



CALIFORNIA OFFICE  
OF TRAFFIC SAFETY

## 2011 Statewide Traffic Safety Survey

2011 saw the second annual statewide traffic safety survey, intended to help fine-tune traffic safety programs, enforcement efforts and public education campaigns to ensure they are effective and on target with individual populations.

California's 2011 survey included 1,801 drivers aged 18 and over at gas stations in 15 counties throughout Central, Northern and Southern California. Participants were asked a range of traffic safety questions regarding impaired driving, seat belts, distracted driving and traffic safety laws and campaigns.

### **In your opinion, what are the biggest safety problems on California roadways?**

<u>Reply</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Speeding/Aggressive Driving	21.5%	17.6%
Talking on cell phone	15.9%	20.3%
Bad Road Surfaces	11.4%	11.6%
Drunk Driving	10.1%	12.6%
Texting on cell phone	2.4%	18.5%
Internal Car Distractions	1.2%	3.8%
Other/Don't Know	37.5%	15.6%

### **In your opinion, what is the most serious distraction for drivers?**

<u>Reply</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Cell Phone talking (handheld or hands-free)	61.9%	56.0%
Texting While Driving	12.7%	27.6%
Passengers in Car	3.3%	1.8%
Roadside Billboards	2.1%	1.3%
Eating While Driving	1.9%	1.2%
Adjusting Radio/Stereos	1.2%	0.7%
Personal Grooming	0.6%	0.9%
GPS/Navigation Systems	0.2%	0.5%
Other	19.2%	10.0%

### **How often in the past 30 days have you talked on a handheld cell phone while driving?**

<u>Reply</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Regularly	14.0%	10.5%
Sometimes	13.6%	11.7%
Rarely	19.4%	22.6%
Never	52.9%	55.2%

**How often in the past 30 days have you texted or emailed while driving?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Regularly	9.4%	6.3%
Sometimes	10.4%	7.8%
Rarely	10.6%	14.2%
Never	69.6%	71.7%

**Do you talk less, more or the same amount on a cell phone because of the hands-free law?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
More	8.5%	10.6%
The same	56.9%	49.0%
Less	34.5%	40.4%

**Have you ever been hit or nearly hit by a driver who was talking or texting on a cell phone?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	57.5%	60.1%
No	42.5%	39.9%

**Do you believe using a hands-free cell phone is safer than a hand-held phone while driving?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	70.4%	70.7%
No	29.6%	29.3%

**Have you ever made a driving mistake while talking on a cell phone?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	46.5%	45.8%
No	53.5%	54.2%

**Do you recall hearing or seeing "Report Drunk Drivers - Call 911" in the past 6 months?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	60.6%	62.6%
No	39.4%	37.4%

**Do you think the "Report Drunk Drivers - Call 911" program has helped police make more DUI arrests?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	73.5%	71.9%
No	26.5%	28.1%

**In your opinion, is the "Report Drunk Drivers - Call 911" program resulting in fewer drunk drivers on the roadways?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	50.6%	57.2%
No	49.4%	42.8%

**Since seeing or hearing "Report Drunk Drivers - Call 911," are you less likely to drive after drinking too much?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	38.2%	38.1%
No	39.1%	27.9%
I don't drink at all	22.7%	34.0%

**In the past 30 days, did you drive when you thought you had too much alcohol to drive safely?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	6.0%	6.7%
No	73.5%	70.7%
I don't drink at all	20.5%	22.6%

**How serious of a problem is driving under the influence of drugs, both legal and illegal?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Very Big Problem	73.2%	70.2%
Somewhat of a problem	20.8%	23.6%
A Small Problem	4.7%	4.9%
Not a problem at all	1.4%	1.3%

**In your opinion, should the penalty for driving under the influence of drugs be more serious, less serious or the same?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
More serious penalty	18.4%	14.9%
Less serious penalty	7.1%	9.9%
The same penalty	74.5%	75.2%

**In the past 6 months, have you seen or heard anything about police setting up sobriety/DUI checkpoints to catch drunk drivers?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	69.7%	72.9%
No	30.3%	27.1%

**Do you support the use of sobriety/DUI checkpoints?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	88.4%	88.3%
No	11.6%	11.7%

**Do you believe the penalty for driving under the influence of drugs is as serious as the penalty for driving under the influence of alcohol?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	71.6%	72.3%
No	28.4%	27.7%

**Do you recall hearing or seeing "Click It or Ticket" in the past 6 months?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	84.1%	88.6%
No	15.9%	11.4%

**How often do you wear a seatbelt?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Always wear a seatbelt	96.3%	95.3%
Sometimes wear a seatbelt	2.7%	3.9%

**Do you think the chances of being stopped for not wearing a seatbelt have changed because of the "Click It or Ticket" campaign?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	64.5%	72.0%
No	35.5%	28.0%

**Are you aware of the law requiring drivers to move over safely or slow down when approaching stationary vehicles that display flashing lights?**

<b>Reply</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Yes	(Question not included	92.5%
No	in 2010 survey)	7.5%