

## INTRODUCTION

The **What Every Driver Must Know** booklet 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.

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!

## RESOURCES

This newest edition of **What Every Driver Must Know** is slimmed down from previous versions. Material that was not related to driving or important for a majority of drivers to know was removed. A resource guide is presented in the back of this booklet that provides other sources for information such as websites, printed materials and a customer service number that can help if you want to know more about topics in **What Every Driver Must Know**.

## 2015 MICHIGAN CRASH FACTS

Before you read further, consider these facts about driving in Michigan from the **Michigan Traffic Crash Facts**.

### In 2015:

- 297,023 motor vehicle crashes were reported. Deaths numbered 963 and 74,157 people were injured.
- Alcohol was involved in 271 fatal crashes.
- Of 893 fatal crashes, 30.3 percent involved at least one drinking operator or pedestrian.
- Excessive speed was reported as a hazardous action for 22.9 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes.
- Of all fatal crashes, 25 percent occurred at intersections.
- Licensed drivers ages 16-20 represent 6.6 percent of Michigan's driving population. This young driver group represented 11.1 percent (56,544) of all drivers in all

crashes and 10 percent (148) of drivers in fatal crashes.

- According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, motor vehicle crashes are the No. 1 cause of unintentional fatal injuries for children ages 1-24.
- Licensed drivers age 65 and older represent 19.4 percent of Michigan's driving population, 9.5 percent of drivers in all crashes, and 12.2 percent of drivers in fatal crashes.