What is Toward Zero Deaths?

Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) is a statewide safety campaign based on the national strategy on highway safety intended to influence driver behavior and improve safety. With more than 35,000 fatalities occurring on U.S. highways each year, roadway safety remains one of the most challenging issues facing Michigan, and the nation.

In 2016, one person was killed in a crash every 8 hours and 15 minutes.

Most fatal crashes occurred on dry roadways (78.3 percent) and in clear weather conditions (62.1 percent).

In 2016, one person was killed in an alcohol involved crash every 1 day 8 hours 25 minutes.

In 2016, one driver under age 21 was in a fatal crash every 2 days 14 hours 18 minutes.

69.7 percent of pedestrians killed in 2016 were male, most pedestrian crashes occur between 5 and 6 p.m., and Friday is the deadliest day of the week for pedestrians.

In 2016, pedestrians crossing not at an intersection accounted for 40.6% of pedestrian fatalities.

In 2016, 73 percent of drinking drivers involved in crashes were male, most fatal had been drinking (HBD) crashes occur between 12 and 3 a.m., and Saturday has the highest number of HBD fatal crashes.

Single-lane roundabouts in Michigan not only reduce fatal and incapacitating crashes by 88 percent, but they also provide an economic benefit of almost $600,000 per year per roundabout, based on crash reduction and user cost delay.

Crashes on curved roadways account for more than 27 percent of all traffic deaths every year. In an effort to reduce crashes on curved roadways, road agencies install a variety of countermeasures to keep your vehicle on the road.

**Centerline Rumble Strips**  
55 percent reduction in lane departure

**Curve Delineation**  
Reduction in crashes by 20 percent

**Speed Warning Systems**  
Almost 50 percent reduction in crashes

**High-Friction Surfaces**  
35 percent fewer wet roadway crashes
What can you do to help move Michigan Toward Zero Deaths?

**Pedestrians**
- Whenever possible, cross at a signal
- Make eye contact with the driver whenever possible
- Walk on the sidewalk whenever possible, and against traffic if a sidewalk is not available

**Motorcyclists**
- Wear protective high-visibility gear, including a helmet
- Get endorsed
- Take a safety training class
- Don’t drink and ride

**Drivers**
- Check all seats for kids when exiting a vehicle
- Put your phone out of reach and turn the sound off
- Don’t drink and drive
- Always wear your seatbelt
- Don’t drive in a semi’s blind spots
- Watch for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclists

**Bicyclists**
- Wear your helmet and bright clothing
- Ride with traffic
- Don’t drink and ride
- Use hand signals

A 2017 observational seatbelt survey estimates statewide belt use at 94 percent.

A 2017 observational survey estimated statewide helmet use at 71.4 percent and high-visibility gear at 3.6 percent.

Be a champion in supporting TZD and the safety culture in Michigan.

**Go to: www.towardzerodeaths.org to become a TZD participant**

To learn more about Michigan’s efforts, go to:

**www.michigan.gov/zerodeaths**