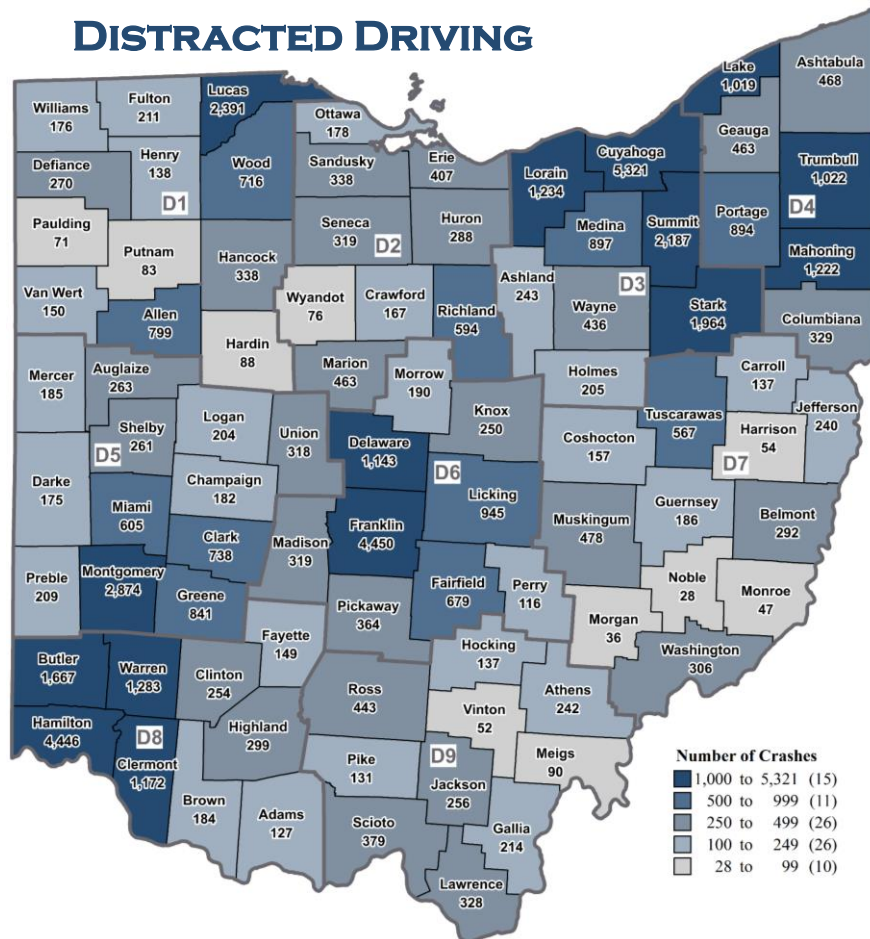




# TRAFFIC SAFETY BULLETIN

## APRIL 2024

### DISTRACTED DRIVING



Map and Table:  
2019-2023

#### Distracted Driving Crashes

OSHP District	Number of Crashes
District 1	5,431
District 2	2,830
District 3	12,487
District 4	5,417
District 5	6,855
District 6	8,456
District 7	2,528
District 8	9,581
District 9	2,272

**Total 55,857**

**Number of Crashes**

- 1,000 to 5,321 (15)
- 500 to 999 (11)
- 250 to 499 (26)
- 100 to 249 (26)
- 28 to 99 (10)

### Distracted Driving in Ohio

- From 2019 through 2023, there were 55,857 crashes in Ohio that involved one or more drivers who were distracted by something within their vehicle.<sup>1</sup> Of these, 169 were fatal crashes that resulted in 185 deaths. In addition, more than 29,000 people were injured in distracted driving crashes. The 28 fatal crashes in 2023 were the lowest total over the five-year period.
- Over the past five years (2019-2023), Cuyahoga County has led the state in the number of distracted driving crashes (5,321), followed by Franklin (4,450), Hamilton (4,446), Montgomery (2,874), and Lucas (2,391). Combined, these five counties accounted for more than one in three distracted driving crashes (35%) in Ohio.
- More than 56,000 drivers were reported as being distracted in these crashes. Male drivers made up the majority of the distracted drivers (56% vs. 43%). In fatal crashes, males were the distracted driver two-thirds of the time (67%). Nearly one in three distracted drivers (32%) were 15-24 years old.
- In April 2023, Ohio's distracted driving law became a primary offense<sup>2</sup>. After a six-month grace period, where officers were instructed to educate and help motorists adapt to the new law, strict enforcement began in October 2023. Troopers issued 3,575 distracted driving violations in the final three months of the year, a 119% increase from the same time in 2022.
- Additional distracted driving enforcement and educational information can be found on the Patrol's Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety (OSTATS) distracted driving dashboard at: <https://www.distracteddrivingdashboard.ohio.gov>. Additional crash-related data can be found at: <https://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov/ostats.aspx>.

<sup>1</sup>Includes any crash in which one or more drivers were distracted by: 2) manually operating an electronic communication device, 3) talking on hands-free communication device, 4) talking on hand-held communication device, 5) other activity with an electronic device, 6) passenger, or 7) other distraction inside the vehicle.

<sup>2</sup>Distracted driving violations include incidents with one of the following violations: 4511.204, 4511.205, 4511.991, or 392.82A1 (federal motor carrier).