

Distracted Driving Bus Operations

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Key Facts

A few important facts to keep in mind:

- Cellphone use while driving impairs driver performance and increases the risk of a collision.
- Cellphone use while driving affects driving habits and performance and increases the risk of a collision by about four times.
- Distracted driving is an important yet underestimated factor in accidents.

Source: Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec. Detailed profile of facts and statistics regarding DISTRACTED DRIVING.





2017 Road Safety Record

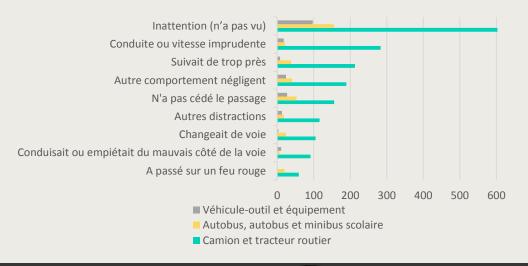
- Year after year, some 30% of passenger vehicle drivers and passengers who die in collisions were not wearing seatbelts.
- Analysis of the road safety record made it possible to identify the main causes of accidents involving a heavy vehicle both due to driver issues (fatigue, distraction, reckless speed) and vehicle safety issues (brakes, wheels, tires, load).

Analysis of Likely Causes of Accidents

Based on accident reports completed by our partners, we have observed that:

- Only 38% of people who died in heavy vehicles were wearing their seat belts
- Distraction and inattention are the leading causes of accidents involving heavy vehicles

Number of accidents involving a heavy vehicle by cause and class of vehicle (2017):







Organizational Priorities

Driver behavior

- Hours of driving and rest (driver fatigue)
- Circle check
- Seatbelt
- Cellphone (texting)
- Adapted driving

Vehicle safety

- Brakes
- Wheels/tires
- Stowage
- Brake and turn signal lights

Other road users

- Keep your distance
- Watch out for right turns
- Do not cut drivers off
- Respect stop lines
- Avoid blind spots





Road Check Operations

Two-pronged approach to help change driver behaviors:

- 1. Road checks and monitoring:
 - Distracted driving
 - Cellphone use and texting
 - Driver fatigue
 - Seatbelts

- 2. Prevention and awareness:
 - "Blind spot" and "You're no match for a heavyweight" campaigns
 - Distracted driving
 - Cellphone use and texting
 - Driver fatigue
 - Seatbelts





Operation "Driver Behavior"

Operation using an unmarked bus with tinted windows that:

- Offer a more elevated position
- Provide a clear and accurate view of the behavior of all types of vehicle drivers







Joint Operation with Sûreté du Québec

• Targets all road users, because both organizations have complementary missions (passenger vehicles and heavy vehicles)

Helps reduce the consequences of distracted driving by addressing drivers of all ages

and all vehicle types





Joint Operation with Sûreté du Québec

 Maximizes effectiveness of interventions on driver behavior by making it possible to address other factors that can cause death or serious injuries, such as not wearing seatbelts or other sources of distracted driving









Video: Clip taken from an operation





A few observations from the operations...

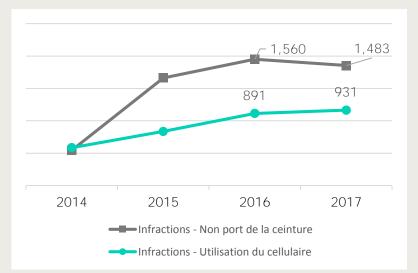
Heavy vehicle drivers get more tickets for not wearing their seatbelts than for cellphone
use at the wheel

whereas...

• Passenger vehicle drivers get more tickets for cellphone use at the wheel than for not wearing their seatbelts

Impacts of the Operations

• To date we have not observed any change in driver behaviors because we are still issuing the same number of citations.



The data presented concerns heavy vehicles only.



Conclusion

- These operations have increased **drivers'** fear of being caught, which may influence them to drive safer.
- According to these observations and the significant level of distracted drivers, we must continue our efforts to combat the problem of distracted driving—one of the main causes of accidents with injuries—in order to improve road safety.

Contrôle routier Québec thanks you

"An active force dedicated to road safety"



