

## Kansas' Top 5 Crash Causes



KDOT recently released a report about traffic crash statistics around Kansas in 2021.

In the 57,598 crashes that occurred: 17,479 people were injured 424 people were killed

Vehicles involved in the crashes included:
45,306 cars
18,941 SUVs
14,618 pickup trucks
3,791 large trucks and buses
3,649 vans
962 motorcycles, scooters, or mopeds

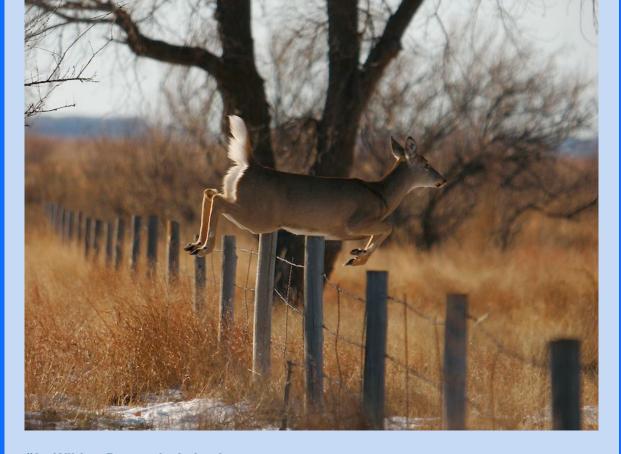
### Here are the top 5 factors contributing to crashes:



#### #1 - Distraction

Whether it's texting, reaching for an item that fell on the floorboard, or turning around to deal with a child in the back seat, distractions can take many forms. Even the mental stress caused by situations at work or home divert the focus we need to operate a vehicle safely.

When you are driving, focus on driving safely. Turn your phone off, put it out of reach, or turn on the "Do Not Disturb While Driving" mode. Checking social media, email, or streaming live meetings or TV shows is extremely dangerous while driving. Wait until you're parked to eat, change the music or climate controls, or attend to your hair, makeup, or clothes.



#### #2 - Wild or Domestic Animal

There were 10,483 crashes with deer on Kansas roads in 2021. When cows or other domesticated animals get out of their fences on a dark night, they also create a hazard for drivers. Pay attention to anything moving near the side of the road and brake gently without swerving, even if it means having to collide with an animal in the road.



#### #3 - Failing to Yield the Right of Way

We all know we are supposed to stop at stop signs and red lights, but some drivers get in a hurry and either ignore them completely or don't take the time to come to a complete stop to look for oncoming traffic and pedestrians.

While it is legal to turn right at a red light, drivers must first stop behind the crosswalk and make sure no one is coming before they proceed.



#### #4 - Following Too Closely

Despite advances in automotive engineering, no vehicle can "stop on a dime." It takes time and space to react to slowed or stopped traffic in front of you and if there's not enough room between vehicles, you end up rear-ending someone. Back off, leave 4-5 seconds of space between cars, and always be ready to brake for sudden hazards.



#### **#5 - Driving Too Fast For Conditions**

When it's raining or snowing, your vehicle's tires are not able to maintain as much traction with the surface of the road. Maintaining your tires to make sure you have good tread will help, but it's still necessary to drop your speed when streets are icy or wet - or when your vision is obscured by fog or smoke in the area.

## **Click Here For More KS Crash Stats**

## **Traffic Safety Tips**



## **Employer Efforts to Reduce Impaired Driving to Zero | NETSTalk Now: Driving Change on Acast**

Impaired driving and alcohol use has increased throughout the pandemic, with statistics showing a startling reversal of the decrease previously seen in impaired driving fatalities. Furthermore, with the increased use of recreational cannabis, what is the impact of that on impaired driving and the impact for employers with employees who consume those substances.

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Winter Driving Safety Tips Every Commercial Fleet Should Have.

Winter weather can make driving nerve-wracking, especially when you're a commercial driver in a large vehicle. With freezing rain, ice, snow, and more, it's hard to guess what's going to happen when you're on the road. There are some simple precautions to take that can make the road safer for you, your vehicle, and the vehicles around you.

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KanDrive App Available



The Kansas Department of Transportation's KanDrive website is now available to download as an App on Android and iOS phones.

KanDrive provides travelers with timely details on maintenance and construction activities, winter highway conditions, flooded roadways, incidents and crashes affecting traffic.

The new app includes all account features on the KanDrive website. It offers real time, high-quality streaming of camera views across the state. The truckers' mode for commercial vehicle operators is still an option and now announces rest stop parking availability. The app also has a hands-free/eye-free feature that announces upcoming traffic events while traveling. Just tap the Tell Me sound icon in the top right corner to get announcements of upcoming events (feature requires location sharing).

## **Traffic Safety News**



Counties with the most motor vehicle accident fatalities in Kansas

Stacker compiled a list of counties with the highest motor vehicle crash fatality rates in Kansas using data from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Originally

published on stacker.com, part of the TownNews Content Exchange.

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Driver hospitalized after speeding car hits speed limit sign on Kansas highway

WABAUNSEE CO., Kan. (WIBW) - One Kansas driver is in the hospital after his speeding car hit a speed limit sign along a highway in Wabaunsee Co. The Kansas Highway Patrol Crash Log indicates that around 1:40 a.m. on Sunday, Dec.

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Surveillance footage shows SUV crash into E. Wichita business

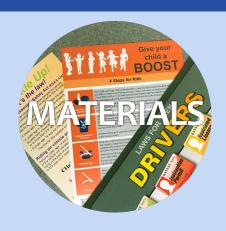
WICHITA, Kan. (KWCH) - New video from inside a store near Central and Edgemoor, in east Wichita, showed a scene of chaos that disrupted what began as a casual day. A little after 9 a.m. surveillance footage from inside Finley's Hobbies showed an SUV crash into the store.



## We Help Employers Save Money and Lives!

The Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office offers you FREE traffic safety brochures, posters, flyers, and giveaway items.

PLUS, our website gives you information on traffic safety topics like teen drivers, distracted driving, drunk driving, motorcycle safety, and more!





Did you know we can bring FREE safe driving programs directly to your community organization or workplace?

From car seats to how getting older affects your driving, we provide help and advice for on how to stay safe on the roads.

Visit Our Website - ktsro.org



## 28th Annual KDOT Transportation Safety Conference

April 24-26, 2023

Hyatt Regency, 400 West Waterman, Wichita, Kansas

#### **Transportation Safety Conference**

This conference provides valuable information for law enforcement personnel, court professionals, state and local government officials, engineers, safety advocates, EMT and EMS workers, educators and counselors, special interest group representatives and more. Keynote and breakout sessions cover injury control, law enforcement, youth issues\*, roadway safety, medical marijuana and public safety, older driver issues, children in vehicles, and more.

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**Traffic Safety On The Job** 



I wish Love and Respect to and for all of you.

When a person drinks or is impaired in any way driving... that person puts other people in danger. It's not as simple as risking the life of the person who is making the choice to drive impaired. It's not as simple as putting at risk the lives of the wonderful people who are in the vehicle with the impaired driver. The choice to drive impaired can place ANYBODY in danger. You could hit a house. You could hit a car carrying a child. There really is no limit to the damage and danger that can be caused by an impaired driver. If don't say this to shame anybody or make anybody feel less. I you want to party like the biggest rock star on the planet... then my friend... go get it. I will not judge you. But there are so many ways to get home now without taking the risk of driving impaired. I'm not endorsing Uber here... but I know that they have been a great resource for me when I had car trouble or needed a ride. I am certain other sources like this also work well too. I have had friends over the years who were in accidents due to somebody being impaired. I have seen people I knew die due to this stupidity. Many of us do know of at least one person who has been impacted by this preventable tragedy. Let's give TPD and all first responders a wonderful gift this weekend. Nobody drive impaired. Let's make this the most uneventful weekend for first responders. Let them have a quiet and perhaps boring few nights of duty... where nobody gets hurt driving impaired, or harms anybody.

On Monday... we can then watch the newscast together where news anchors will scratch their heads announcing... "there were zero arrests this weekend, is that right... ZERO".

FYI... if you volunteer to be the Designated Driver... it is quite amusing to watch your friends in action. Just do your best to keep them safe... and remember to tell them what crazy stuff they said or did afterward.

Love and respect to you my friends.

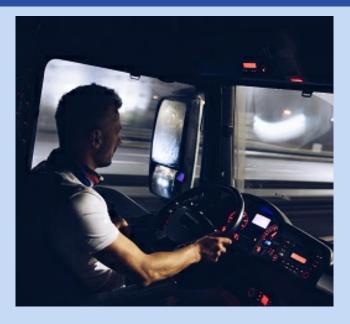
My resolution in 2023 is to just be a good person and daddy. We all have our own journey. Thank you for trusting me and WIBW-TV for weather information. I am thankful for each of you and your families. Happy New Year.



If driving is part of your job, it's your responsibility to make safety a priority to protect yourself and those around you.

To be featured in our newsletter, send your social media post to pmiddleton@dccca.org or tag @DriveSafeKansas when posting it on social media.

## **Employer-Based Driver Safety Programs**



#### **Employer-Based Driver Safety Programs**

The TRB Behavioral Traffic Safety Cooperative Research Program's BTSCRP WebResource 1: Employer-Based Driver Safety Programs is based on an assessment of what elements in employer-based traffic safety programs and other behavior change programs are likely to change driver behavior and workplace safety culture.

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### **Online Defensive Driving Courses - National Safety Council**

NSC Defensive Driving Online Courses deliver the most relevant, leading-edge content to motivate and educate employees to be safe, responsible drivers. You can trust NSC to best train drivers to avoid collisions, crashes, injuries or worse.

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What can KTSRO do for you?



If you're looking for traffic safety education ideas, materials, presentations, etc., contact us at ktsro@dccca.org!

Call 800-416-2522 for more information and resources!



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Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office | 2930 SW Wanamaker Dr. Suite 100, Topeka, KS 66614

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