

TRAFFIC SAFETY AT WORK



Driving In A Winter Wonderland

November is here, and we all know that means winter weather driving is just around the corner.

With the holidays approaching, now is the perfect time to plan for weather conditions that could affect our trips over the river and through the woods or just heading out to some shopping.



One of the first things we can do is make sure our vehicle is ready for those snowy or icy roads:

- Are your tires properly inflated? Cooler weather means you may need to add some air to your tires to maintain optimal contact with the road
- How do your wipers look? Have they seen better days? Now's a great time to replace them so they can effectively wipe away snow, slush, or rain when needed
- Check those antifreeze levels! There's nothing worse than trying to jump into your car and head out, only to find it frozen and unable to start
- How's your battery? If it's getting old, now is a great time to replace it
- Do you tend to wait until your fuel is almost empty before filling up? During cold weather, it's important to always have at least half a tank of fuel in case you're involved in a slide-off or get stuck in the snow and need to keep warm until help arrives
- Keep a winter safety kit in your vehicle at all times.

WINTER EMERGENCY CAR KIT

Consider keeping these items in your vehicle in case of emergency this winter:

- Full tank of fuel
- Jumper cables
- Tow rope
- Cell phone charger
- First aid kit
- Bag of kitty litter or sand
- Shovel and ice scraper/snow brush
- Flashlight
- Extra gloves/hats/warm clothes
- Blankets
- Bottled water and non-perishable snacks

Know before you go at www.kandrive.org.



Before heading out into winter weather, be sure to check conditions at KanDrive.gov or on the KanDrive app for real-time road and weather information. Plan your route ahead of time and let someone know your destination and how you plan to get there. And don't forget to completely clear snow and ice from your car so you can see out of all your windows. When your vehicle is thoroughly scraped, you also help prevent snow and or ice moving from your vehicle and impeding another driver's vision or causing damage to their vehicle.

Now it's time to head out onto the road! Slow down to give yourself a better chance of stopping safely when needed. Accelerate and brake gently to avoid skidding. Turn on your headlights so others can see you (if you have automatic lights, you may need to manually turn them on), and stay focused on the task of driving. Distracted driving is never a safe option, but it's even more dangerous during winter weather.

If you follow all of these guidelines, you'll be setting yourself up for successful winter driving—so you can make it to your destinations and enjoy all the fun of the holiday season with family and friends, instead of ending up in a hospital or at home with an injury.

WINTER STORMS

PREPARE



Replenish your emergency kit with food, water and other items



Fill your car with gas



Bring pets inside and make sure those outside have fresh water and shelter

[More on Driving in Bad Weather](#)

Safer Roads: Kansas VRUSA Tool is National Finalist-Need Your Vote!



KDOT's Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment Tool (VRUSA Tool) is a Top 12 finalist in AASHTO's America's Transportation Awards!

Online voting is underway at americastransportationawards.org and continues through 11:59 p.m. ET on Monday, Nov. 17. Individuals can cast one vote per day per project.

Selected from 113 nominations by 35 state DOTs, the Top 12 finalists will now compete for the Grand Prize and the People's Choice Award, each offering a \$10,000 cash award for a charity or transportation-related scholarship of their choice. The Grand Prize will be decided by an independent panel of transportation experts, while the People's Choice Award will be determined by online voting, weighted by state population.

Check out the VRUSA tool and zoom in to your community to see where pedestrians or cyclists may be present and possible safety risks: [Kansas Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment Tool](#). Then remember to vote daily to make KDOT's VRUSA Tool the people's choice!

Nominate Safe Driving Hero or People Saving People Candidates

Realizing what else is possible



The 31st annual KDOT Transportation Safety Conference will be held April 21-22, 2026, in Manhattan, KS.

The Kansas Transportation Safety Awards are presented annually to safety advocates who have made outstanding contributions to the improvement of transportation safety in Kansas.

- The **People Saving People Award** highlights the impressive efforts and achievements of a person or organization that has a positive effect on transportation safety behavior in Kansas.
- The **Hero Award** recognizes an individual who risked their life for someone else when they happen upon a crash, or while trying to prevent the likelihood of a crash.



Deadline to submit nominations is January 30, 2026.

Additional information and nomination forms can be found at <https://www.ktsro.org/tsc>.

Kansas Transportation Safety Conference and Awards Information

Let Us Help You



The Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office offers **FREE** traffic safety brochures, posters, flyers, and giveaway items.

We can bring **FREE** safe driving programs to your community organizations or workplaces.

Visit Our Website - [ktsro.org](https://www.ktsro.org)



Drive Better ICT -
English

Drive Better ICT -
Spanish

Drive Better KC -
English

Drive Better KC -
Spanish

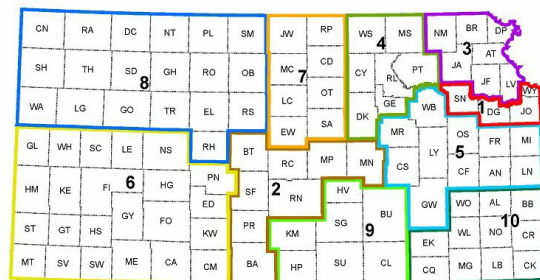


Drive Better KS -
English

Drive Better KS -
Spanish



Kansas Rides Kansas Public Transportation



Kansas Rides is for Kansas Public Transportation across the entire state of Kansas. Find information about public transportation in all 105 Kansas counties.

[Read
More](#)

2025 Kansas Traffic Crash Deaths

303


7.45%



KANSAS HIGHWAY PATROL



Compared to 1/1/24 - 11/4/24
Preliminary data as of 11/4/25

These are preliminary numbers which can change based on trauma and investigation outcomes.

[List of Drivers Education Schools in Kansas](#)

[National Safety Council Online Defensive Driving Courses](#)

KANSAS TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCE OFFICE



Follow Drive Safe Kansas on social media



[Subscribe to Our Newsletters](#)

Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office

This material was prepared by the Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office under contract with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). Views expressed in this material do not necessarily reflect the official views or policy of KDOT and any reference to a specific product or entity herein does not constitute endorsement of that product or entity by KDOT.

Kansas Traffic Safety Resource Office | 1207 SW Executive Dr, Suite B | Topeka, KS 66615 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!