

# Distracted Driving Awareness Month



## Bans on texting while driving



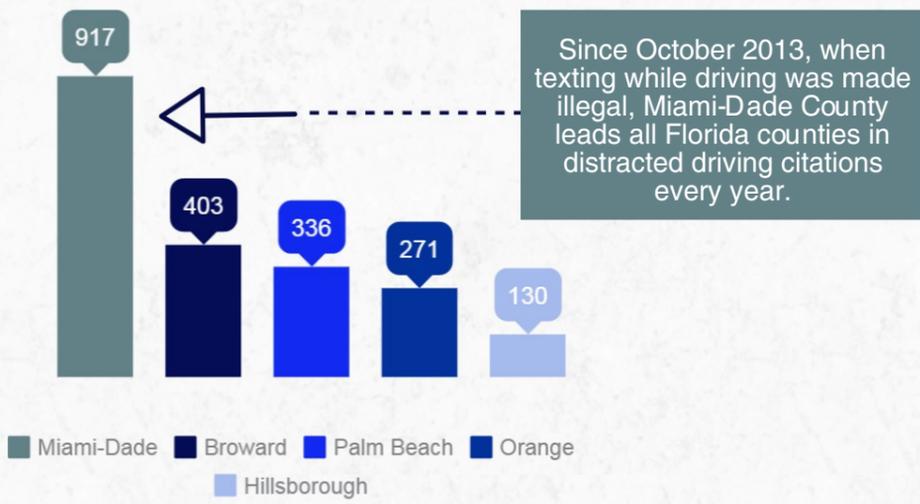
Washington, D.C. was the first state/territory to ban texting while driving by including it in its initial driver cellphone usage law - effective July 1, 2004.

Washington was the first state to pass a texting-specific ban, which went into effect on January 1, 2008.

In Florida, the law became effective on October 1, 2013. It's a secondary offense with a fine of \$30, or if the texting results in crash the driver would be assessed 6 points.

## Distracted Driving Citations\*

By County in 2016

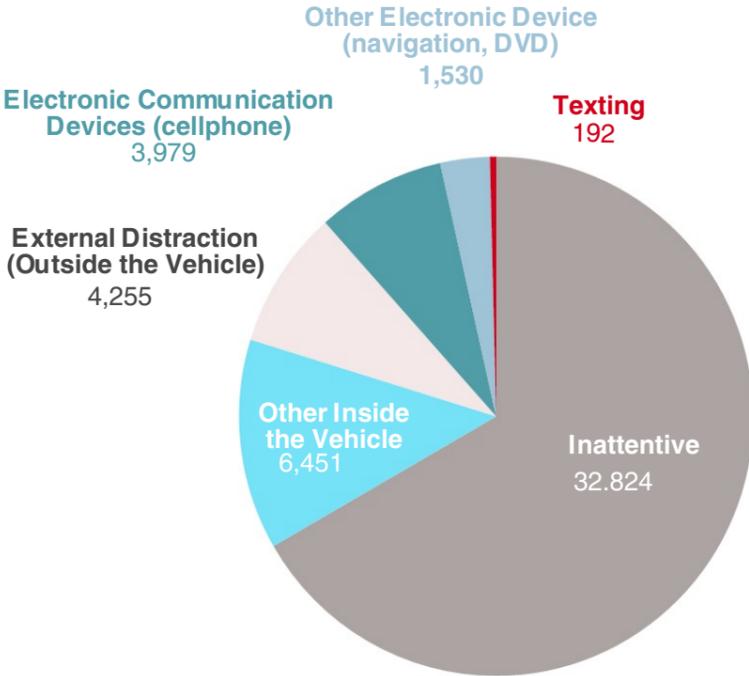


## RED THUMB INITIATIVE

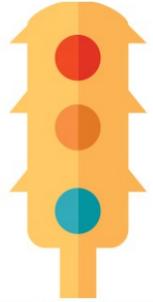
The initiative encourages people to paint their thumb nails red as a way to raise awareness for distracted driving month. Every time you see your nail you will remember not to text.

## Distracted Driving Crashes

By Types of Distraction in 2016 in Florida



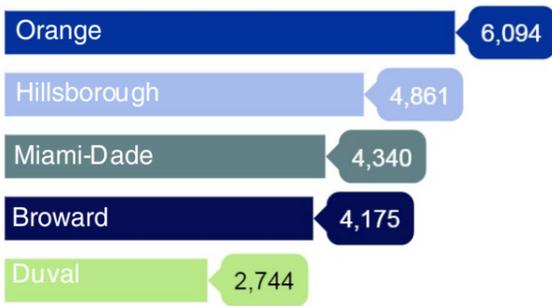
**49,231**  
2016 Total Distracted Driving Crashes



According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, distracted driving is "driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away such as things like using your cell phone, texting, eating and drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading (including maps), using navigation system, watching a video, adjusting a radio, CD or MP3 player."

## Top 5 Distracted Driver Counties in Florida

By Crashes in 2016



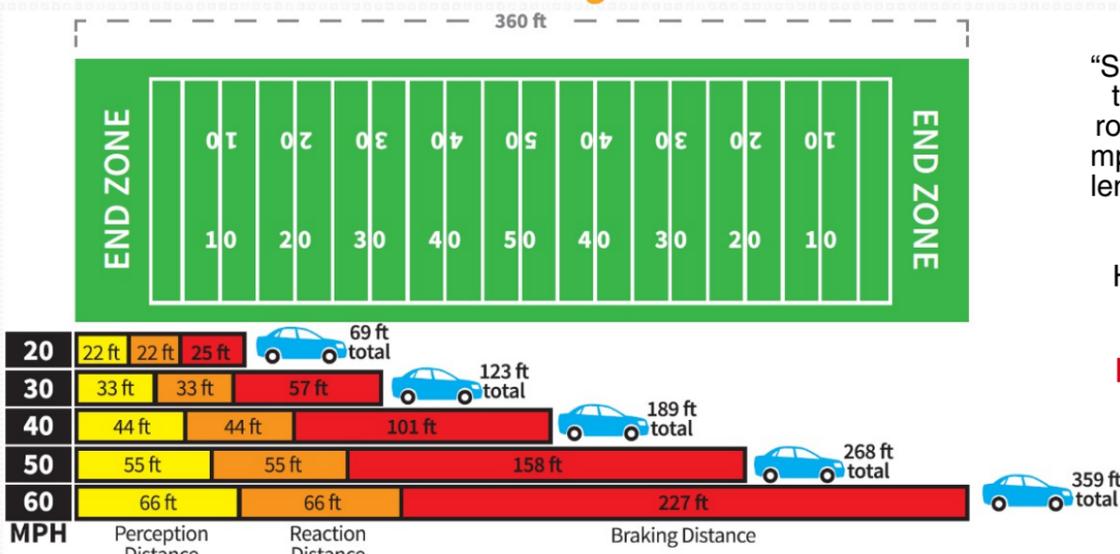
By Fatalities in 2016



Since 2013, Orange County tops all other counties in Florida in distracted driving crashes. Some of the possible reasons might be tourists, the parks and the size of the metro area.

For the last 4 years Miami-Dade, Hillsborough and Orange counties have been in the top 5 counties in Florida for fatalities in distracted driving crashes.

## Why It Matters



"Sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for 5 seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of an entire football field with your eyes closed." - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

In 2015, there were 3,477 deaths by distracted driving nationally.