



# DEADLY DISTRACTION

**“** I crashed my car because I lost control of my car while answering my cell phone. Because of injuries to me, I was dead for a little over 10 minutes before being resuscitated and needed 11 surgeries to save my life. **There is no phone call worth that risk to anyone.** **”**  
- Chad Kitzman • Platte City, Missouri

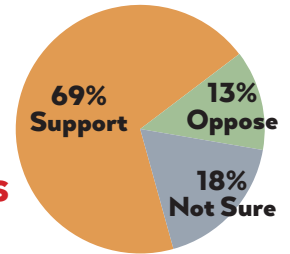
**12** out of **15** states and the District of Columbia experienced a **decrease in fatality rates** within 2 years of passing a hands-free law



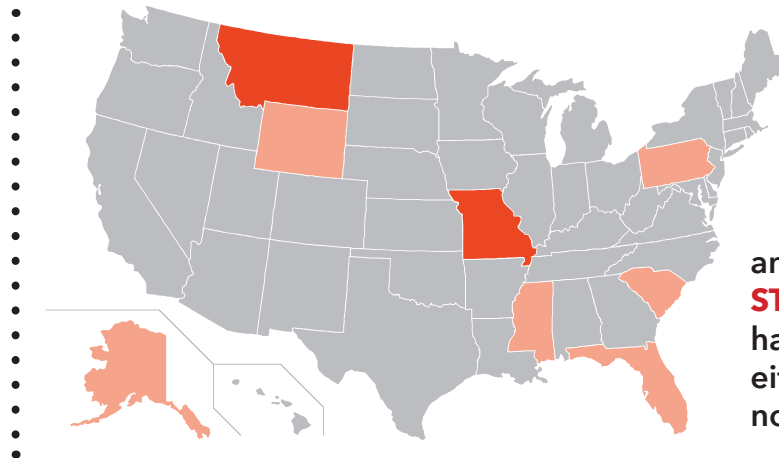
15 states experienced an average decrease in the fatality rate of 15.3 percent

6 states and the District of Columbia reported a decrease of more than 20 percent

According to a 2020 statewide poll, more than **two-thirds of Missourians** would support a hands-free law

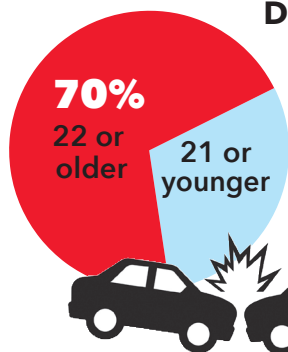


**95%** of Missourians view people using hand-held devices to text or make phone calls behind the wheel as **Very Serious** or **Somewhat Serious**



Missouri is one of just **TWO STATES** without a no texting law for all drivers

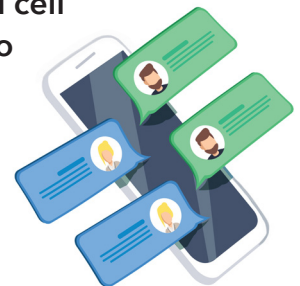
and **ONE of EIGHT STATES** without a hands-free law for either all drivers or novice drivers



Distracted Driving isn't just a young driver problem on Missouri's roads

Approximately **70%** of drivers using cell phones in Missouri traffic crashes are 22 or older

AAA found that **96%** of drivers view typing on a hand-held cell phone while driving to be **very or extremely dangerous**, but **29%** reported doing just that in the previous 30 days



**Cell phone-related crashes in Missouri have jumped by 30% in the last five years, with nearly 2,500 crashes in 2019 alone.**