



WHEN YOU'RE BEHIND THE WHEEL, SAFETY IS UP TO YOU

In Manitoba, as of October 2016, 85 people have lost their lives in fatal collisions this year alone. This number has nearly doubled overall from last year at this time and the age range with the most significant increase in victims of collisions, serious injuries and fatalities has consistently been 15-35.

Worst of all – we know these deaths could have been prevented. Contributing factors in this year's fatal collisions have included speeding, impaired and distracted driving and not using a seat belt.

As a driver, your actions and decisions matter. Avoid the most common causes of collisions with these safety tips:

DO...

- **Reduce distractions.** Distracted driving is anything that takes your eyes off the road – both in and outside of the vehicle. Never text and drive, and avoid excessive use of in-car devices (GPS, radio).
- **Slow down.** Speeding is one of the most significant contributors to crashes. Speed limits are to be driven under ideal weather conditions. Remember to adjust your speed during poor weather. It's also important to observe posted speed limits within construction zones.
- **Buckle up.** Always use your seatbelt. In Manitoba, according to police-reported data, you are nearly 26 times more likely to be killed and two times more likely to be seriously injured when not wearing a seatbelt.

DON'T...

- **Use your cell phone or any other electronic device.** It's dangerous and in Manitoba, it's against the law. Penalties include five demerits on the Driver Safety Rating scale and a \$200 fine. You can also hurt or kill yourself, other drivers or pedestrians and damage property while not paying attention.
- **Drink or use drugs.** Driving requires you to be alert, in complete control at all times and able to concentrate on the task at hand. Impairment from alcohol or drugs compromises your ability to do all of these things and puts you, and others, at risk.