

Driver Distraction Key Findings

Engagement in secondary tasks which take a driver's 'eyes off the road' are considered to be particularly hazardous



2x crash risk

when a driver glances off the forward roadway for more than 2 seconds¹

Driver distraction is a factor in

over **16%**

of serious crashes on Australian roads²



drivers are engaged in a non-driving activity³

A significant number of Australian drivers engage in distracting activities prohibited by road legislation while knowing that it could increase their risk of crashing⁴

The impairments from using a mobile phone while driving can be as profound as those associated with driving with a blood-alcohol level of 0.08 percent⁵

79%
of drivers

agree that talking on a mobile phone while driving increases the risk of being involved in a crash

21%
of drivers

admitted that they use their mobile phones for non-driving activities e.g. internet browsing, texting, taking photos or using applications

The three most common types of driver distraction are:



Manual distraction



Visual distraction

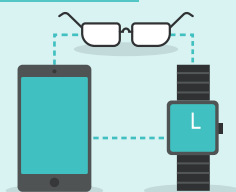


Cognitive distraction

NTC identified problems with:



Outdated road rules



The emergence of new sources of distraction



A lack of clarity in the road rules about unlawful driver behaviours.

Footnotes:

¹ Klauer, SG, Dingus, TA, Neale, V.L., Sudweeks, JD, & Ramsey, DJ 2006

² Beanland, V, Fitzharris, M, Young, K & Lenné, MG 2013

³ Young, K, Osborne, R, Koppel, S, Charlton, J, Grzebieta, R, Williamson, A, Haworth, N, Woolley, J & Senserrick, T 2018

⁴ Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities 2018

⁵ Strayer, DL, Drews, FA & Crouch, DJ 2006