



**United Spinal
Association**
MotorSafe

Motor Vehicle Safety



Studies have shown that even at slow speeds (i.e., 5 mph), motor vehicle accidents can cause neck injuries. The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that the typical driver will have a near motor vehicle accident one to two times per month and all drivers will be in a collision of some type on average of every 6 years.

Every 13 minutes, there is a death caused by a motor vehicle accident. There are approximately 3 million car-related injuries per year, 2 million permanent injuries, and 40,000 deaths in the U.S. annually. U.S. Department of Transportation statistics indicate that accidents are generally related to irresponsible driving behavior.

Currently, automobile accidents are the number one killer of people ages 1 to 37. About 1 in 30 young drivers will be injured in an accident each year. Young drivers are four times more likely to die in car accidents and are more prone to speed, drive recklessly, not wear their seat belts, and drink and drive than middle-aged drivers. There were 17,419 alcohol-related motor vehicle fatalities in 2002.

More Facts on the Back

Causes of Motor Vehicle Accidents

- Reckless and negligent driving
- Driving while intoxicated
- Inexperienced and irresponsible drivers
- Inattentiveness to the road and other vehicles (i.e., tuning the radio, talking on a cell phone or to passengers, etc.)

Protect Yourself!

- Always wear your seat belt.
- Properly maintain your vehicle.
- Be aware of adverse road conditions.
- Avoid driving if you are intoxicated, tired, or on medication.
- Take defensive driving classes.
- Obey traffic laws and speed limits.

For more information on United Spinal Association's Motor Safe Program visit our Web site at www.unitedspinal.org



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Expanding Opportunities for People with
Spinal Cord Disabilities for Over 60 Years