



A Campaign on Safer Driving With Information

Why It's Important for Employers to Stress Safe Driving Behaviors

Six out of 10 respondents in a [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration survey](#) said they consider unsafe driving by others as a major personal threat to themselves and their families.

Specifically, survey respondents pointed to speeding as an unsafe behavior that caused concern. And that type of behavior is just one of many commonly associated with [aggressive driving, defined by NHTSA](#) as “the operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger persons or property.”

In a Texas Department of Transportation report on contributing factors in motor vehicle incidents, the numbers underscore the reason for concern. [Speeding was identified as a factor](#) in 721 incidents involving fatalities in 2014, or, almost two incidents each day. Overall, TxDOT reported speeding as a factor in 26,977 motor vehicle incidents, or, about 74 per day.

Across the country, NHTSA identified [speeding as a contributing factor in 30% of all fatal traffic incidents](#) in 2012. Perhaps it is no coincidence the public is beginning to cry for relief. Or, that a majority of survey respondents (52%) said it was “very important” to do something about speeding.

Following is a more complete list of behaviors associated with aggressive driving:

- Following too closely
- Making erratic or unsafe lane changes
- Improperly signaling lane changes
- Failure to obey traffic control devices such as stop signs, traffic signals and railroad signals

The distinction to be made when talking about [aggressive driving vs. road rage](#) typically involves the idea of assault. Road rage is a physical assault of a person or vehicle as a result of a traffic incident. This is a criminal offense punishable with incarceration.

TxDOT reported road rage was a factor in six fatalities and 1,114 motor vehicle incidents in 2014.