

Why Is Distracted Driving A Problem

Learn about distracted driving and understanding the issue on Ohio's roadways.

What is distracted driving?

Distracted driving is any activity performed behind the wheel that has the potential to cause the driver to be distracted from the primary task of driving. **The risk of a crash is two to six times higher when driving distracted as compared to driving with no distractions.** Distracted driving includes, but is not limited to, manipulation of a phone, eating, drinking or changing dashboard controls such as a radio dial or GPS device.

Driving safer with new laws

The alarming increase of distracted driving poses more risks to everybody on the roadway. Employees should always complete any tasks that can take their focus off driving before driving. Most distracted-driving collisions occur in less than three seconds and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says they are difficult to prove unless a driver admits to their pre-crash behavior.

On April 4, 2023, Ohio's Distracted Driving Law went into effect. The law makes it illegal to use or hold a cellphone/ electronic device in your hand, lap or other parts of the body while driving. In the last three months of 2023, the Ohio State Highway Patrol issued 3,575 distracted driving citations. This was an 119% increase from the same three months of 2022.

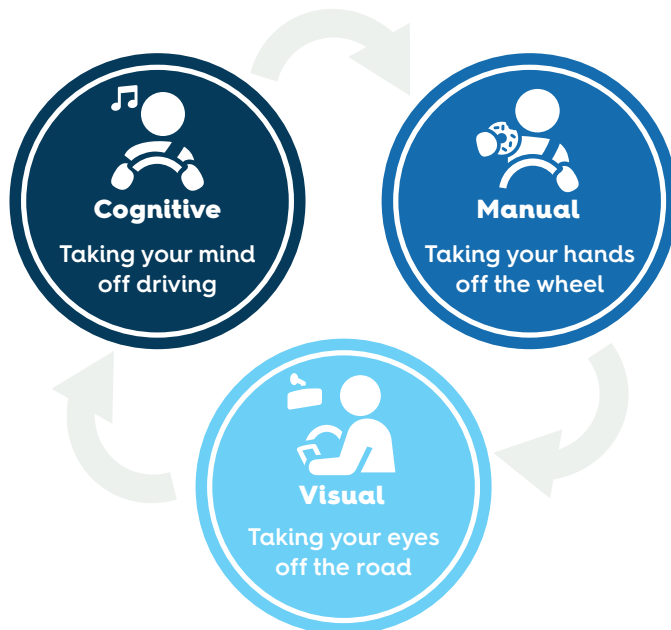


Texting while driving is **six times as deadly** as driving while intoxicated.

Cites:

<https://statepatrol.ohio.gov/dashboards-statistics/ostats-dashboards/distracted-driving-dashboard>
<https://www.nhtsa.gov/book/countermeasures-that-work/distracted-driving/understanding-problem>

Distracted driving can be:



Statistics tell the story

