

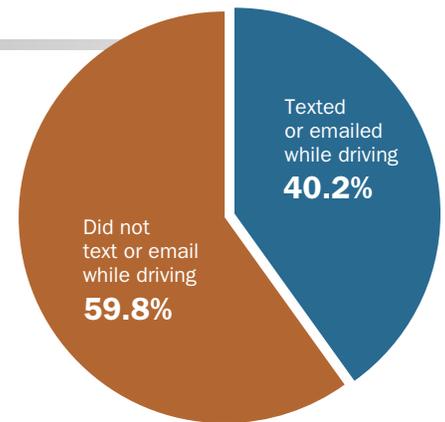
2013 NM-YRRS Results: Texting While Driving

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of injury and death for US teens, and distracted driving is a major cause of crashes. Using a cell phone to send text messages takes a driver's hands off the wheel, eyes off the road, and attention away from driving. The 2013 NM-YRRS high school survey included a new question

about texting while driving.¹ In 2013, 40.2% of participating high school students who drove a vehicle in the past 30 days reported texting or emailing while driving. Texting while driving became prohibited by New Mexico law on July 1, 2014.

1 During the past 30 days, on how many days did you text or email while driving a car or other vehicle?

Texting While Driving
Grades 9–12 ■ NM ■ 2013



DID YOU KNOW...?

In 2013, **2 out of 5** NM high school students *who drove a vehicle* reported texting or emailing while driving at least once in the past 30 days (40.2%).

Students who texted or emailed while driving had higher rates of other injury-related risk behaviors than students who did not text while driving. Students who texted while driving were:

- 2 times as likely to rarely or never wear a seatbelt (12.5% vs. 5.6%)
- 6 times as likely to drink and drive (17.9% vs. 3.0%)

The more often students texted while driving, the more likely they were to engage in other injury-related risk behaviors. 9.0% of student who drove a vehicle reported texting while driving on all of the past 30 days. Compared to those who texted only one or two times in the past 30 days, students who texted while driving every day were:

- Almost 3 times as likely to rarely or never wear a seatbelt (23.3% vs. 8.2%)
- Almost 4 times as likely to drink and drive (30.7% vs. 8.1%)

For more information on Teen Drivers, go to www.cdc.gov/Motorvehiclesafety/Teen_Drivers. For the CDC's Parent Teen Driving Contract, go to www.cdc.gov/Features/TeenDrivers. For more information on the Put it Down campaign, visit www.distraction.gov.

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