



## 83% Report Distracted Driving Worse Now than Two Years Ago: Insurance.com Survey

April 15, 2021

*Auto insurance rates rise an average of 23% (\$346) when caught texting while driving*

**Foster City, CA—April 15, 2021**—April is Distracted Driving Awareness month. [Insurance.com](#) surveyed 1,000 motorists to learn that distracted driving and other bad behaviors are increasingly serious problems.

Insurance.com shares study results in this report: [Distracted Driving Survey](#). Findings include:

### Biggest driver distractions

- 38% Texting (up from 24% in 2020)
- 25% Navigation systems (up from 20% in 2020)
- 24% Children in the car (up from 16% in 2020)

Both men and women report texting as their most significant driver distraction, while last year women said their largest distraction was navigation systems.

### Phone usage frequency while driving

The survey finds fewer drivers with hands on their phones in 2021. When asked how often they touch or hold their phone while driving:

- 43% Only a few times ever (down from 50% in 2020)
- 9% about three or four times a month (down from 13% in 2020)
- 5% about three or four times a year (down from 14% in 2020)

### Why and how often drivers take photos or selfies

Photo-taking activity jumped from 11% in 2020 to 35% of respondents in 2021. Top purposes:

- 36% take photos of majestic views
- 32% photograph the weather
- 27% take photos to share on social media

### Confessions on rude behavior

A full 78% of those surveyed admit to rude and/or dangerous actions:

- 30% “Brake-check” a car following closely behind
- 29% Honk at a slow-moving driver
- 27% Make obscene gestures at others while driving

“With more than three thousand fatalities caused by distracted drivers in 2019, and dangerous behaviors on the rise, inattentive driving is a serious problem,” observes Les Masterson, Insurance.com managing editor. “Offenders also risk significant penalties such as tickets, costly [auto body repairs](#) and higher auto insurance rates.”

Les Masterson is available to discuss the complete study details, as well as how important it is to [compare auto insurance rates](#) if you've been cited.

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