

Findings Reveal Worrying Statistics on Driving Risks

Driving a car is such a commonplace activity in today's world and yet it also puts people in harm's way on a daily basis. Each year, car crashes claim thousands of lives and the saddest part is that many drivers increase the odds of being involved in an accident due to risky driving habits.

Numerous studies have been conducted on road accidents and an overwhelming number of surveys reveal that simple road safety practices can mean the difference between life and death. Take for instance these recent findings from a research conducted by a car accident attorney. The full info-graphic report, which is titled "Car Accident Lawyer Research: Worrying Statistics", paints an alarming picture about road safety, risky driving and accident prevention.

Distracted Driving

Accidents that occur due to distracted driving are very much preventable yet the number of drivers who think they can multi-task behind the wheel is shocking. According to the findings in this report, texting while driving increases the chances of an accident by up to 23 times. On the other hand, engaging in conversations makes a car crash 1.3 times more likely to happen. A nerve-racking statistic about the study found that 77 percent of young people believe that they can drive safely while texting at the same time.

Driving Under the Influence

It's estimated that in the United States alone, drunk driving accounts for one death every 48 minutes. As for drunk drivers who are lucky enough to survive a crash, car insurance companies consider them as risky clients. The study conducted claims car insurance bills can reach anywhere between \$5000 and \$10,000 over the five year period following a drunk-driving offense. It also estimates that the US spends about \$114 billion in taxpayer's money to deal with alcohol-induced road accidents.

The Impact of Not Putting on Seat Belts

Even with the addition of airbags in numerous car models, many drivers still refuse or simply ignore the importance of wearing seat belts. However, interesting figures released in this study reveal that airbags, which cost \$1.8 million per life saved, only reduce fatalities by 15 percent in frontal crashes. They do not minimize impact from the side or behind. In comparison, seat belts cost about \$30,000 for every life saved and drivers who buckle up have a survival rate of up to 70 percent in the event of a crash.

Choosing Motorcycles over Cars

Motorcycles appeal to the younger crowd because they seem cool and even seemingly faster than cars. But it's worth knowing how motorcycles stack up against cars in traffic safety. Statistics show that 80 percent of motorcycle accidents result in deaths whereas loss of lives after automobile crashes stands at a lesser 20 percent. It was also found that the fatality rate for riders below 40 years is 36 times higher than that of car drivers in the same age bracket. In addition, motorcycle collisions involving riders over the age of 40 are 20 times more likely to cause death compared to automobile accidents involving car drivers of the same age.

So, with these statistics in mind, the question is: What are you doing to stay safe on the roads? Remember that observing simple road safety guidelines can spare your life and that of other motorists as well.