

Distracted Driving

Distracted driving impacts thousands of Americans each year in the United States. Distracted driving is one of the fastest-growing safety issues on the roads today and distracted driving is one of the main causes of TMA crashes in PK striping convoys. Distracted drivers are a threat to themselves and to everyone else on the road. Here are the alarming facts:

Michigan Statistics—According to Michigan Traffic Crash Facts

- In 2021, 5.9 percent of Michigan crashes involved a distracted driver.
- There were 16,543 motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver in 2021, and 59 of those crashes resulted in a fatality.
- Only 6.7 percent of Michigan drivers are under the age of 21, but 18.1 percent of the distracted driving crashes involved drivers under 21.
- In 2021, there were 1,263 (45.7 percent) rear-end crashes where a driver was using a cell phone.

What is Distracted Driving?

Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your phone, eating and drinking, talking to people in your vehicle, fiddling with the stereo, entertainment or navigation system — anything that takes your attention away from the task of safe driving.

There are three main types of distraction:

1. Visual: taking your eyes off the road
2. Manual: taking your hands off the wheel
3. Cognitive: taking your mind off driving



Texting while driving is the most alarming distraction that diverts a driver's attention from the road in all three areas: visually, manually and cognitively.

You cannot drive safely unless the task of driving has your full attention. Any non-driving activity you engage in is a potential distraction and increases your risk of crashing.