Distracted Driving Laws by State

Updated July 2017

		All Cell Phone Ban			
State	Hand-held Ban	School Bus Drivers	Novice Drivers	Text Messaging Ban	Crash Data
Alabama			16, or 17 w/ Intermediate License <6 months	Yes	Yes
Alaska			(Primary)	(Primary) Yes (Primary)	Yes
Arizona		Yes (Primary)		<18 in GDL only (Secondary)	Yes
Arkansas ¹	18 - 20 years old (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
California	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Secondary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Colorado			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Connecticut	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	
Delaware	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
D.C.	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Learners Permit (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Florida	(i iiiiaiy)	(Filliary)	(i iiiiaiy)	Yes (Secondary)	Yes
Georgia		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Guam	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)	
Hawaii	Yes (Primary)		<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Idaho				Yes (Primary)	Yes
Illinois	Yes (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	<19 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Indiana			<21 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
lowa			Restricted or Intermediate License	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Kansas			(Primary) Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	Yes
Kentucky		Yes (Primary)	(Primary) <18 (Primary)	(Primary) Yes (Primary)	Yes
Louisiana	Learner or Intermediate License (regardless of age)	Yes (Primary)	1st year of License (Primary for <18)	Yes (Primary)	Yes

			Learner or Intermediate	Yes	
Maine			License (Primary)	(Primary)	Yes
	Yes		<18	Yes	
Maryland	(Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	Yes
Massachusetts		Yes	<18	Yes	Yes
		(Primary)	(Primary)	(Primary)	100
Michigan		Yes	Level 1 or 2 License	Yes	Yes
		(Primary)	(Primary)	(Primary)	165
Minnesota		Yes	<18 w/ Learner or Provisional License	Yes	Yes
		(Primary) Yes	(Primary)	(Primary) Yes	
Mississippi		(Primary)		(Primary)	Yes
		(i iiiiaiy)		<21 only	
Missouri				(Primary)	Yes
Montana					Yes
Nebraska			<18 w/ Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	Yes
			(Secondary)	(Secondary)	
Nevada	Yes (Primary)			Yes (Primary)	Yes
New Hampshire	Yes		<18	Yes	
	(Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	
New Jersey	Yes	Yes	Permit or Provisional License	Yes	Yes
	(Primary)	(Primary)	(Primary)	(Primary)	
New Mexico	In State vehicles		Learner or Provisional License	Yes	Yes
	Yes		(Primary)	(Primary) Yes	
New York	(Primary)			(Primary)	Yes
North Carolina		Yes	<18	Yes	Yes
Notui Galullia		(Primary)	(Primary)	(Primary)	162
North Dakota			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Ohio			<18 (Primary)	Yes (Secondary)	Yes
Oklahoma	Learner or Intermediate License			Yes	Yes
	(Primary) Yes		<18	(Primary) Yes	
Oregon	(Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	Yes
Pennsylvania				Yes (Primary)	Yes

Phodo Island Ye	Primary) (es Primary)	Yes (Primary) Yes (Primary) Yes, w/ passenger <17	<18 (Primary) Learner or Intermediate License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary) Yes (Primary) Yes (Primary) Yes (Secondary) Yes (Primary)	Yes Yes Yes
South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee		(Primary) Yes (Primary) Yes, w/	(Primary) Learner or Intermediate License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	(Primary) Yes (Primary) Yes (Secondary) Yes	Yes
South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee	Primary)	Yes (Primary) Yes, w/	Learner or Intermediate License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Primary) Yes (Secondary) Yes	Yes
South Dakota Tennessee		(Primary) Yes, w/	License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	(Primary) Yes (Secondary) Yes	Yes
Tennessee		(Primary) Yes, w/	License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes (Secondary) Yes	
Tennessee		(Primary) Yes, w/	License (Secondary) Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	(Secondary) Yes	
		(Primary) Yes, w/	Learner or Intermediate License (Primary)	Yes	Yes
		(Primary) Yes, w/	License (Primary)		Yes
Texas ²		Yes, w/		(Primary)	
Texas ²		Yes, w/ passenger <17			
. 37.00			<18	Yes (Primary)	Yes
		(Primary)	(Primary)	. V	
Utah		Yes (Primary)	<18 (Primary)	Yes (Primary)	Yes
Vermont Ye	es	()	<18	Yes	Yes
(Pr	Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	
Virgin Islands Ye				Yes	Yes
(Pi	rimary)	Yes	<18	(Primary) Yes	
Virginia		(Primary)	(Secondary)	(Primary)	Yes
Washington Ye	es		Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	Yes
(Pi	Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	
West Virginia Ye	es		<18 w/ Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	Yes
(Pr	Primary)		(Primary)	(Primary)	
Wisconsin			Learner or Intermediate License	Yes	Yes
			(Primary)	(Primary)	
Wyoming				Yes	Yes
				(Primary)	
Gu	5 + D.C. PR, uam, Virgin lands	20 + D.C.	38 + D.C.	All Drivers: 47 + D.C., PR, Guam, Virgin Islands	
Total States	l Primary	All Primary	Primary (32 + D.C.)	Primary (43 + D.C., PR, Guam, Virgin Islands)	48 + D.C., Virgin Islands
1			Secondary (6) while driving in a school zone	Secondary (4) Novice Drivers Only: 2	

¹ Arkansas also bans the use of hand-held cell phones while driving in a school zone or in a highway construction zone. This law is secondarily enforced.

² Texas has banned the use of hand-held phones in school zones.