



GEORGIA TRAFFIC SAFETY QUICK FACTS: 2022

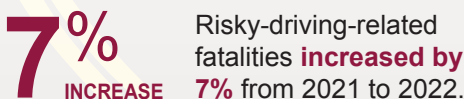
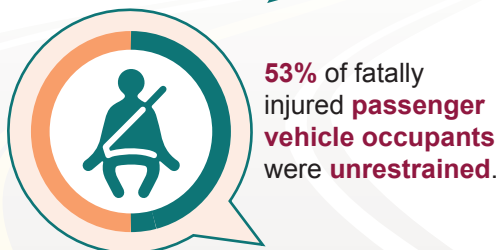
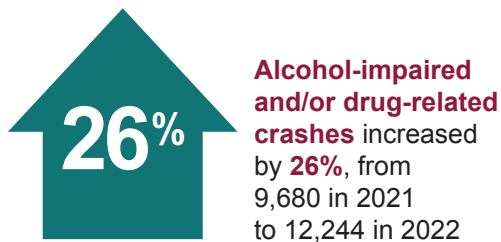
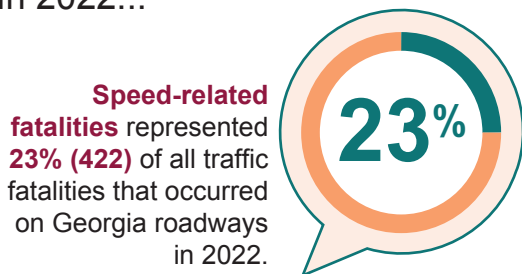
RISKY DRIVING

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

Risky driving refers to driver-related behaviors that contribute to the occurrence of traffic crashes or traffic-related injuries and fatalities. These behaviors may include **speeding, alcohol impairment, drug use, distracted driving, drowsy driving, and not using a proper safety equipment** (seat belt or motorcycle helmet).

THE NUMBERS

In 2022...



REDUCE YOUR RISK



SLOW DOWN



DRIVE UNIMPAIRED
(No Alcohol or Drugs)



STAY AWAKE
STAY FOCUSED



WEAR YOUR SEATBELT



DRIVE ALERT

PREVENTION MEASURES

- **Adjust your driving accordingly.** Always adjust your speed based on pedestrian activity, weather, and lighting conditions. If you are being tailgated, safely merge into the adjacent right lane. If this isn't an option, maintain a safe legal speed. If a speeding driver is tailgating you or trying to engage you in risky driving, use judgment to safely steer your vehicle out of the way.
- **Be a responsible driver.** If you drink, do not drive for any reason. Use public transportation or call a taxi, ride-hailing service, or sober friend.
- **Check medication labels.** Always check your prescription and over-the-counter medication labels to see if drowsiness or impairment could result from their use.
- **Stay Awake.** If you notice you are getting drowsy, for example, crossing over roadway lines or hitting rumble strips, pull over for a rest or coffee, or find alternate transportation.
- **Drive Alert, Arrive Alive.** If you cannot devote your full attention to driving because of some other activity, it's a distraction. Instead of trying to attempt the risky distraction while driving, pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place. To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out.
- **Always protect yourself and your passengers.** If you are driving a motor vehicle, ensure that you and all your passengers are buckled up properly. Wear a helmet while riding a motorcycle. It's your best defense against risky drivers.
- **Model good driving practices** for your children and passengers.



2022 QUICK FACTS

Crashes

- There were **1,678 fatal crashes** that resulted in **1,797 traffic fatalities** on Georgia roadways.
- Two out of every three fatal crashes (**67%**) involved at least one driver who was speeding or alcohol and/or drug-impaired in 2022.
- While more speeding-related and alcohol/drug-related fatal crashes occurred in the Atlanta region and other urban counties, the rate of these fatal crashes per 100M VMT* **was higher in rural counties**.

Drivers

Speeding

- Across all speeding-related crashes, **79%** of serious injuries and fatalities were among occupants in the speeding vehicle.
- **1 out of 5** speeding drivers involved in a fatal crash had a previous speeding conviction.

Alcohol-Impaired

- Drivers involved in fatal crashes with a positive blood alcohol concentration (BAC) were **2.9 times** more likely to be speeding and **2.7 times** more likely to be unrestrained compared to drivers with no alcohol in their system.

* Vehicle Miles Traveled

Drug-Related

- **20%** of the fatal crashes involved at least one drugged driver resulting in **363 fatalities**. **54%** of drugged drivers tested positive for **cannabinoids**. (*Drug-specific concentration levels are not equated with a degree of drug impairment*)

Drowsy

More than half of drowsy-related crashes occurred between midnight and 8:00 am.

- **30%** of reported drowsy-related crashes occurred in the early morning hours between **5:00 am and 7:59 am**, and
- **25%** occurred between **midnight and 2:59 am**.

Distracted

- **3 out of 4** confirmed distracted drivers involved in a crash were alone in their vehicle.

Seat Belt

- Pickup trucks and vans had the highest proportion of unrestrained fatalities among drivers and passengers—**66%** of fatally injured **pickup drivers** and **70% of van passengers** were **unrestrained**.

Lives Saved

- **Safety belt systems** saved an estimated **625 lives** for passenger vehicle occupants ages five years and older.
- **Motorcycle helmet** use resulted in an estimated **117 lives saved**.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

More information on risky driving safety and traffic safety facts may be accessed at:

- <https://www.gahighwaysafety.org/highway-safety/shsp/>
- <https://www.gahighwaysafety.org/georgia-traffic-safety-facts/>

Other traffic safety facts are available online at the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety and Crash Outcomes Data Evaluation Systems (CODES): Risky Driving, Distracted Drivers, Occupant Protection, Non-Motorist (Pedestrians and Bicyclists), Motorcycles, Young Drivers, Older Drivers, Large Trucks, and Urban and Rural Comparison.



For more information and resources related to risky driving:
<https://www.gahighwaysafety.org/georgia-traffic-safety-facts/>