

#### **Our Driving Concern - Texas**

Permian Road Safety Coalition May 7, 2025

#### **National Safety Council**

Save lives, from the workplace to anyplace



Workplace



**Roadway** 







#### **Turnkey Materials**

Materials to easily adopt, customize and implement.



https://tx.ourdrivingconcern.org/



#### **Fact or Fiction? Traffic Safety Edition**

- I will present 10 statements about traffic safety.
- After each statement is presented, write down Fact or Fiction.
- You need a piece of paper and something to write with.



#### **Fact or Fiction?**

- Write the numbers 1 10 on your paper.
- When finished, your neighbor will score your responses.
- Participants with the highest scores win a prize!



### Are you ready?



1. In Texas it is legal to wear the shoulder belt portion of your seat belt under your arm.



#### Hands-free devices are more dangerous than talking to a passenger.



3. When weather affects road conditions, increase your speed and reduce your following distance.



## 4. Road rage is the same as aggressive driving.



#### The posted speed limit is a law that applies to all traffic lanes.



6. Vehicles already traveling in a roundabout do not have the right of way.



7. If someone tailgates you, move into another lane and let the tailgater pass you.



8. According to Texas law, it is permissible to send a text message while driving if the message is less than two words.



In Texas, a reckless driving fine can cost up to \$200 and or result in confinement in a county jail for not more than 30 days.



10. To be in violation of the open container law in Texas, the alcohol must be in its original container.



### Please hand your paper to your someone else to score.





## 1. In Texas it is legal to wear the shoulder belt portion of your seat belt under your arm.

#### **FICTION**

Texas law states that you must wear your seat belt according to the instructions.



#### Hands-free devices are more dangerous than talking to a passenger.

#### **FICTION**

Portable and vehicle integrated hands-free cell phone use still involves visual-manual subtasks, which are associated with a greater crash risk, and can cause drivers to miss the important visual and audio cues that would ordinarily help avoid a crash.



# 3. When weather affects road conditions, increase your speed and reduce your following distance.

#### **FICTION**

Reduce speed, increase following distance.



## 4. Road rage is the same as aggressive driving.

#### **FICTION**

**Aggressive** driving is a traffic offense; **road rage** is a criminal offense. Road rage is characterized by willful and wanton disregard for the safety of others. Road rage is an assault with a motor vehicle or weapon precipitated by an incident on a roadway.



#### The posted speed limit is a law that applies to all traffic lanes.

#### **FACT**

In at least 29 states, slower traffic is expected to keep right (and many drivers treat this as an "unwritten rule" of the road), except for emergency vehicles.



## 6. Vehicles already traveling in a roundabout do not have the right-of-way.

#### **FICTION**

Those already in the roundabout have the right-of-way.



## 7. If someone tailgates you, move into another lane and let the tailgater pass you.

#### **FACT**

If someone tailgates you, move into another lane and let the tailgater pass. Or pull off the road so the person can pass. Avoid speeding up or slowing down.



# 8. According to Texas law, it is permissible to send a text message while driving if the message is less than two words.

#### **FICTION**

As of September 1, 2017, it a violation of Texas law to send a text message while driving.



In Texas, a reckless driving fine can cost up to \$200 and or result in confinement in a county jail for not more than 30 days.

**FACT** 



Transportation Code, Sec. 545.401.

RECKLESS DRIVING; OFFENSE. (a) A person commits an offense if the person drives a vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

- (b) An offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by:
- (1) a fine not to exceed \$200;
- (2) confinement in county jail for not more than 30 days; or
- (3) both the fine and the confinement.



## 10. To be in violation of the open container law in Texas, the alcohol must be in its original container.

**FICTION** 



Penal Code, Sec. 49.031. POSSESSION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE IN MOTOR VEHICLE. (a) In this section:

(1) "Open container" means a bottle, can, or other receptacle that contains any amount of alcoholic beverage and that is open, that has been opened, that has a broken seal, or the contents of which are partially removed.



### What was your score?



#### Tie-breaker

## In what year did Texas enact a seat belt law for front seat passengers?

1985



#### **Sources**











### Our Driving Concern

an **nsc** program

**TEXAS** 

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