






Please be 'work zone alert'

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) stresses the importance of work zone safety. National Work Zone Awareness Week, occurring April 26-30, aims to raise awareness to the driving public to stay alert in active work zones. Work zone safety is in your hands.

Kentucky Work Zone Statistics			
Year	Crashes	Injuries	Fatalities
2020	905	228	6
2019	1,251	323	8
2018	1,042	280	3
2017	1,007	233	12
2016	675	143	10
2015	819	194	7
2014	807	173	4
2013	727	182	6
2012	630	129	8
2011	1,021	226	3
2010	558	116	5
2009	668	139	12
2008	561	109	5
2007	715	169	8
2006	610	150	15

National Work Zone Statistics

-  One person dies every 13 hours and one person is injured every 13 minutes in a work zone in the United States. *Source: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)*
-  Work zones can involve highway construction and maintenance workers, utility crews, mowing contractors, brush cutters and tree trimmers. Four out of five victims in work zone crashes are motorists, not highway workers, which is why it is particularly important for drivers to remain alert while going through work zones. *Source: FHWA*
-  In a typical five-day work week, an average of seven motorists and one worker are killed. *Source: FHWA*

Tips for Driving Safely in Work Zones

- ➡ Expect the unexpected. Work zone configurations can change without notice.
- ➡ Pay attention. Don't text or talk on the phone and avoid taking your hands off the wheel.
- ➡ Watch for speed limit reductions, narrowing lanes, changing traffic patterns, and – most importantly – highway workers.
- ➡ Respect the posted speed limits and safely merge as soon as safely possible, allowing traffic to flow smoothly.
- ➡ Be patient. Keep in mind, driving 45 mph instead of 55 mph through a five mile work zone will only add 1.2 minutes to your trip. Speeding and aggressive driving is a major cause of work zone crashes.
- ➡ Keep a safe distance on all sides of your vehicles and maintain a safe following distance. Rear-end collisions are the most common type of work zone crash.
- ➡ Respect the flaggers and obey their guidance. A flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.
- ➡ Follow instructions on construction signage. Those signs are carefully selected to give drivers accurate information and important warnings.
- ➡ Check out goky.ky.gov or use the free WAZE app for traffic and travel information. Select alternate routes if possible to avoid work zones. If the work zone cannot be avoided, expect delays and allow extra travel time.
- ➡ Stay calm. Remember that the construction crews are working to make the road better for you!

