



Workplace Safety Includes Driving Safely



It's easy to just brush over traffic safety when it comes to workplace safety.

Most businesses that have drivers have policies in place about acceptable usage and that's about the extent of conversations that happen about safe driving while on the clock. Some businesses don't even look at or update their policies with any regularity, and with all of the changes that have happened with vehicle technology and the rise of crashes while at work, it's probably time to consider looking at your workplace driving policies.

Studies have shown that people are more likely to engage in safer driving behaviors if they've been reminded of it, especially from someone with whom they have a prior relationship. A reminder coming from a fellow coworker or a direct manager could be much more effective than just having policy come from the top.

It could also be smart to ask for employee feedback on having incentives and trainings that promote safe driving.

Since driving is a thing most of us do every day, we all need the occasional reminder to be less distracted on the road and it doesn't have to feel like a lecture.



Multifaceted approach could help end distracted driving

March 30, 2023 A multifaceted approach could help end distracted driving, a new study from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety shows. Along with strengthening laws and beefing up enforcement, safety officials should concentrate on leveraging friendships and family ties to inspire change, making drivers more aware of how serious a threat distraction represents and offering solutions to the common barriers that prevent them from simply ignoring their phones, an IIHS survey of drivers suggests.

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Secure Your Load: It's Your Responsibility



In an effort to keep people safe on the roads, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is reminding drivers that it is their responsibility to properly secure transported objects. Items not properly secured pose a safety risk on our nation's roadways. Objects or debris can fall from vehicles and can collide with other vehicles or pedestrians, causing serious injuries or fatalities. Remember: *Drive Safe: Secure Your Load*. Read on for safety tips and facts about the importance of doing so.

Statistics

- From 2016–2020, approximately 16,878 people were injured per year when a vehicle collided with another object while on the road.
- During this same time period, passenger vehicles accounted for 81% of crashes in which cargo was not properly secured.
- From 2016-2020, there were an average of 732 fatalities per year when a vehicle collided with another object that was not properly secured.

Facts

- All 50 states and the District of Columbia have laws regarding unsecured loads on non-commercial motor vehicles. Additionally, the vehicle's driver/operator is responsible for its safe operation, including the condition of the vehicle. 'Safe condition' includes properly securing any objects or debris that could separate from the moving vehicle, creating dangerous obstacles for other motorists.

· Unsecured loads endanger other drivers and pedestrians, as these unstable loads could fall from a vehicle onto the road. This creates the potential for a crash, as a driver may need to swerve to avoid a collision with the loose items.

· Violation of unsecured load laws can carry state-specific penalties of up to \$5,000. Laws state that cargo should be tied down in such a way as to prevent anything from dropping, shifting, leaking, or otherwise escaping the vehicle.

Proper Securing

Follow these tips to ensure you properly secure your cargo:

- *Tie cargo down with rope, netting, or straps.*
- *Tie large objects directly to your vehicle or trailer.*
- *Consider covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp or netting.*
- *Don't overload your vehicle or trailer.*
- *Always double-check your load to make sure it's secure.*

Before transporting a load, ask yourself these questions:

- *Is there any chance of debris or cargo falling or blowing out?*
- *Is my load secured at the back, sides, and top?*
- *What if I braked suddenly, hit a bump, or was in a crash?*
- *Would I want my loaded vehicle driving through my neighborhood?*
- *Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?*

Traffic Safety Minute Resources for Staff Meetings



Crosswalk Safety Talk - Always be watching for pedestrians who may step into traffic.



Headlights - When should you use your headlights? Whenever you want to see and be seen.

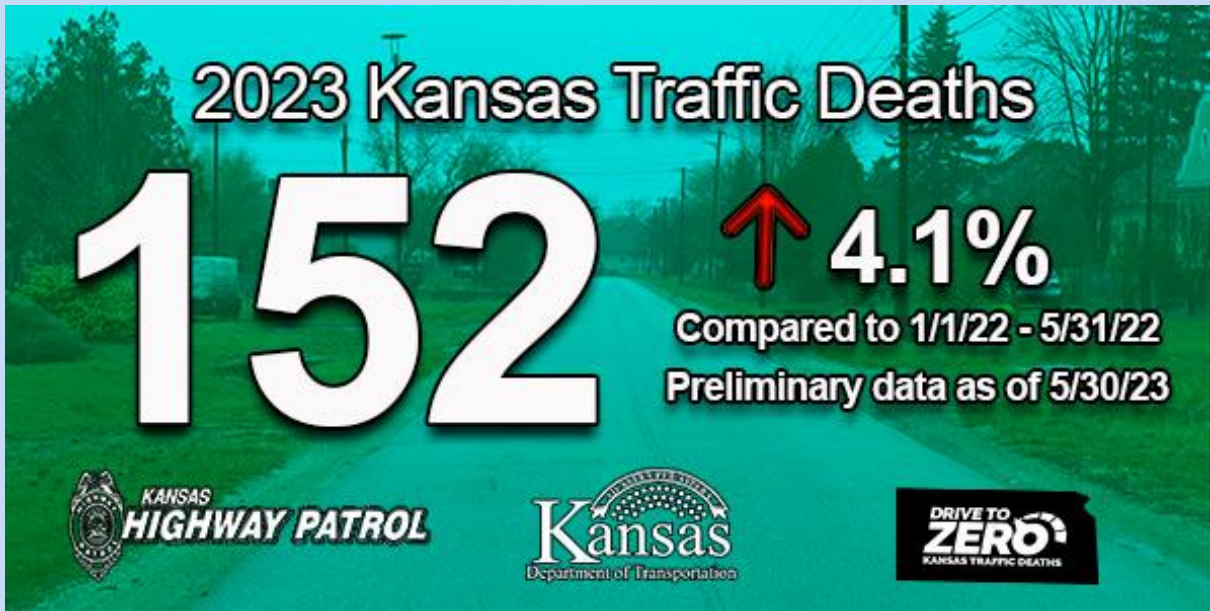


Parking Lot Safety Tips - Avoid crashes and keep pedestrians safe as you drive through parking lots.



Driving Safely As We Get Older - Are you a driver with decades of experience who is noticing it's getting harder to get behind the wheel? Here are some tips about driving safely and protecting yourself and others on the road.

[Click Here For More Resources](#)



**Hosting a Health and Safety Fair?
We'd love to be involved!**

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!



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](http://ktsro.org)

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Traffic Safety Around Kansas

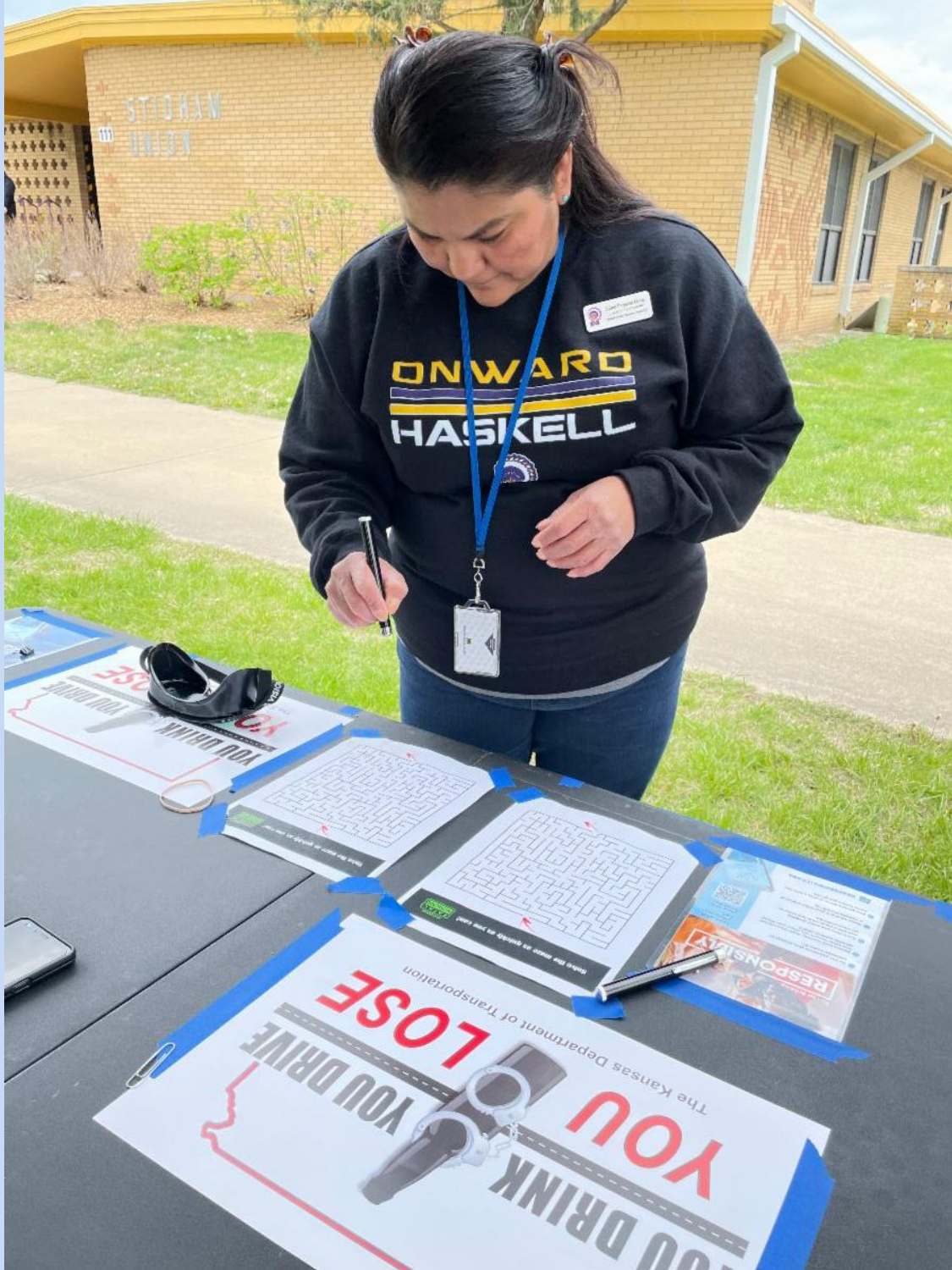
Harvey County Safety Fair



Traffic Safety Event at Haskell Indian Nations University







To be featured in our newsletter, send your pictures to pmiddleton@dcca.org or tag [@DriveSafeKansas](https://www.instagram.com/DriveSafeKansas) when posting it on social media.

Driver Safety Programs

Drivers Education Schools in Kansas



Employer-Based Driver Safety Programs

The TRB Behavioral Traffic Safety Cooperative Research Program's BTSCRIP 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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Resource OFFICE



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