

King County Distracted Driving Survey Key Findings 2023

To measure how Washington's drivers are reacting to the E-DUI law, the King County Target Zero Task Force conducted a survey of 1,051 King County motorists. The study shows that a majority of drivers surveyed see distracted driving as unacceptable and are adhering to the new law.

When asked about their decisions over the last 30 days:

- 82% "rarely to never" typed a text or email while driving (down from 86% in 2022)
- 74% "rarely to never" read a text or email while driving (down from 76% in 2022)
- 81% "rarely to never" talked on a hand-held phone while driving (down from 82% in 2022)
- 72% "rarely to never" used any app other than GPS while driving (up from 73% in 2022)

When asked about their decisions over the next 30 days, the drivers stated that:

- 86% believe it unlikely they will type a text or email while driving (down from 87% in 2022)
- 82% believe it unlikely they will talk on a hand-held phone while driving (up from 80% in 2022)
- 78% believe it unlikely they will use an app besides GPS while driving (down from 81% in 2022)

When asked about acceptable behaviors behind the wheel:

- 93% found it unacceptable to type a text or email while driving (up from 90% in 2022)
- 88% found it unacceptable to read a text or email while driving (unchanged from 2022)
- 80% found it unacceptable to talk on a hand-held phone while driving (down from 81% in 2022)
- 71% found it unacceptable to use any app other than GPS while driving (down from 72% in 2022)

When asked about the perceived threat of distracted driving with electronics:

- 95% found it a threat when other drivers text or email while driving (up from 93% in 2022)
- 83% found it a threat when other drivers talk on their cell phone while driving (up from 82% in 2022)
- 82% found it a threat when other drivers use an app other than GPS while driving (up from 79% in 2022)