



Country Roads ... Take Me Home Driving Rural Highways

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Written, Developed and Presented by Ravonne McCray

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Mature Driver Program

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Country Roads...Take Me Home!

Goals and Objectives

- Goal
 - Create awareness of hazards and unexpected situations on Texas rural roads and suggest methods for instant safe driver reactions.
- Objectives
 - Describe how all roads are not created equal, especially in terms of car accidents
 - Describe unexpected large loads, farm equipment, animals, situations, weather, lack of road markings, and poor road conditions
 - Identify the importance of safe reactions
 - Identify common causes for instant driver decisions
 - Describe ways to anticipate what may appear without warning

Materials Needed (available from <http://teea.tamu.edu>)

- “Country Roads...Take Me Home” Driving Texas Rural Roads PowerPoint
- “Country Roads...Take Me Home” Driving Texas Rural Roads Handout
 - Texas Motor Vehicle Crash Data Calendar Year 2016
 - http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/trf/crash_statistics/2016/01.pdf
- “Country Roads...Take Me Home” Driving Texas Rural Roads Icebreaker
 - Do you Know?
- “Country Roads...Take Me Home” Driving Texas Rural Roads Evaluation

Ice Breaker:

Group leaders may either hand out the game “Do you Know?”, and have participants work in pairs; or the leader can read the game before the presentation and ask for verbal responses. You do not have to have the answers as they will be answered throughout the material in the presentation.

Country Road...Take Me Home

Do you know?

Indicate your preference by circling A or B

<p>Is the Texas state highway system the largest state highway system in the nation?</p> <p>a.) TRUE</p> <p>b.) FALSE</p>	<p>Do more crash fatalities happen in Texas on Rural or Urban highways?</p> <p>a.) RURAL</p> <p>b.) URBAN</p>
<p>Who maintains and operates the Texas Highway System?</p> <p>a.) Texas Department of Public Safety</p> <p>b.) Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)</p>	<p>What is the leading cause of crashes in Texas?</p> <p>a.) Cell phones</p> <p>b.) Speeding</p>
<p>What percentage of crashes are preventable?</p> <p>a.) 80%</p> <p>b.) 94%</p>	<p>Texas has the highest speed limit in the United States?</p> <p>a.) TRUE</p> <p>b.) FALSE</p>
<p>It is the law that ALL passengers that have a seat belt must be restrained?</p> <p>a.) TRUE</p> <p>b.) FALSE</p>	<p>What percentage of the state's bridges are functionally obsolete?</p> <p>a.) 10%</p> <p>b.) 17%</p>
<p>You should not pass with limited visibility?</p> <p>a.) TRUE</p> <p>b.) FALSE</p>	<p>Texas leads the nation in farmland.</p> <p>a.) TRUE</p> <p>b.) FALSE</p>



Texas Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Facts

Calendar Year 2016

- The Fatality Rate on Texas roadways for 2016 was 1.44 deaths per hundred million vehicle miles traveled. This is a 3.59% increase from 2015.
- Texas experienced an increase in the number of motor vehicle traffic fatalities. The 2016 death toll of 3,773 was an increase of 5.45% from the 3,578 deaths recorded in 2015.
- There were 14,202 serious injury crashes in Texas in 2016 with 17,582 people sustaining a serious injury*.
- The annual vehicle miles traveled in Texas during 2016 reached 261.994 billion, an increase of 1.5% over the 258.122 billion traveled in 2015.
- Fatalities in traffic crashes in rural areas of the state accounted for 51.47% of the state's traffic fatalities. There were 1,942 deaths in rural traffic crashes.
- Single vehicle, run-off the road crashes resulted in 1,293 deaths in 2016. This was 34.27 % of all motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2016.
- In 2016 there were 814 people killed in crashes occurring in intersections or related to an intersection.
- There were 638 people killed in head-on crashes in 2016.
- There were no deathless days on Texas roadways in 2016.
- There was one crash that resulted in 6 or more fatalities in 2016.
- Saturday, October 29th and Sunday February 21th were the deadliest days in 2016 with twenty-three (23) persons killed in traffic crashes. October was the deadliest month with 382 persons killed.
- Based on reportable crashes in 2016:
 - **1 person was killed every 2 hours 20 minutes**
 - **1 person was injured every 1 minutes 59 seconds**
 - **1 reportable crash occurred every 57 seconds**
- Of all persons killed in vehicles where restraint usage was applicable and usage was known in 2016, 43.71% were reported as not restrained when the fatal crash occurred.
- 265,076 persons were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2016.
- There were 496 motorcyclists (operators and passengers) killed in 2016. Fifty three percent (53%) of motorcyclists killed were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.
- Pedestrian fatalities totaled 678 in 2016. This is a 21.5% increase from 2015.
- Pedalcyclist fatalities totaled 65 in 2016. This is a 25% increase from 2015.
- In 2016, there were 987 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes where a driver was under the influence of alcohol. This is 26% of the total number of people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes.
- During 2016, more DUI - Alcohol crashes were reported in the hour between 2:00 am and 2:59 am than any other hour of the day. Also, more of these crashes occurred on Saturday than any other day of the week.
- In 2016, there were 455 people killed in crashes involving distracted driving. This is a 5% decrease from 2015.

*Effective with the 2010 Annual Summary reports, the definition of "Serious Injury" was changed to only include "Incapacitating Injury". Therefore, Serious Injury data cannot be compared to prior years.

Information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from Texas Peace Officer's Crash Reports (CR-3) received and processed by the Department as of April 20, 2017.



Country road.... Take me home



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2018



Summer nights. Radio playing your favorite songs while you cruise down some country roads with the windows down, singing along as the sun sets slowly in the horizon. Sounds like a picture-perfect memory.

Country roads....Take me home

Texas' highway system includes

- nationally numbered interstate highways and US highways
- State highways, loops, spurs, and beltways
- **Large network of farm to market roads that connect rural areas**



Texas state highways are a network of highways owned and operated by the state of Texas. The Texas Department of Transportation (referred to as TxDOT) is the state agency responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the highway system.

Texas' highway system consists of nationally numbered interstate highways, US highways, state highways, loops, spurs, and beltways that provide local access to other highways. The system also includes a large network of farm to market roads that connect rural areas of the state with the rest of the state highway systems.

According to Wikipedia, Texas has the second largest state highway system in the US next to North Carolina's highway system .

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas_state_highway_system

Driving Texas Rural Roads



2 ½ X higher than all
other roads in the state.

- ▶ **2016 data:**
- ▶ Texans drove over **261,994 BILLION** miles
- ▶ **1,942** deaths in rural traffic crashes
- ▶ Rural traffic crashes accounted for **51.74%** of the state's traffic fatalities

▶ Data retrieved from TxDOT 2016 Texas Motor Vehicle Traffic Crash Facts



During 2016 Texans drove over 261.994 billion miles.

In 2016, there were 1,942 deaths in rural traffic crashes and these fatalities in rural areas of the state accounted for 51.74% of the state's traffic fatalities. This fatality rate on Texas' non-interstate rural roads is more than two-and-a-half times higher than all other roads in Texas.

So, what makes rural highways more dangerous than driving in urban roadways?

http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/trf/crash_statistics/2016/01.pdf

Crash occurring on the Rural Roads



Crashes are going to happen. Even when we do everything right. What do you do when you come upon a crash on the highway and you are all alone?

Many times crashes happen on single lane highways. It may take some time for EMS, DPS, or any law enforcement agencies to respond. Even if you are not the first person on the scene, it could be traumatic. You should carry an emergency kit in your car. You may need flares, bandages, etc. You should assess the situation and see if anyone has called 9-1-1. Even if you are CPR certified, you are not required to stop and render aid unless you work at a healthcare facility. However, if you do attempt to administer first aid or CPR you could be covered by the Good Samaritan Law. The Good Samaritan Law covers the individual for trying to render aid out of the goodness of their heart unless they are blatantly negligent.

If you come upon a crash and law enforcement are already there, you must follow their commands.

<https://www.texasonsitecpr.com/resources/texas-good-samaritan-law.html>

94% ARE PREVENTABLE



➤ Increases to 97% at age 65



According to NHTSA's data, 94% of all fatal crashes are preventable and caused by human error or mistake. These errors include speeding, not wearing seat belts, being distracted, use of cell phones, merging, changing lanes, etc.

As we age, this increases to 97% preventable.

<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812115>


Country roads....Take me home



Single vehicle, run-off the road crashes resulted in 1,293 deaths in 2016. This was 34% of all motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2016.

http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/trf/crash_statistics/2016/01.pdf

Texas Speed Limits

SPEED LIMIT 85	Texas Speed Limit - Rural Freeways The maximum speed limit on rural freeways and interstates in Texas is 85 miles per hour. "Rural freeways" are the sections of major highways that passing through rural and sparsely populated areas, and can safely allow faster driving. Rural highways will generally have the highest legal speed limits in Texas.  In Texas, trucks have a maximum speed limit of 85 mph on rural freeways.
SPEED LIMIT 75	Texas Speed Limit - Urban Freeways The maximum speed limit on urban freeways and interstates in Texas is 75 miles per hour. "Urban freeways" are the segments of large highways that are located within a city or densely populated area's limits, and are generally more prone to traffic congestion and other hazards. In most cases, the freeway's speed limit will return to the rural freeway speed limit of 85 mph after the road passes through the most densely populated area.
SPEED LIMIT 75	Texas Speed Limit - Divided Roads The maximum speed limit on divided roads in Texas is 75 miles per hour. Divided roads must have a concrete median or buffer zone separating opposite lanes, and may have one or more lanes going in the same direction. Under many states that allow higher speed limits on divided roads, Texas has the same maximum speed limit for both divided and undivided roads.
SPEED LIMIT 75	Texas Speed Limit - Undivided Roads The maximum speed limit on rural undivided roads in Texas is 75 miles per hour. This category includes most small backroads and local routes. When these routes pass through a residential or heavily-trafficked area, the speed limit will usually drop to 55 mph or below.
SPEED LIMIT 55	Texas Speed Limit - Residential Areas The maximum speed limit on residential roads in Texas is 55 miles per hour. Residential roads have the most potential for speed-based accidents and collisions, so residential districts tend to have the lowest speed limits with the most strict enforcement policies. When driving in residential areas be on the lookout for school, hospital, and construction zones. These areas often have even lower speed limits, with strict enforcement and heavy fines for speeding.

- Speeding is leading cause of crashes in Texas
- Texas has highest speed limit in the nation



Speeding is the leading cause of crashes in Texas.

Texas traffic laws define the maximum speed that any motorist travelling on Texas roadways can legally drive. Driving over the Texas speed limit can result in a traffic citation, fine, license suspension, or even arrest.

The 85mph speed limit on rural highways in Texas is the highest legal speed limit in the United States. No states legally allow speeds faster than the Texas maximum speed limit of 85 miles per hour. "Rural freeways" are the sections of major highways that passing through rural and sparsely populated areas, and can safely allow faster driving.

Driving over the posted speed limit, driving too fast for conditions, or failing to obey special speed limit zones can result in a Texas speeding ticket, points on your license, and even a license suspension or revocation for repeat offenders.

<http://www.speed-limits.com/texas.htm>

Everyone should be Restrained



44% of all persons killed in vehicles were reported as not restrained when the fatal crash occurred.

Buckling up is your best bet to prevent serious injury or death in a crash. Crashes where the victims aren't wearing safety belts can be deadly. People who aren't buckled up are often thrown out of their car or truck, and sometimes the vehicle rolls over them.

Unbelted backseat passengers can become projectiles in a car crash: they can be tossed around inside the vehicle and even can injure or kill those in the front seat.

Riders in the back seat who use lap and shoulder belts are at 54% more likely to survive in a crash than unrestrained occupants in passenger cars and 75% more likely in passenger vans and SUVs.

Remember Click It or Ticket!!

http://www.texasclickitorticket.com/why_buckle_up.html

Everyone should be Restrained



Here's the law

Attention all adults - It's simple. Texas law requires drivers and all passengers in a vehicle to be secured by a safety belt. Yes, that means unbuckled adult passengers in the back seat now can get tickets, too.

Kids are covered, too. - Children younger than 8 years old must be in a child safety seat or booster seat unless they are taller than 4 feet 9 inches. Fines are up to \$250 plus court costs.

Best Practice (What is recommended as defined in the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Program 2007). If you have questions, consult a certified Child Passenger Safety Technician in your area.

General Recommendations

- Keep your child in an age and size appropriate car seat as long as the child fits the manufacturer's weight and height requirements
- Keep children in the back seat at least until they reach age 13
- Always refer to your specific car seat and vehicle manuals about how to use and install your car seat
- Use the top tether of your forward-facing car seat. It will limit how far forward your child moves during a crash.

http://www.texasclickitorticket.com/why_buckle_up.html

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

UNMARKED ROADWAYS



Robert Frost's poem The Road not taken can be used for many of the unmarked roads in Texas.

Texas rural roads can be narrow and unmarked. As we drive these roads, we need to pay attention to which way the road will take you. Many of these roads are not marked as ending and it is even harder to see at night.

Which way do we go??? Many of these roads do not show up on GPS or navigation systems. Sometimes our GPS may take us down roads that seem to have no end. When driving these roads, you may want to have a paper road map in your vehicle.

BRIDGES



Texas bridges

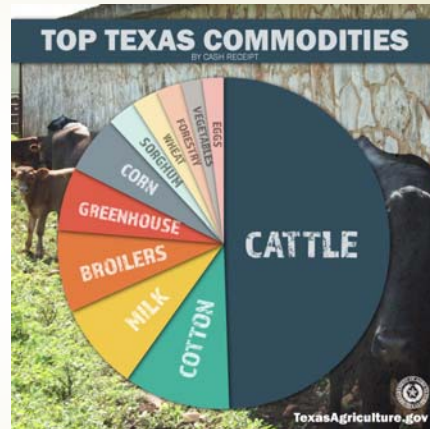
- Some are in need of repair, improvement, or replacement
- 2% are structurally deficient
- 17% are functionally obsolete

Data taken from TxDOT tripnet.org, July 2014.



According to data from 2014, Texas bridges are in need of repair, improvement, or replacement. Two percent of the state's bridges are structurally deficient and 17% are functionally obsolete. Always make a plan on the roads you are traveling and do not travel on unfamiliar roads in the dark.

FARMLAND



Data from Texas Department of Agriculture



Texas leads the nation in number of farms and ranches, with 248,800 farms and ranches covering 130.2 million acres.

Rural lands, including privately owned forest, total 142 million acres, 84% of the state's total land area.

12% of Texas' population resides in rural areas.

<http://www.texasagriculture.gov/Home.aspx>

Country roads....Take me home



As we travel down these country roads, we may follow or approach farm equipment or livestock. When approaching large, oversized loads and farm equipment, be patient. Most farmers are courteous of other drivers and attempt to move over. However, most times the roads are too narrow and can put these drivers in jeopardy. Make sure when approaching these oversized vehicles, you leave plenty of room to give them space to pass. By following a large distance behind, you will have a larger picture of upcoming traffic and roadway which may allow safe passing. For livestock, you just have to be patient.

Country roads....Take me home



Highways can also have obstructions like trees and crops along the edge of the highway. Trees around curves and hills can also pose problems.

Hills and curves cause many problems for those that want to pass. We witness many people being impatient and want to pass when it is not safe. All we can do is to be a good defensive driver and slow down and be prepared for the worst.

Country roads....Take me home



Highways can also have obstructions like trees and crops along the edge of the highway. Trees around curves and hills can also pose problems.

Single lanes and narrow roads have no shoulders and are dangerous if drivers are not paying attention.

Bridges with oversized vehicles can also present problems. Make sure you follow far enough behind that the driver can see you and you can see the driver in their side mirrors. If you encounter a bridge on a single highway, there is no passing on bridges.

Nighttime driving



Did you know that even though only 25% of driving is done at night, more than half of all driving deaths occur during this time? According to the [National Highway Safety Administration](#), driving your car becomes significantly more risky once the sun goes down. Fortunately, there's a lot you can do to prevent nighttime driving accidents. Whether you're driving through a city, or out on the lonesome Texas highway, these nighttime driving tips can help you keep you, and everyone else, safer.

Dim Your Dashboard

When driving at night, having a well-lit dashboard can seem like a good safety measure, but it can actually be distracting to the eye. The light that's generated by your GPS, your stereo, and even your map lights can cause a glare. Limiting the light can make you more aware of what's happening outside your car, and improve your reaction times.

Keep Your Headlights Tuned

Did you know that brand new cars can occasionally come with uneven, or poorly aimed, headlights? It's a good idea to regularly check the angle, to make sure they aren't set too low or too high (your car's owner manual should have instructions on this).

<http://www.texas-defensivedriving-online.com/blog/tips-for-texas-night-driving.html>

Three die in accident caused by wild hog

A wild hog crossing the roadway led to a late-night accident in rural Maverick County on Christmas Day that left three people dead, including an off-duty Border Patrol officer.

December, 2017



On Christmas day, 2017, a wild hog crossing a Farm to Market road caused a late-night accident in rural Maverick County just south of Uvalde. According to a preliminary report from the Department of Public Safety, Garza's "faulty evasive action" to avoid the wild pig caused her to enter the southbound lane and strike Cordova's vehicle head-on.

Feral hogs are a continuing problem for Texas and not only for the damage they do to the land, but also damage they can do when crossing roads in front of traffic.

The safety of drivers is TxDOT'S top priority. According to a TxDOT spokeswoman, "Wildlife roadway crossings are a global problem. We have already taken some measures to protect drivers on the highway. We currently have 'Wildlife Crossing' signs posted along the Right Of Way of some highways. It's also important that drivers pay close attention and focus 100 percent of their attention on driving."

What are some other wildlife that can prevent a problem when driving? (Wait for a few responses; such as deer, racoons, skunks, opossums, etc.)

<https://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/Three-die-in-accident-caused-by-wild-hog-12457549.php>

Nighttime driving



Know How to Avoid Animals

One of the most common accidents at night involves an unlucky animal who just picked the wrong time to cross the road.

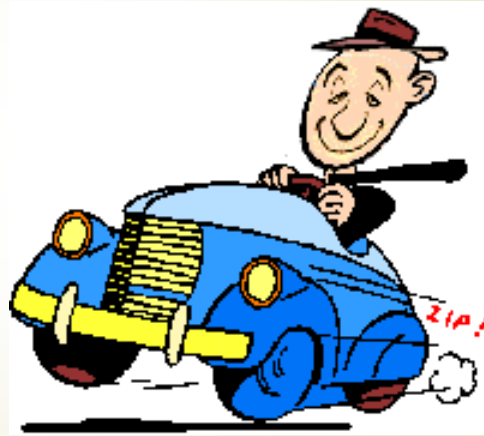
Knowing what to look for and the best way to avoid them can greatly reduce the amount of road kill you create.

The first thing to do is watch for the glare off the animal's eyes. Their retinas give off a distinct glare as they look up to see your headlights barreling down on them.

Second, if it's a larger animal, try slowing down as quickly as possible instead of swerving around. Animals have a tendency to follow your lights, and could actually move in front of your car.

<http://www.texas-defensivedriving-online.com/blog/tips-for-texas-night-driving.html>

Drowsy Driving



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WACO



Save a Life
West Department of Transportation

According to the CDC, drowsy driving is a major problem in the United States. The risk, danger, and sometimes tragic results of drowsy driving are alarming. Drowsy driving is the dangerous combination of driving and sleepiness or fatigue. This usually happens when a driver has not slept enough, but it can also happen due to untreated sleep disorders, medications, drinking alcohol, and shift work.

The warning signs of drowsy driving—

- Yawning or blinking frequently.
- Difficulty remembering the past few miles driven.
- Missing your exit.
- Drifting from your lane.
- Hitting a rumble strip on the side of the road.

Studies have shown that going too long without sleep can impair your ability to drive the same way as drinking too much alcohol.

Being awake for at least 18 hours is the same as someone having a blood content (BAC) of 0.05%.¹⁰⁻¹²

Being awake for at least 24 hours is equal to having a blood alcohol content of 0.10%. This is higher than the legal limit (0.08% BAC) in all states.¹²⁻¹³

If you experience any of the warning signs of drowsy driving while driving, **pull over to a safe place and take a 15-20 minute nap or change drivers.**

Simply turning up the radio or opening the window are not effective ways to keep you alert.

<https://www.cdc.gov/features/dsdrowsydriving/index.html>

Sharing the Road

What are some tips for safely sharing the road with motorcycles?

- Look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections.
- Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear to be, and avoid turning in front of an oncoming motorcycle.
- Use your turn signals and check your blind spot before changing lanes.
- Don't follow a motorcycle too closely.
- Give motorcyclists a full lane.
- Obey posted speed limits.



There were 496 motorcyclists (operators and passengers) killed in 2016. Fifty three percent (53%) of motorcyclists killed were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.

What are some tips for safely sharing the road with motorcycles?

- Look twice for motorcycles, especially at intersections.
- Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear to be, and avoid turning in front of an oncoming motorcycle.
- Use your turn signals and check your blind spot before changing lanes.
- Don't follow a motorcycle too closely.
- Give motorcyclists a full lane.
- Obey posted speed limits.

<https://www.txdot.gov/driver/share-road/motorcycles.html>

Turn Around...Don't Drown



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WACO



Save a Life
Texas Department of Transportation

Drivers often underestimate the power of floodwater. When there's water running across a road, drivers should always turn around and choose a different route.

Six inches of water can cause tires to lose traction and begin to slide. Remember not to use cruise control when it is raining.

Twelve inches of water can float many cars.

Two feet of rushing water will carry off pick-up trucks, SUVs and most other vehicles.

In flash floods, waters rise so rapidly they may be far deeper by the time you are halfway across, trapping you in your vehicle.

Flash floods are especially treacherous at night when it is very difficult to see how deep waters may be or how fast water is rising..

Lives can be saved every year if Texas drivers follow this one rule: when there's water on the road, turn around, don't drown.

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/water/tadd/>

Debris in the Way



- ▶ Texas Department of Transportation
- ▶ **800-525-5555**
- ▶ printed on the back of all Texas driver licenses and ID cards
- ▶ For motorists to use when reporting a need for non-emergency assistance.



A toll-free number was established in 1989 to get help to motorists whose vehicles are disabled on state and federal roads in Texas. The number, 800-525-5555, is printed on the back of all Texas driver licenses and ID cards, and is for motorists to use when reporting a need for non-emergency assistance.

*It is not a substitute for 9-1-1 and it is not a Customer Service line to answer Driver License questions or other routine matters for other divisions of DPS. **It is for motorists who have a legitimate need for assistance on Texas roadways.***

If a motorist is in a rural area, the call is relayed to the sheriff's office having local jurisdiction.

If a courtesy patrol is available in a certain area, that number is provided to the motorist.

Examples of when a motorist may call the Hotline include:

stranded with car problems

hazardous road conditions

debris in the roadway

suspicious activity at a rest area

obviously intoxicated or dangerous drivers

https://www.dps.texas.gov/director_staff/public_information/strandedmotoristhotline.htm

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



Resources

- TxDOT Crash Data 2016
 - http://ftp.dot.state.tx.us/pub/txdot-info/trf/crash_statistics/2016/01.pdf
 - <https://www.txdot.gov/government/enforcement/annual-summary.html>
- CDC – Center for Disease Control
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/release/2017/p0921-rural-seat-belts.html>



- <http://www.texasagriculture.gov/Home.aspx>



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- The annual vehicle miles traveled in Texas during 2016 reached 261.984 billion, an increase of 1.5% over the 258.122 billion traveled in 2015.
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- Single vehicle, run-off the road crashes resulted in 1,203 deaths in 2016. This was 34.27 % of all motor vehicle traffic deaths in 2016.
- In 2016 there were 814 people killed in crashes occurring in intersections or related to an intersection.
- There were 630 people killed in head-on crashes in 2016.
- There were no daylight deaths on Texas roadways in 2016.
- There was one crash that resulted in 6 or more fatalities in 2016.
- Saturday, October 20th and Sunday, February 21st were the deadliest days in 2016 with twenty-three (23) persons killed in traffic crashes. October was the deadliest month with 382 persons killed.

- Based on reportable crashes in 2016:
 - 1 person was killed every 2 hours 28 minutes
 - 1 person was injured every 1 minutes 18 seconds
 - 1 reportable crash occurred every 67 seconds
- Of all persons killed in vehicles where restraint usage was reported and usage was known in 2016, 43.71% were reported as not restrained when the fatal crash occurred.
- 265,076 persons were injured in motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2016.
- There were 498 motorcycle operators and passengers killed in 2016. Fifty-three percent (53%) of motorcycles killed were not wearing helmets at the time of the crash.
- Pedestrian fatalities totaled 676 in 2016. This is a 21.5% increase from 2015.
- Motorcycle fatalities totaled 65 in 2016. This is a 20% increase from 2015.
- In 2016, there were 167 people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes where a driver was under the influence of alcohol. This is 20% of the total number of people killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes.
- During 2016, more DUI - Alcohol crashes were reported in the hour between 2:00 am and 2:59 am than any other hour of the day. Also, more of these crashes occurred on Saturday than any other day of the week.
- In 2016, there were 455 people killed in crashes involving distracted driving. This is a 1% decrease from 2015.

*Effective with the 2020 Annual Summary reports, the definition of "Serious Injury" was changed to only include "Incapacitating Injury". Therefore, serious injury data cannot be compared to prior years.
Information contained in this report represents reportable data collected from Texas Peace Officer's Crash Reports (CR) received and processed by the Department as of April 26, 2017.

Contact Information



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(254)202-6541

866-332-0005



Country Roads...Take Me Home!

Please take a moment to provide feedback on this program.

1. Regarding the overall program/teaching (rate your response by circling a number):

Statement	Scale (1= Worst, 5 = Best)				
The value of the lesson was	1 not valuable	2	3	4	5 very valuable
The overall teaching was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent
The teacher's knowledge of the lesson was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent

2. Regarding what you know and actions you plan to take (circle your response):

I learned new information today. YES NO

I plan to use the information I learned today. YES NO

I feel this information will help me understand rural driving situations. YES NO

I think I will be able to be more alert while driving on rural roads. YES NO

I know how to use defensive driving reactions with no warning signs. YES NO

3. This lesson was delivered by a(n) (check only one):

_____ TEEA Member. _____ Extension Agent/Specialist _____ Other Speaker.

4. Please tell us about yourself.

I am a _____ Woman. _____ Man.

I am in District: **1** **2** **3** **4** **5** **6** **7** **8** **9** **10** **11** **12**

I have been a member of TEEA for _____ years.

My age is _____ years-old.

5. Additional Comments.

Thank You For Completing This Form!