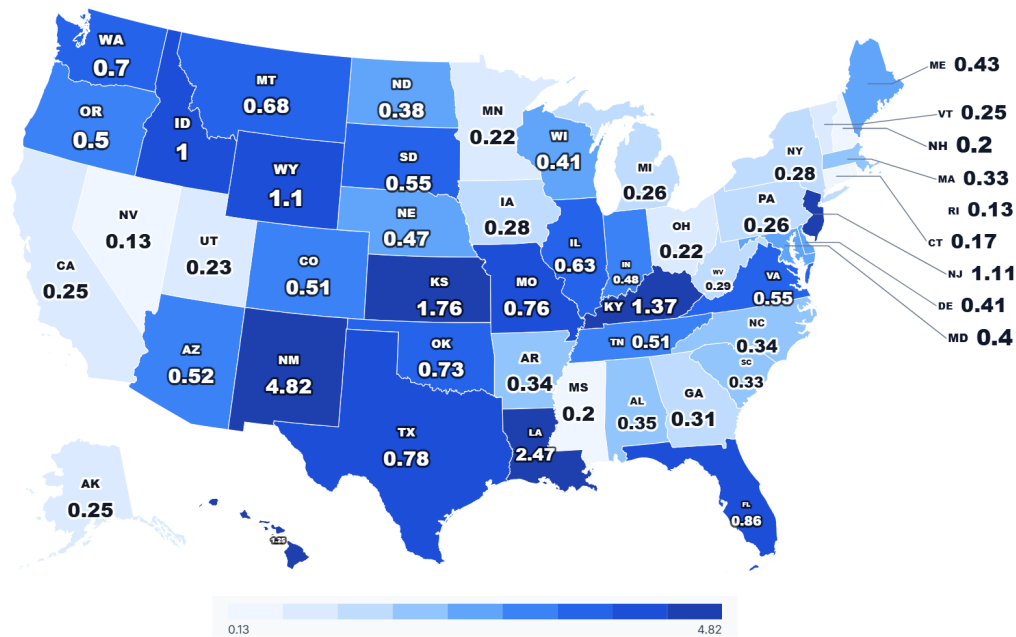


Kentucky Records 310 Weekend Distracted Driving Deaths, Nation's 4th Highest Fatality Rate

Key Highlights

- Kentucky ranks 4th in the nation for weekend distracted driving fatalities per capita, with 1.37 deaths per 100,000 residents from 2020 to 2024.
- 310 people were killed in weekend distracted driving crashes in Kentucky from 2020 to 2024, averaging 62.0 deaths per year. Fatalities surged to 84 in 2024, the highest single-year total in the study period.
- Kentucky's weekend distracted driving death rate of 1.37 per 100,000 is more than 10 times higher than the nation's lowest rate recorded in Nevada (0.13).

U.S. Weekend Distracted Driving Fatality Rates by State



Kentucky has the 4th deadliest weekend distracted driving record in the country. From 2020 to 2024, 310 people lost their lives in weekend distracted driving crashes across the state, an average of 62.0 deaths each year. When adjusted for population, Kentucky's rate of 1.37 deaths per 100,000 residents is the 4th highest of any U.S. state, behind New Mexico (4.82), Louisiana (2.47), and Kansas (1.76), and more than 10 times higher than the safest states, Nevada and Rhode Island, which each recorded a rate of just 0.13.

The study conducted by [Grigor Law Injury & Car Accident Lawyers](#) analyzed five years (2020–2024) of FARS / CDAN data on weekend distracted driving fatalities across all 50 U.S. states. For each state, the average annual number of weekend distracted driving deaths was calculated and then adjusted per 100,000 residents using U.S. Census population estimates.

States were ranked from highest to lowest per-capita rate to reveal where weekend distracted driving is most deadly.

Top 10 States With the Highest Rate of Weekend Distracted Driving Fatalities

States With the Most Weekend Distracted Driving Deaths Per 100,000 Residents (2020–2024 Average)

State	Population (2020–2024)	Avg. Annual Weekend Distracted Driving Deaths	Deaths Per 100K	Rank
New Mexico	2,118,467	102.2	4.82	1
Louisiana	4,607,560	113.6	2.47	2
Kansas	2,944,202	51.8	1.76	3
Kentucky	4,528,877	62.0	1.37	4
Hawaii	1,442,843	18.0	1.25	5
New Jersey	9,318,583	103.0	1.11	6
Wyoming	581,905	6.4	1.10	7
Idaho	1,931,128	19.4	1.00	8
Florida	22,320,038	193.0	0.86	9
Texas	30,117,201	235.6	0.78	10

New Mexico leads the nation with 4.82 weekend distracted driving deaths per 100,000 residents, followed by Louisiana at 2.47. Kansas, Kentucky and Hawaii round out the top five, while New Jersey, Wyoming, Idaho, Florida and Texas complete the top 10.

Looking at the study, Chrissy Grigoropoulos, Founder of Grigor Law Injury & Car Accident Lawyers, commented:

“The data paints a clear picture: distracted driving on weekends is claiming far too many lives, and the risk varies enormously depending on where you live. In states where weekend fatality rates are highest, stronger enforcement of hands-free laws and targeted public awareness campaigns during peak weekend hours could save dozens of lives each year. Putting down the phone while driving takes zero effort and can mean the difference between arriving home safely and never arriving at all.”

Kentucky's Weekend Distracted Driving Deaths by Year (2020–2024)

Year-by-Year Weekend Distracted Driving Fatalities in Kentucky

State	Population 2020–2024	Total Annual Weekend Distracted Driving	Average Annual Distracted Driving	Average Annual Distracted Driving Crashes per	Rank
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		Crashes 2020–2024	Crashes 2020–2024	1,00,000 Population 2020–2024	
Kentucky	4,528,877	310	62.0	1.37	4

Weekend distracted driving fatalities in Kentucky declined from 59 deaths in 2020 to 52 in 2021 and 48 in 2022, hitting the lowest point in the five-year study period. However, fatalities then climbed sharply, rising to 67 in 2023 and surging to 84 in 2024, the highest single-year total recorded. This steep upward trend in recent years is a significant concern, even as Kentucky's average of 62.0 annual weekend distracted driving deaths places the state 4th nationally on a per-capita basis.

Methodology

This study analyzed 2020–2024 FARS / CDAN (Fatality Analysis Reporting System / Crash Data Analysis Network) data on weekend distracted driving fatalities across all 50 U.S. states. For each state, the average annual number of weekend distracted driving deaths was calculated over the five-year period and then divided by the state's population (U.S. Census estimates) to derive a per-100,000-resident rate. States were ranked from highest to lowest rate to identify where weekend distracted driving poses the greatest risk.

Data Sources

FARS / CDAN Query (All 50 States): <https://cdan.dot.gov/query>

Population: <https://data.census.gov/table?q=population+by+age+by+state>

Research Dataset:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_ZvyWxGQRc18zTR3ezSCLRcDC7daQCcEJC7QQaikSyA/edit?gid=0#gid=0

Study By: <https://grigorlaw.com>

About Grigor Law Injury & Car Accident Lawyers

Grigor Law Injury & Car Accident Lawyers is a premier New York "all injury" law firm representing clients in personal injury, car accidents, workers' compensation, and no-fault claims.