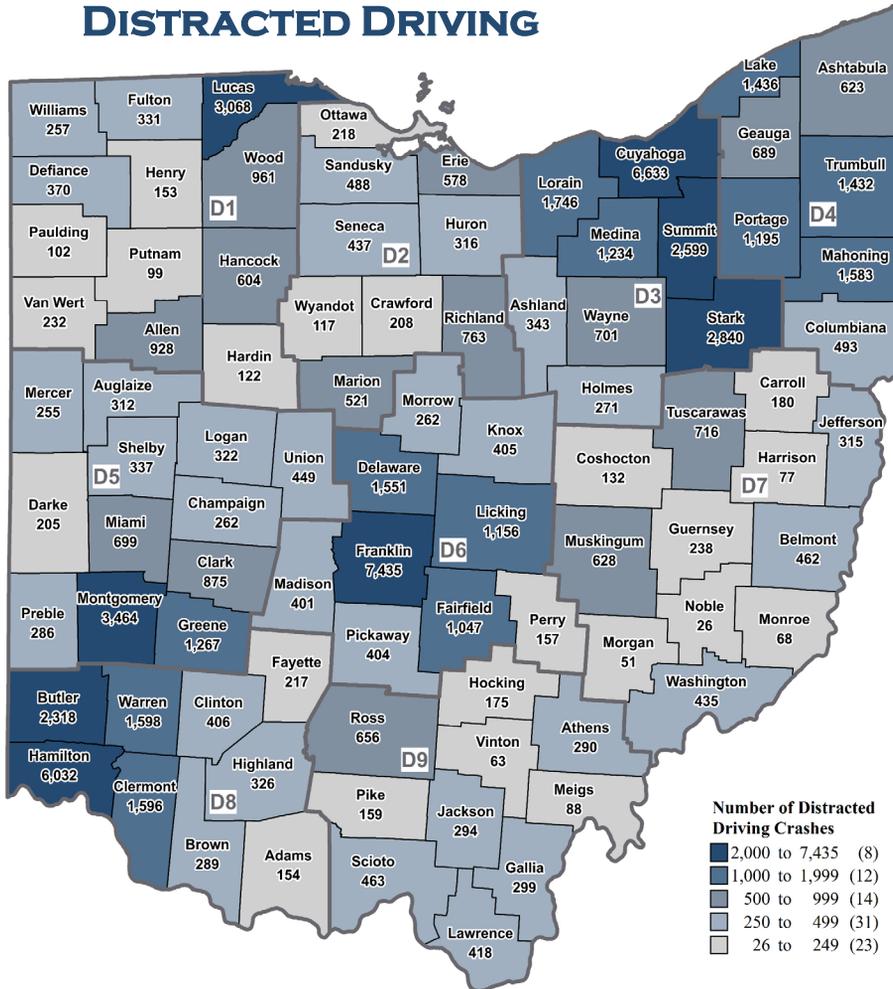


TRAFFIC SAFETY BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2020



DISTRACTED DRIVING



Map and Table:
2015-2020 YTD
Distracted Driving Crashes

OSHP District	Number of Crashes
District 1	7,227
District 2	3,646
District 3	16,367
District 4	7,451
District 5	8,733
District 6	12,818
District 7	3,328
District 8	12,936
District 9	2,905
Total	75,411

Distracted Driving Facts

- Since 2015, there have been 75,411 crashes in Ohio that involved one or more drivers that were distracted by something within their vehicle.¹ Of these, 227 were fatal crashes that resulted in 248 deaths.
- Over this time, Franklin County has led the state in the number of distracted driving crashes (7,435). Cuyahoga (6,633), Hamilton (6,032), and Montgomery (3,464) Counties have also had significant numbers of crashes. Combined, these counties account for nearly one in three distracted driving crashes (31%).
- Male drivers were more likely than their female counterparts to be distracted in a crash (55% vs. 44%). In fatal crashes, males made up 63% of distracted drivers. More than one in three distracted drivers (34%) were 16-24 years old.
- Additional information on distracted driving crashes is available on the Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety (OSTATS) dashboard at: <https://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov/ostats.aspx#gsc.tab=0>
- Ohio law bans all “electronic wireless communication device” usage for drivers under 18. Texting while driving is illegal for all drivers, but only as a secondary offense. Across the U.S., 48 states ban text messaging for all drivers. Talking on a hand-held phone while driving is banned in 25 states.²
- In October 2018, Ohio passed a law to enhance the penalty for specific moving violations when the driver was distracted. Guilty offenders can either pay an additional fee of \$100 or attend a distracted driving safety course.
- Since 2015, OSHP troopers have written 16,756 citations that included a charge of distracted driving.

¹2020 data is through 8/31. Includes any crash in which one or more drivers were distracted by: 2) manually operating an electronic communication device, 3) talking on hands-free communication device, 4) talking on hand-held communication device, 5) other activity with an electronic device, 6) passenger, or 7) other distraction inside the vehicle.

²<https://www.iihs.org/topics/distracted-driving/cellphone-laws>