## **Excess Speed Harms Everyone**

Speeding is a major cause of traffic accidents, injuries, and deaths. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA),speeding was a factor in nearly one-third of all fatal traffic crashes in the United States in 2020. That's more than 13,000 deaths.

Speeding is dangerous for everyone involved. It increases the risk of a crash, and it makes crashes more severe. When a car is traveling at a high speed, it has less time to stop or avoid an obstacle. This means that even a minor collision can cause serious injuries or death.



#### **Excess Speed Harms Everyone: Pedestrian risk and**

road safety policy by Wendy C. Crone

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Language	;	English
File size	;	1466 KB
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled
Screen Reader	:	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	:	Enabled
Word Wise	:	Enabled
Print length	;	314 pages
Lending	;	Enabled



Speeding is also dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. When a car is traveling at a high speed, it is more likely to hit a pedestrian or cyclist who is crossing the street or riding on the side of the road. Pedestrians and cyclists are particularly vulnerable to injury or death in a collision with a car. The laws and penalties for speeding vary from state to state. However, all states have laws that prohibit speeding. The penalties for speeding can include fines, jail time, and license suspension.

There are a number of things you can do to avoid speeding tickets and accidents. Here are a few tips:

- Be aware of the speed limit. The speed limit is posted on signs along the road. It is important to obey the speed limit, even if you are in a hurry.
- Use cruise control. Cruise control can help you maintain a safe speed.
  It is especially helpful on long road trips.
- Be alert to your surroundings. Pay attention to the road and to other vehicles. Be prepared to slow down or stop if necessary.
- Avoid distractions. Distractions, such as talking on the phone or texting, can take your attention away from the road. This can increase your risk of speeding and getting into an accident.

Speeding is a serious problem that can have deadly consequences. By following these tips, you can help keep yourself, your passengers, and others safe on the road.

### **Additional Resources**

- NHTSA: Speeding
- Insurance Information Institute: Speeding
- National Safety Council: Speeding

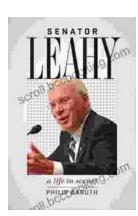
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