

Preventing Worker Injuries and Deaths from Traffic-Related Motor Vehicle Crashes

WARNING!

Many workers are at high risk of injury and death from traffic-related motor vehicle crashes. About three workers die from these crashes each day.

If driving is part of your job, take the following steps:

- Use seat belts at all times. Let other workers ride with you only when the vehicle has a seat belt for each person.
- Always drive within the speed limit.
- Do not drive if you are fatigued.
- Be familiar with the maintenance procedures for all vehicle systems.

If you employ motor vehicle operators, take the following steps:

- Conduct driver's license background checks before hiring drivers.
- Provide vehicles with seat belts for the driver and every passenger, and require their use.
- Establish schedules that allow drivers enough time to obey speed limits and to limit their hours of service according to regulations.
- Train drivers in safe driving practices and the proper use of vehicle safety features.
- Establish procedures to ensure proper maintenance of all vehicle systems.

- Make sure that newly purchased vehicles are equipped with appropriate occupant protection and other safety features.
- Adopt the U.S. Department of Transportation regulations for commercial motor carriers as part of your motor vehicle safety program.

If you work or employ workers who work in construction or maintenance zones, take the following steps:

- Wear or require workers to wear high-visibility clothing.
- Use or require the use of barriers and traffic control efforts when working on or near public roads.



Photo by Earl Dotter®

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of work-related fatalities.

For additional information, see ***NIOSH Alert: Preventing Worker Injuries and Deaths from Traffic-Related Motor Vehicle Crashes*** (DHHS [NIOSH] Publication No. 98-142). Single copies of the Alert are available free from the following:

Publications Dissemination, EID
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
4676 Columbia Parkway
Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998

Fax number: (513) 533-8573

Phone number: 1-800-35-NIOSH (1-800-356-4674)

E-mail: pubstaff@cdc.gov

Homepage address: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh>

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