Cell Phone Use

General Statistics

- The under-20 age group had the highest proportion of distracted drivers involved in fatal crashes (16%). The age group with the next greatest proportion of distracted drivers was the 20-29 year old age group (12%).[1]
- Cell phone use behind the wheel reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37 percent.[2]
- Crash risk is four times higher when a driver uses a cell phone, whether or not it's hands-free.[3]
- 58 percent of high school seniors and 43 percent of high school juniors report texting or e-mailing while driving during the previous month.[4]
- A typical teen sends and receives about 100 text messages a day.[4]
- Some activities—such as texting—take the driver's attention away from driving more frequently and for longer periods than other distractions.[5]

Details

Source:

1. www.distraction.gov.
2. Just MA, Keller TA, Cynkar JA. A Decrease in Brain Activation Associated With Driving When Listening to Someone Speak. *Brain Research*. 2008; 1205:70-80.
3. Redelmeier DA, Tibshirani RJ. Association Between Cellular-Telephone Calls and Motor Vehicle Collisions. *The New England Journal of Medicine*. February 13, 1997; 336(7).
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Distracted Driving in the United States and Europe. June 7, 2012. Accessed at http://www.cdc.gov/Features/dsDistractedDriving/.
5. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Statistics and Facts about Distracted Driving. Washington, DC: US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2011. Available from: http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/index.html. Accessed September 20, 2012.

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