



# Texas

Rank# **26**

Overall Grade

# D

ROAD SAFETY   Grade C   Rank #29   2015 Fatalities - 3,722	
<b>Alcohol Impaired Driving</b>	<b>On Track</b>
State sobriety checkpoint program	-
Ignition interlock for all first-time & repeat DUI offenders	✓
Administrative 90+ day license revocation for testing above .08 or refusing test	✓
Open container ban for drivers & passengers	✓
<b>Child Passengers</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Rear-facing through age 2	-
Child restraint or booster through age 8	-
Children in hot cars law	✓
Good Samaritan protections for helping unattended children	-
<b>Distracted Driving</b>	<b>Developing</b>
Total cellphone ban for teens & novice drivers (hands-free/hand-held)	✓
Texting ban for all drivers	-
<b>Older Drivers</b>	<b>On Track</b>
In-person license renewal required	✓
State medical review board	✓
<b>Seat Belts</b>	<b>On Track</b>
Primary seat belt law	✓
All occupants and seating positions covered by law	✓
Seat belts on school buses required	✓
<b>Speeding</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Automated enforcement of speeding or red light cameras	✓
Urban interstate speed limit of 55 mph	-
Lower speed limits in school zones	-
<b>Teen Drivers</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Young passenger restriction for 12 months (partial credit for at least 6)	-
Night driving restriction 10 p.m. or earlier for 12 months (partial credit for at least 6 or night restriction before 12 a.m.)	✓
Supervised driving minimum of 50 hours + 10 at night, with no driver's ed reduction (partial credit for at least 40 hours + 10 at night)	-
<b>Vulnerable Road Users</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Motorcycle helmets required	-
Bicycle helmets required for all young riders	-
Requires stop for pedestrians in uncontrolled walkway or roadway	-

**HOME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY** | Grade C | Rank #15 | 2015 Fatalities - 6,020

<b>Drownings</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Updated public pool and water facility regulations to conform with model aquatic health code	—
Barrier required around residential pools	—
CPR required for high school graduates	✓
<b>Firearms</b>	<b>Developing</b>
Universal background checks at point of transfer (partial credit for handguns only)	—
Waiting period for firearm purchases (partial credit for handguns only)	—
License or permit + training required for firearm purchase (partial credit for permit only)	—
Sharing of mental health records with NICS database required	✓
Safe storage law	✓
<b>Home Fires</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Sprinkler system requirements in new 1 and 2 family homes	—
Smoke alarms with 10-year lifetime batteries required	—
<b>Older Adult Falls</b>	<b>On Track</b>
Fall prevention strategies & education for community-dwelling older adults required	✓
State fall prevention coalition in place	✓
Pharmacists may modify prescription medication through collaborative practice agreement or protocol	✓
<b>Poisonings</b>	<b>Off Track</b>
Buprenorphine available to treat opioid and heroin use disorders	—
Mandatory prescriber education on pain management	—
Regulation of pain clinics or pain management services	✓
Prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) consult for first-time opioid prescriptions	—
Good Samaritan protections for providing overdose assistance	—
3rd party prescribing or standing orders for naloxone	✓
Carbon monoxide detectors required in private residences	—
Carbon monoxide detectors required in schools	—
Carbon monoxide detectors required in hotels and motels	—
<b>Youth Sports-Related Concussions</b>	<b>On Track</b>
Includes 3 key components of return to play laws, including parent and athlete education	✓
Concussion recognition and awareness training for coaches	✓

**WORKPLACE SAFETY** | Grade F | Rank #32 | 2015 Fatalities - 460

Prevention, Preparedness and Enforcement	Developing
Safety and health program for employers required (partial credit for incentivized)	
State/local government employee OSHA coverage	—
State workplace safety committee law/mandate (partial credit for conditional, incentivized or recommended)	—
State workplace violence law (partial credit for minimal or partial coverage)	 Minimal
State enhanced 911 program for employers	
Workers' Compensation	Off Track
Maximum length of benefits in weeks (temporary disability)*	105 Weeks / Rank #45
Maximum weekly benefit (permanent disability)**	\$895 / Rank #19
Maximum length of benefits in weeks/amount (permanent disability)***	No Limit / Rank #2
Worker Health and Wellbeing	Off Track
Drug-free workplace law	—
Workplace anti-smoking law (partial credit for partial ban)	—
Workplace wellness law	

\*States that have the same duration or dollar threshold for benefits may hold the same rank. "Duration" indicates benefits coverage for the entire length of the disability.

\*\* Weekly benefit range was \$469 - \$1,628. SAWW is the Statewide Average Weekly Wage and may vary by year.

\*\*\* States that have the same duration or dollar threshold for benefits may hold the same rank. "No Limit" indicates there is no dollar or time limit that would result in loss of disability benefits.

**INDICATORS**

- in place
- partially in place
- not present

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