



Highlights of a Survey of Albertans

- Half of Albertans surveyed use their cellphone while driving.
- Men are more likely to use their cellphones while driving than women (58% to 42% of women surveyed).
- More than three-quarters (77%) of Albertans who use their cellphone while driving use it less than 5% of the time they are driving. 21% use it from 5% up to 50% of the time and 2% use it more than 50% of the time they are driving.
- One in ten Alberta drivers is on their cellphone 5% to 50% of the time while driving; one in 100 Alberta drivers is on their cellphone more than 50% of the time they are driving.
- Albertans tend to use their phones more for personal reasons than for work purposes, with 25% using it only for personal reasons and 40% never for work versus 7% who use it only for work and 7% never for personal reasons. At least 20% use it for a combination of both purposes.
- 94% of Albertans think it is dangerous to use a cellphone while driving. Women tend to perceive the practice as being dangerous more than men (98% versus 91%).
- Generally, the older you are, the more likely you are to perceive it as dangerous, although 87% of those in the youngest category still say it is dangerous.
- 43% say using a cellphone while driving is very dangerous. 73% say it is very dangerous or somewhat dangerous (next highest category).
- Only 27% of respondents say that there is no difference in the danger of using a cellphone hands free. 73% believe that there is a difference, that is, hands free is safer.
- 12% say hands-free use is very dangerous and 32% say it is very or somewhat dangerous, compared to 43% and 73% for using a cellphone generally (assumed to be mostly hands held).
- 26% say you are very likely to be in a collision if you are using your cellphone while driving. 72% feel you are very or somewhat likely to be in a collision.
- 76% of Albertans generally believe that people should not be allowed to use their cellphones while driving.
- 74% of Albertans would support legislation that would make it illegal to use a cellphone while driving.

In the spring of 2007, the Coalition for Cellphone-Free Driving commissioned a telephone survey of 1200 Albertans about cellphone use while driving. The respondents were roughly distributed three ways between Edmonton, Calgary and other parts of the province. The survey was conducted by the University of Alberta Population Research Laboratory and the results provide a confidence level + or - 2.8 per cent, 19 times out of 20.