

Introduction

What Every Driver Must Know contains information about operating a motor vehicle safely on Michigan roads. Although this publication includes information about many Michigan traffic laws, it is not meant as a legal document or as a substitute for the Michigan Vehicle Code. Information in this publication is subject to change.

For more information about Secretary of State services and programs:

- Visit our website at www.Michigan.gov/sos
- Contact the Department of State Information Center at (888) SOS-MICH (767-6424)
- The official Secretary of State Twitter feed is available at www.twitter.com/Michsos
- Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Michigansos

The Michigan Department of State Information Center telephone number, SOS website, and other helpful resources are also found on the back cover.

Please remember that driving is a privilege and not a right. Drivers must drive responsibly and safely, obey traffic laws, and never drink and drive. Finally, make sure that you and your passengers are properly buckled up — it's the law!

Before you read further, consider these facts about driving in Michigan. In 2009:

- 290,978 motor vehicle crashes were reported. Deaths numbered 871 and 70,931 people were injured.
- Of all fatal crashes, 27.9 percent occurred at intersections.
- Alcohol was involved in 277 fatal crashes.
- Three out of five accidental deaths for young people ages 15 -24 were due to motor vehicle crashes.
- Accidental death for children in motor vehicle crashes routinely outpaces the next two most frequent causes: fire and drowning.
- The percentage of all pedestrian fatalities that occurred at crossings other than intersections was 30.6.
- Excessive speed was a factor in 13.2 percent of drivers in fatal crashes.

2009 Quick Fact

Michigan Traffic Crash Data — Michigan Department of State Police/Office of Highway Safety Planning