

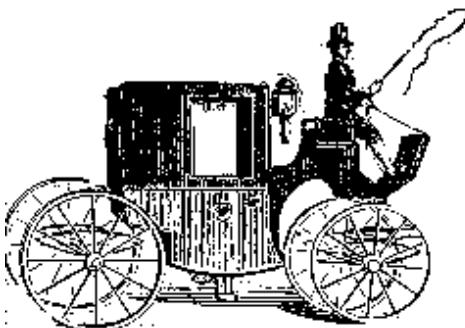
Carriage Trade Insurance Reminds You Not to Text and Drive

It Can Wait

Texting and Driving Surpasses Drunk Driving as Greatest Danger to Teens

Texting while driving is now the leading cause of death among teenagers – surpassing drinking and driving, according to a study by Cohen Children's Medical Center. Disturbing statistics from the report include:

- More than [3,000 teens die each year](#) in crashes caused by texting while driving
- Approximately 2,700 teens are killed in drunk driving accidents
- More than 50 percent of teens admit to texting while driving



DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE

There are three main types of driving distractions:

- **Visual:** taking your eyes off the road;
- **Manual:** taking your hands off the wheel; and
- **Cognitive:** taking your mind off of driving.²

Facts about texting or emailing while driving

- [31% of U.S. drivers ages 18-64 reported that they had read or sent text messages or email messages while driving at least once within the 30 days before they were surveyed.](#)



Risks

- Some activities—such as texting—take the driver's attention away from driving more frequently and for longer periods than other distractions
- Younger, inexperienced drivers under the age of 20 may be at increased risk; they have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes
- According to last year's AT&T Teen Driver Survey, 97 percent of fifteen- to nineteen-year-olds understand the dangers, [but 43 percent do it anyway](#)

What can you do?

- Talk to your kids about [distracted driving](#)
- Have them [sign an agreement](#) to drive safely
- [Download an app for your phone](#) that disables text messages and calls when a phone is in motion
- Join celebrities like [Oprah Winfrey](#) and take a pledge not to text and drive
- Make sure that your child and their classmates are [working with their school](#) to discuss the dangers of texting and driving

For more information on how you can prevent texting while driving, follow The Carriage Trade Insurance Agency on Twitter or like us on Facebook. Also, don't forget to follow our [blog](#).

Sources

*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

*Federal Communication Commission

*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

*Halsey III, Ashley. "Teen Drivers Are Texting, Just like Their Parents." *Washington Post*. The Washington Post, 14 May 2012. Web. 26 Jan. 2014.

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