Peace Officer's Crash Report (CR-3) as of April 26, 2023.

## #EndTheStreakTX Campaign

The *Talk. Text. Crash.* distracted driving campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel, like wearing a seat belt, driving the speed limit, never texting and driving, and never driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. November 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways. #EndTheStreakTX asks all Texans to commit to driving safely to help end the streak of daily deaths on Texas roadways.

