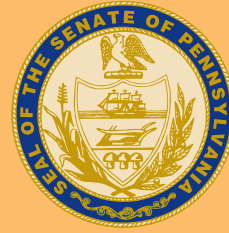


Anything that causes you to either take your attention away from driving, take your eyes off of the road or take your hands off of the wheel is a distraction. Texting while driving is one of the main causes of distracted driving and a major contributor to accidents.

Distracted driving is a deadly behavior. Federal estimates suggest that distraction contributes to 16% of all fatal crashes, leading to around 5,000 deaths every year.

If the thought of driving for five seconds with your eyes closed makes you nervous, consider that every time a text message is sent or received, the process will likely take even longer to complete.



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TAKE THE PLEDGE

Don't Text And Drive



Texting while driving has become a national epidemic. Drivers assume they can handle texting while driving and remain safe, but the numbers don't lie. Texting while driving causes more than 1.6 million accidents a day – nearly 25 percent of all car accidents.

That's why Pennsylvania is one of many states to ban texting while driving.

Pennsylvania's Law

Act 98 of 2011


- Makes it a primary offense to use an Interactive Wireless Communication Device (IWCD) to send, read or write a text-based message, meaning that law officers can stop and cite offenders for that reason alone.
- Defines an IWCD as a wireless phone, personal digital assistant, smartphone, portable or mobile computer or similar devices that can be used for texting, instant messaging, emailing or browsing the Internet.
- Identifies a text-based message as a text message, instant message, email, or other written communication composed or received on an IWCD.
- Imposes a \$50 fine for conviction for the summary offense. The penalty carries no points and will not be recorded on the driving record of non-commercial drivers. For commercial drivers, it will appear as a non-sanction violation.
- Makes clear that this law supersedes and pre-empts any local ordinances restricting the use of interactive wireless devices by drivers.

The ban excludes the use of a GPS device, a system or device that is physically or electronically integrated into the vehicle, or a communications device that is affixed to a mass transit vehicle, bus or school bus.

Texting While Driving Is:



The **#1** driving distraction reported by teen drivers



About **6** times more likely to cause an accident than driving intoxicated

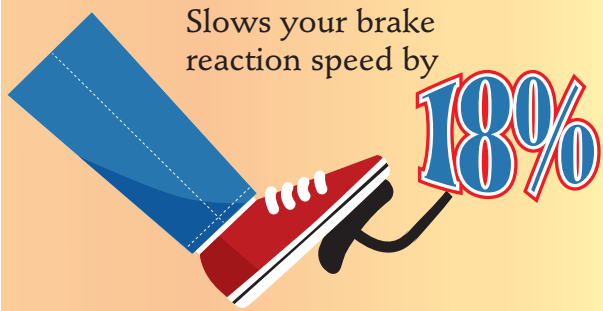


The same as driving after **1, 2, 3, 4** beers

according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration



Makes you **23** times more likely to



Slows your brake reaction speed by **18%**



Takes place by **800,000 DRIVERS** at any given time across the country

Texting while driving is not only dangerous - it's illegal in Pennsylvania.

Do your part to drive safely. Take the Pledge and Don't Text and Drive.