



2026

# Road Safety Report

ROADWAY RISKS AND TRENDS  
FOR COMMERCIAL FLEETS





## INTRODUCTION

Every year, this report tells a story written not in theory, but in reality—billions of miles of Lytx data, millions of drivers behind the wheel, and moments on the road that determine whether someone makes it home safely.

In 2026, that story is both encouraging and urgent.

Severe collisions are down, according to our annual analysis of Lytx data, showing that safety programs and data-driven approaches work. Even as miles driven continue to rise, the worst outcomes are becoming less common—and that matters. Lives are being protected because organizations are choosing to act on data, not assumptions.

However, as driving increases, less severe crashes and driver distractions are rising, especially during busy workday hours. The modern workday has compressed into fewer hours, tighter schedules, and more cognitive load on drivers who are asked to do more, faster, and often in more complex environments.

Today's focus must shift from just preventing serious accidents to consistently managing daily risks like following distance, distraction, and fatigue. These risks are measurable and preventable when addressed at scale.

Our 2026 Road Safety Report is built on Lytx's proprietary dataset, one of the world's most comprehensive commercial driving datasets. It highlights where risk is rising, where it's falling, and where leaders have the greatest opportunity to intervene before a near miss becomes a claim—or something worse.

At Lytx, we see our data as a responsibility—results require action. Safety should be viewed as a strategic advantage, not just compliance. It protects people, strengthens operations, and builds trust with customers, employees, and communities alike.

By acting on insights, coaching early, and reducing pressure on drivers, organizations can improve safety, cut costs, and support a stronger culture. And more people make it home at the end of the day.

That is the outcome we are working toward, and this report is designed to help you achieve that.



**CHRIS CABRERA**  
CEO, LYTX



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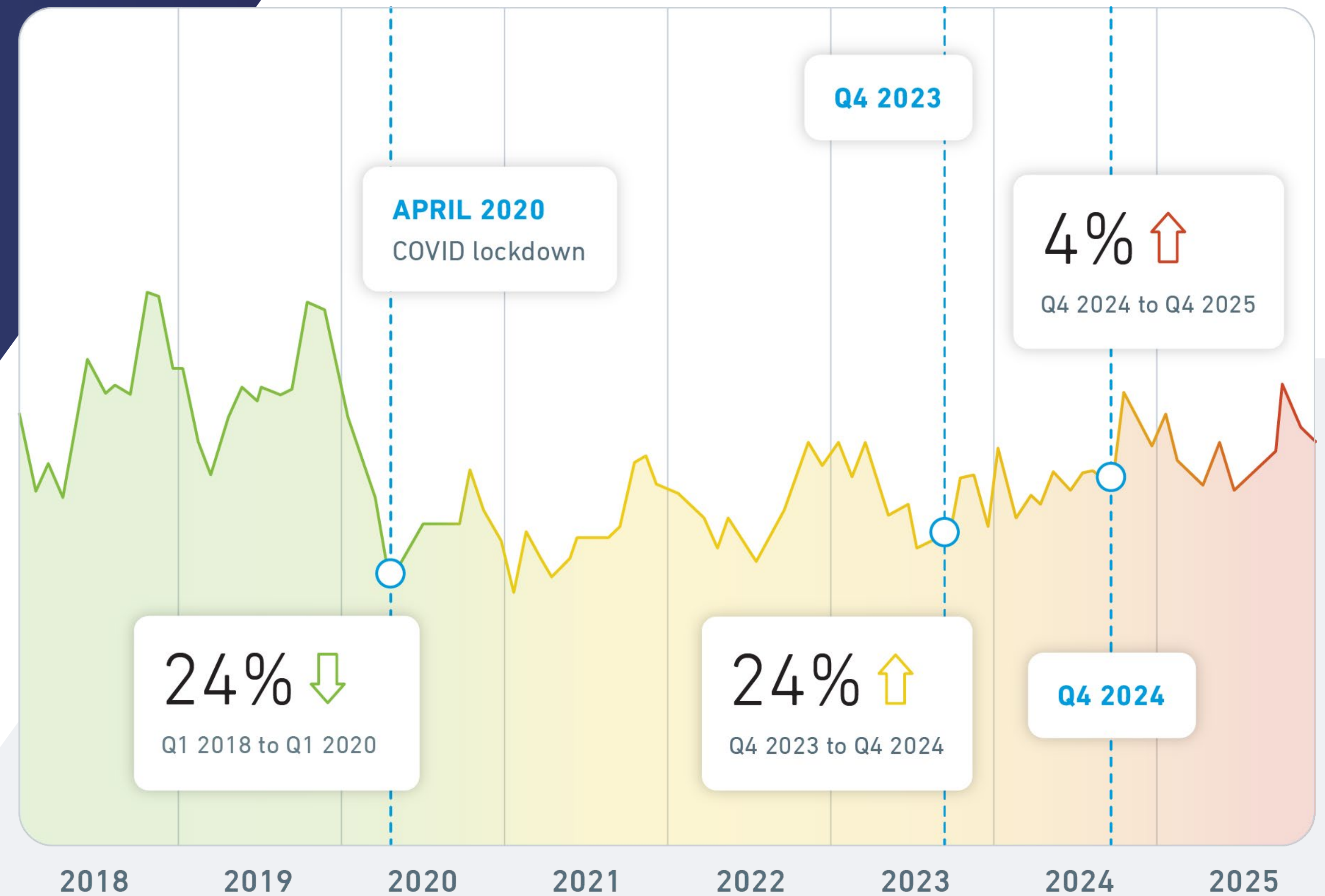
01

# Collision Trends

Collision rates continue to edge upward since the COVID years that started in 2020, **rising 4% in 2025** compared to 2024. Still, that's a much slower rate than the 24% jump experienced from Q3 2023 through Q4 2024.

## Collision Rates Per Vehicle

2018-2025



# Collision Severity

Fleets saw significant declines in higher severity collisions in 2025 as they implemented safety programs, reducing their overall risk by 3%. Less severe collisions, however, ticked up last year.

*“The good news is that we are still seeing the most severe collisions dropping off. As drivers lower their risks by taking simple safety precautions like increasing their following distance by 1 second or easing up on the gas pedal in bad weather, a potentially catastrophic Level 1 accident can turn into a much less severe Level 3 accident. Our data show that moving down just one severity level can reduce collision costs by up to 90%.”*

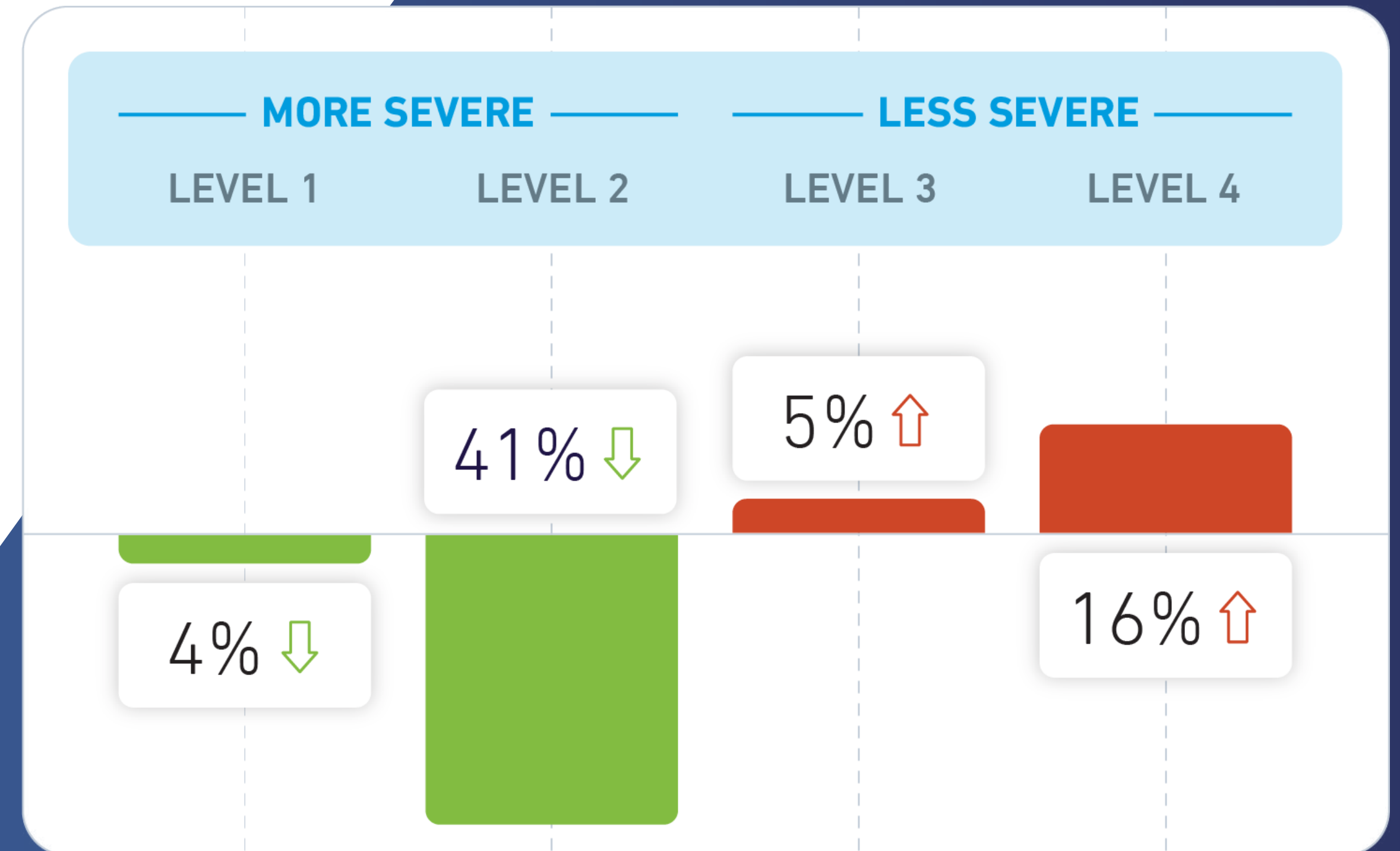


**JONATHAN HAYFT**  
SENIOR MANAGER, LYTX CLIENT INTELLIGENCE



## Collision Rates by Severity Level\*

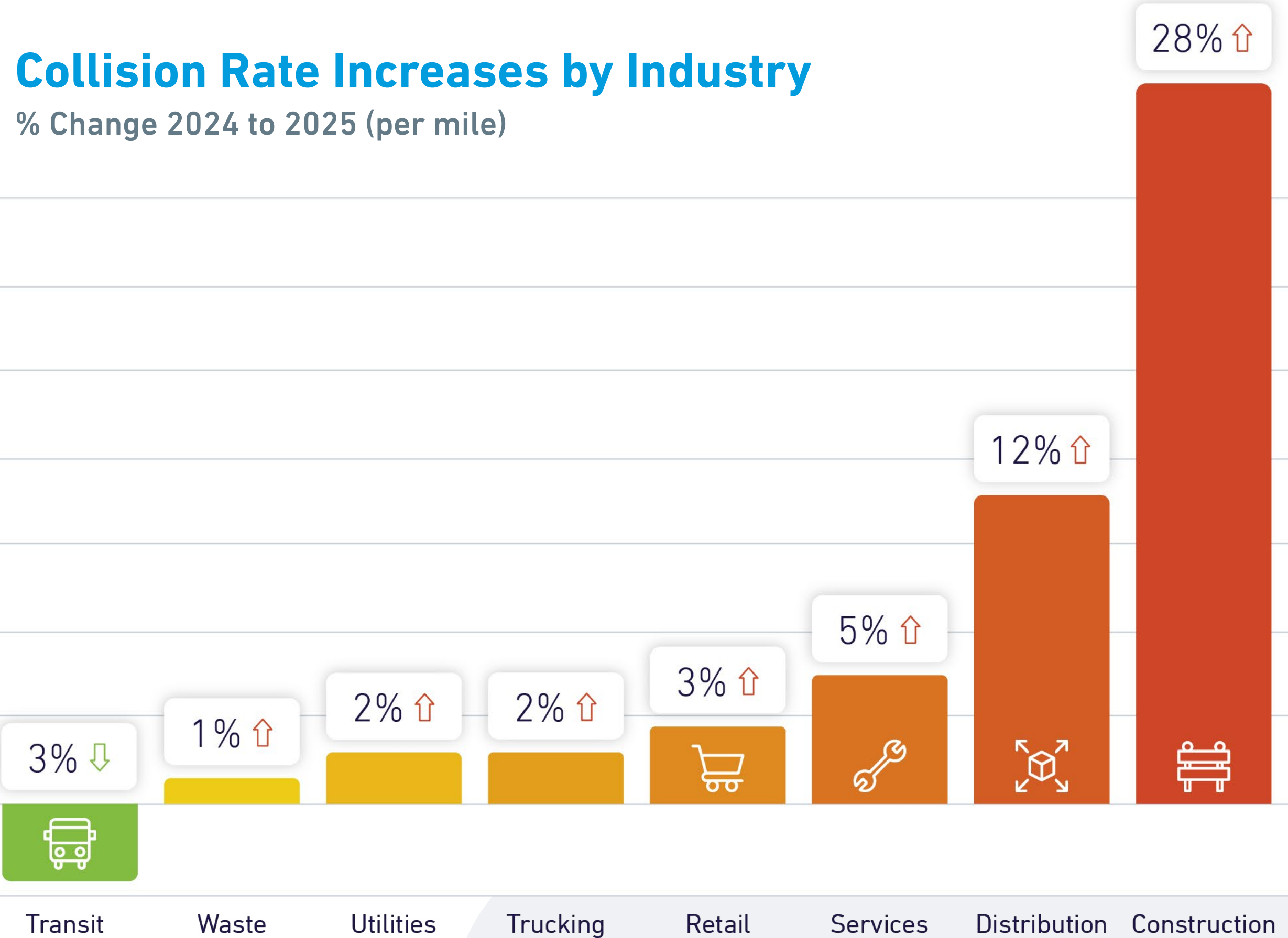
% Change 2024 to 2025 (per mile)



\*Please reference page 27 for severity level definitions.

### Collision Rate Increases by Industry

% Change 2024 to 2025 (per mile)



# Collisions

## BY INDUSTRY

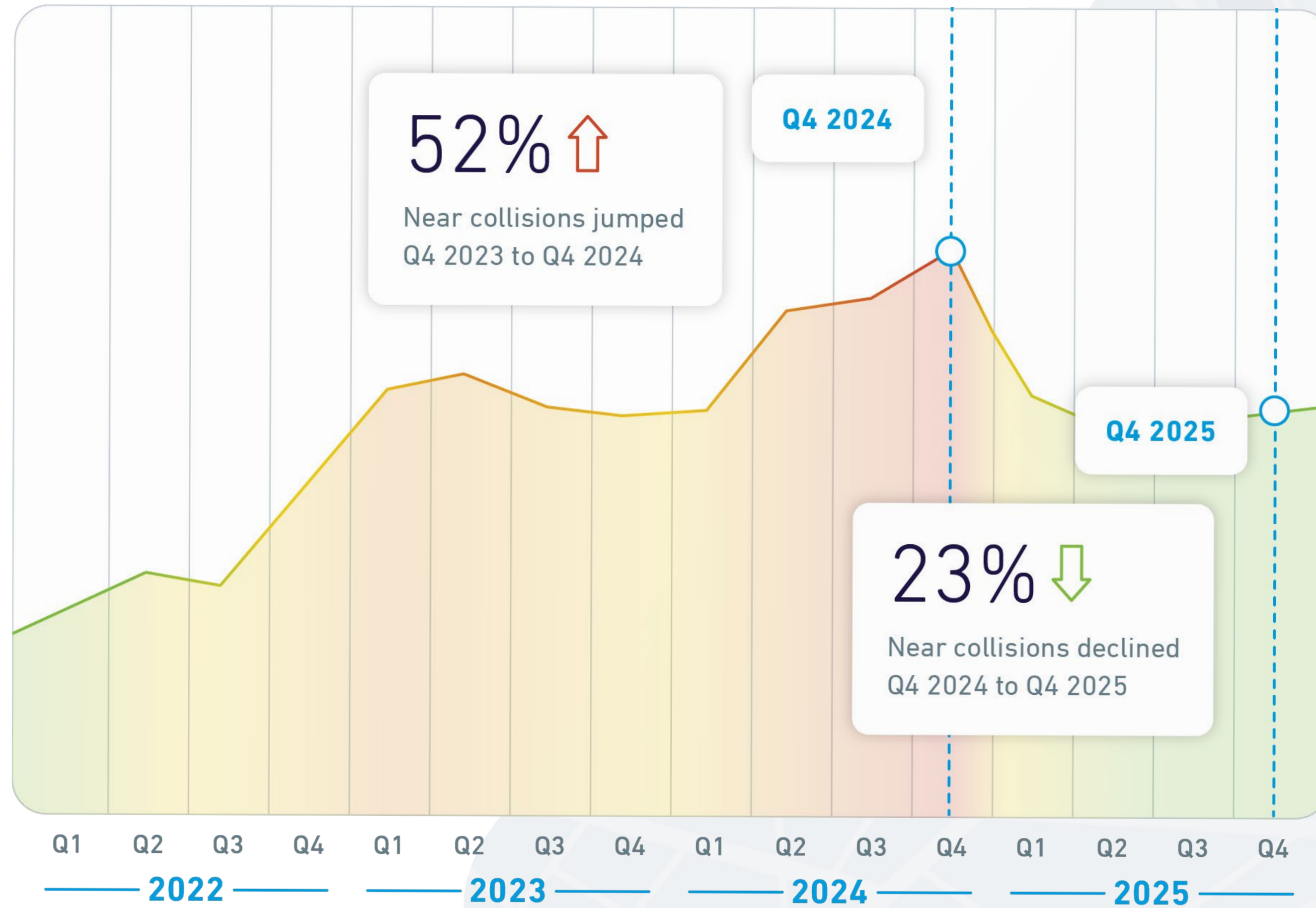
Construction once again topped the list for collision rate increases, highlighting the elevated hazards in this sector. A deepening shortage of skilled trade laborers means electricians, plumbers, and cement masons are spread thin, working longer hours and traveling between more job sites. Meanwhile, collision rate increases in trucking **rose just 2% in 2025, down from a 19% increase in 2024**, as demand for freight transportation cooled

28% ↑  
Construction

2% ↑  
Trucking

## Near Collision Rates Per Vehicle

2022-2025 (per mile)



# Near Collisions

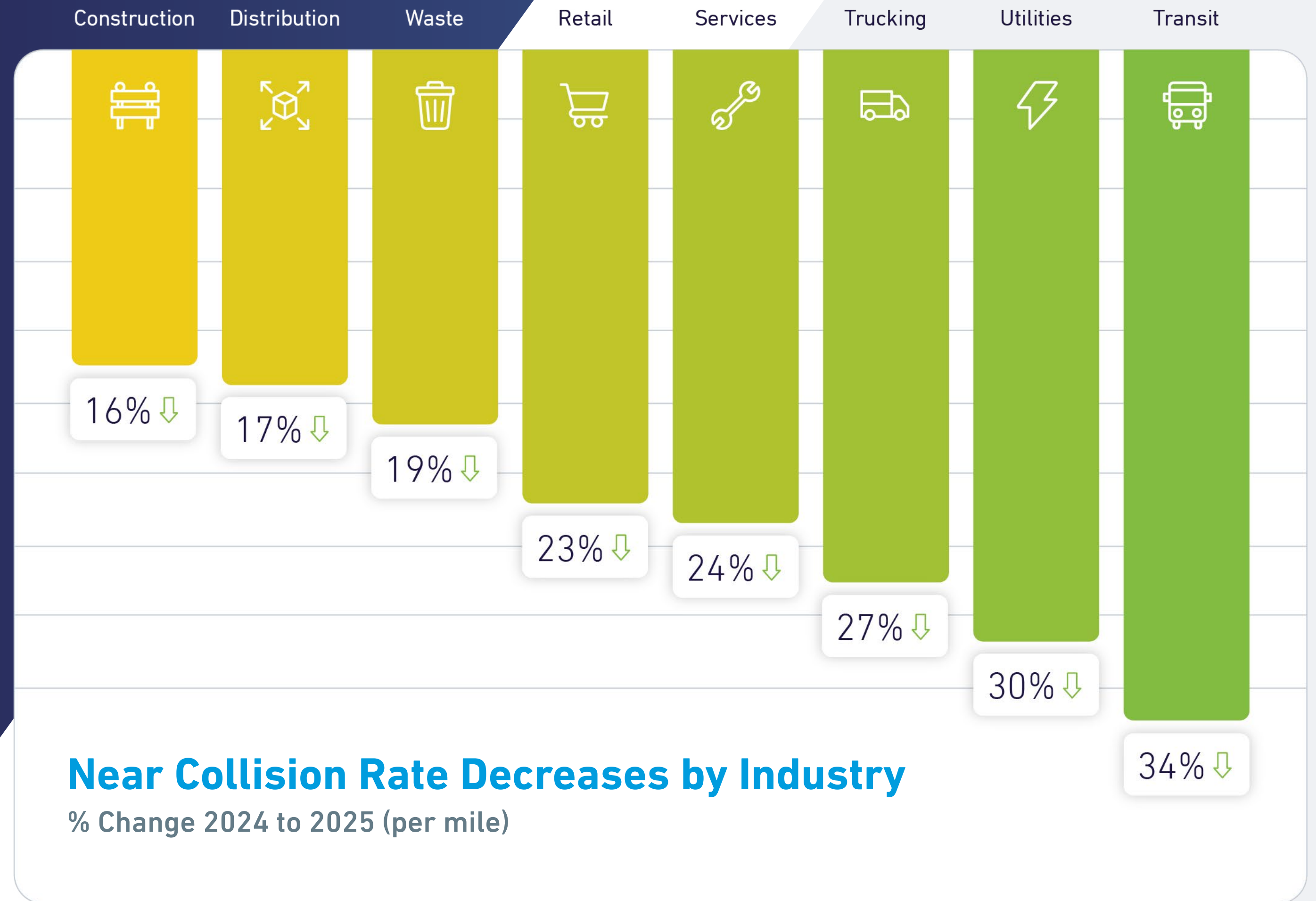
## CLOSE CALLS

Across all sectors, **near collisions declined 23% in 2025** from 2024's historical high. The work that fleets put into improving driving fundamental skills and defensive driving paid off as near collisions leveled out.

# Near Collisions

## BY INDUSTRY

All major industries saw a drop in near collisions per mile in 2025, with Transit showing the greatest improvement. Construction, which topped the list of collision rates, saw the smallest decline in near collisions.





**Why?**

02

# Top Behaviors Contributing to Risk

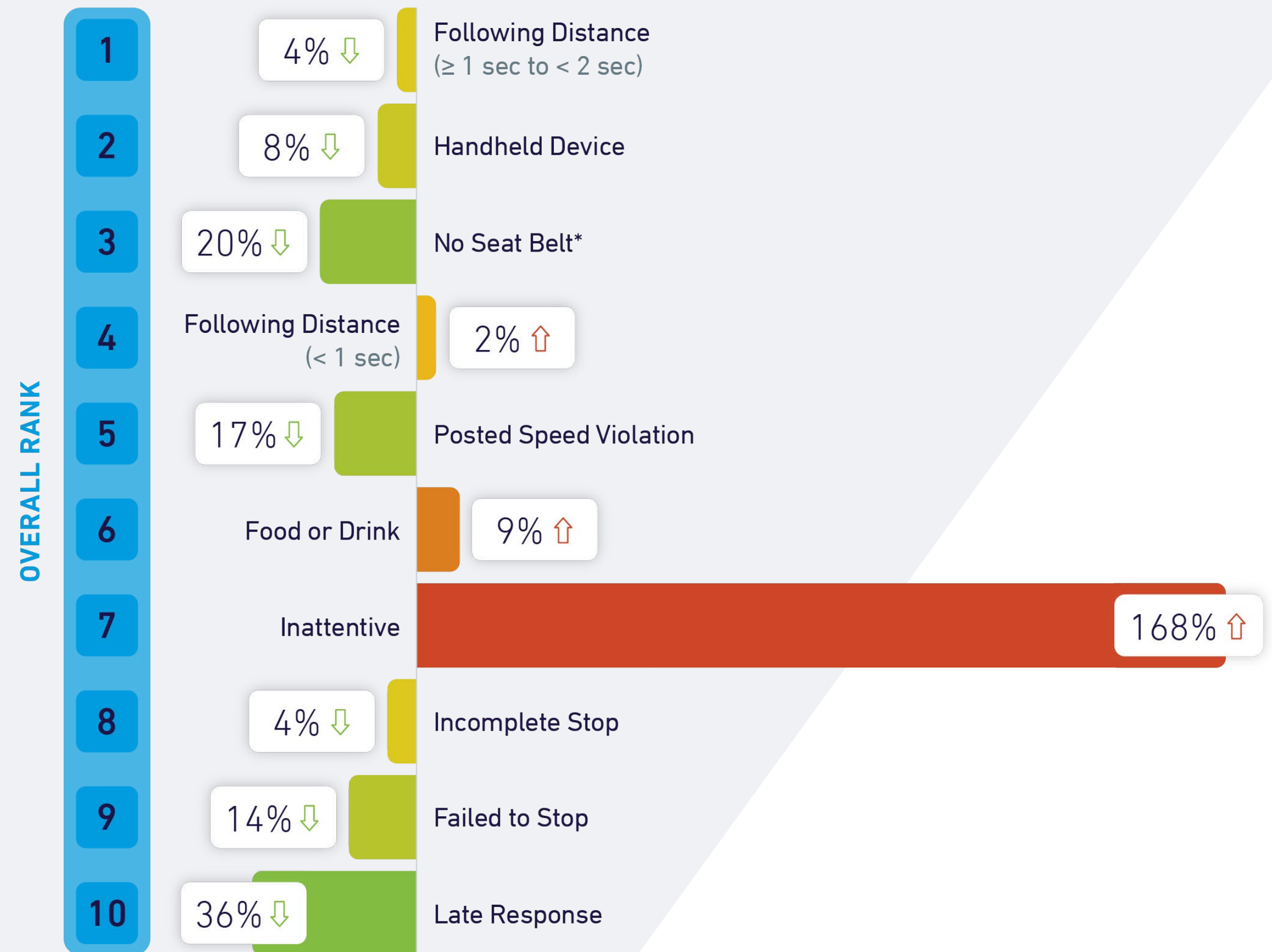
Following too close (1-2 sec), handheld device use, and seat belt noncompliance are the top risky driving behaviors, even though all three saw improvements from 2024 to 2025. **Inattentiveness rose significantly (168%)** and **food or drink incidents jumped 9%**, likely due to tighter schedules impacting meal breaks. Notably, seat belt usage continues to improve.

168% ↑  
Inattentive

20% ↓  
No Seat Belt

## Risky Driving Behaviors

% Change 2024 to 2025 (per mile)



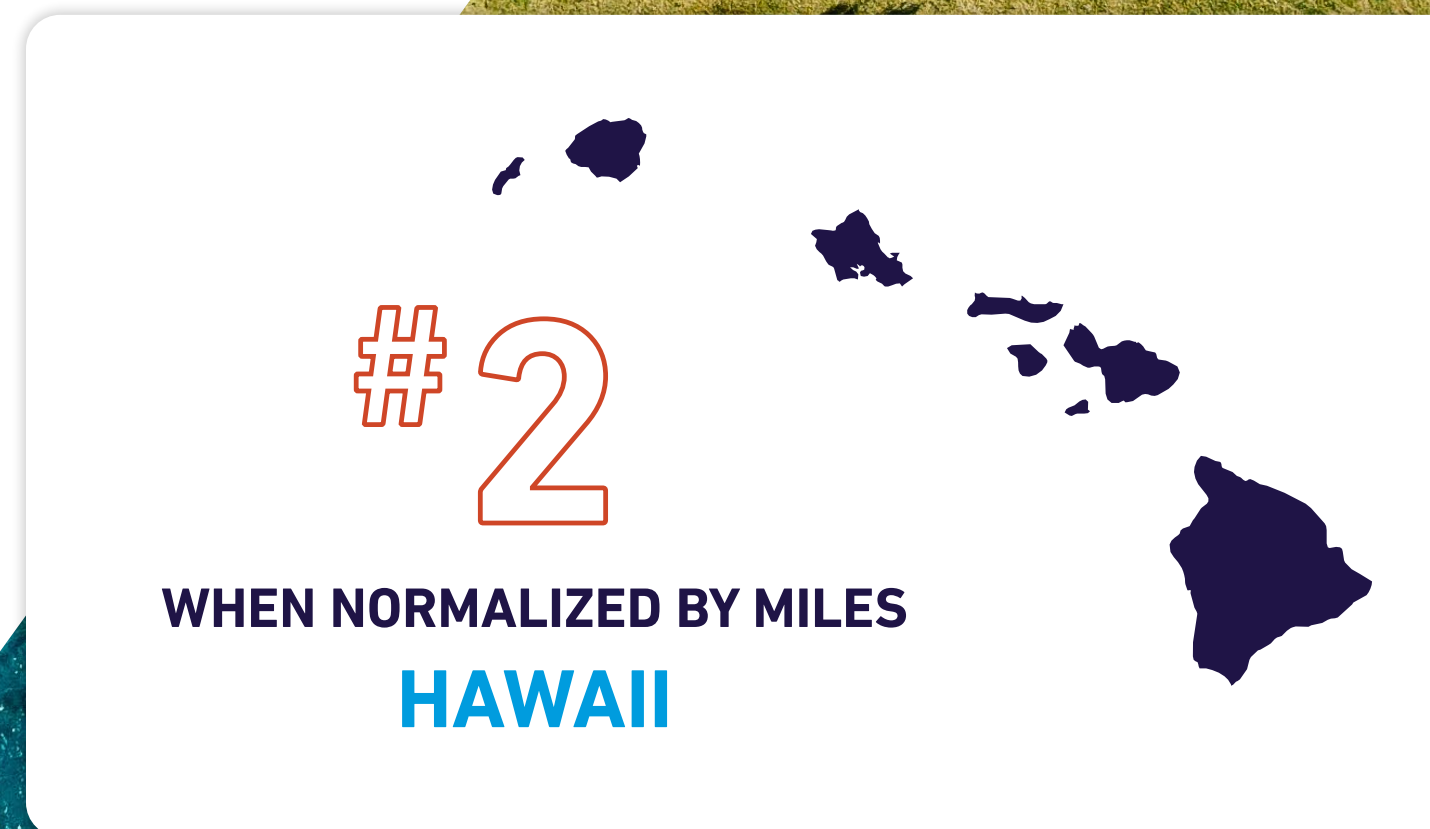
# Where?

03

# Top 5 Riskiest States for Driving

When ranking states by risk per mile driven, small states like Hawaii and Rhode Island score higher because a larger percentage of their roads are urban and risks are more concentrated. Large states like California, Texas, and Florida drop off since risk is spread across more miles. For example, although Dallas/Fort Worth is a high-risk metro area, Texas isn't in the Top 5 when risks are adjusted by mileage.

	RANK CHANGE FROM 2024	TOTAL RISK	RISK NORMALIZED BY MILES
1	0	CALIFORNIA	NEW YORK
2	0	TEXAS	HAWAII
3	0	NEW YORK	MASSACHUSETTS
4	0	FLORIDA	RHODE ISLAND
5	+2	GEORGIA	MARYLAND



# Top 5 Riskiest Metro Areas

For the fifth year in a row, New York / New Jersey is the country's riskiest metro area. Dallas / Fort Worth moved up to second place, pushing Los Angeles to third. Chicago stays fourth, and Atlanta rises from eleventh to fifth, replacing Washington D.C.

	2025 RANK	RANK CHANGE FROM 2024
1	NEW YORK / JERSEY CITY / NEWARK, NY	0
2	DALLAS / FORTH WORTH / ARLINGTON, TX	1
3	LOS ANGELES / LONG BEACH / ANAHEIM, CA	-1
4	CHICAGO, IL	0
5	ATLANTA, GA	1

+1 ↑

Dallas / Forth Worth / Arlington and Atlanta

-1 ↓

Los Angeles / Long Beach / Anaheim

#1

NEW YORK, NY  
JERSEY CITY, NJ  
NEWARK, NY




# Top 5 Riskiest Public Roadways

The four most dangerous public roadways in the U.S. are near major airports, likely due to stress, congestion, unfamiliarity, and ongoing construction.

“Chase Field and nearby Mortgage Matchup Center in Phoenix, AZ, appear in the top five riskiest roads for the first time. That’s likely driven by heavy pedestrian and vehicle traffic during baseball and basketball games, and other major entertainment events.”



**JONATHAN HAYFT**  
SENIOR MANAGER, LYTX CLIENT INTELLIGENCE

	2025 RANK	ROADWAY
1	SEATTLE, WA	Airport Expressway S. between S. 160th St and S. 176th St near Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
2	JAMAICA, NY	JFK Expressway between S. Cargo Rd. and Van Wyck Expressway near JFK Airport
3	JAMAICA, NY	I 678 between 130th Pl and Nassau Expressway near JFK Airport
4	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL	Jimmy Buffett Mem Hwy near Terminal Drive near Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport
5	PHOENIX, AZ	In between N. 1st Ave, 7th st, E. Fillmore St., and E. Jackson St. north of Mortgage Matchup Center and Chase Field





**When?**

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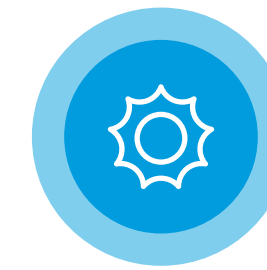
# Riskiest Days and Times to Drive

- The highest driving risk occurs on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm, while Mondays are the safest workday.
- Sundays are the safest overall, and weekends generally see fewer incidents.
- In 2025, most in-office work and commuting happened midweek (Tuesday–Thursday), adding to the increased risk during those days.
- Each day, driving from noon to 3:00 pm poses the highest overall risk by volume.



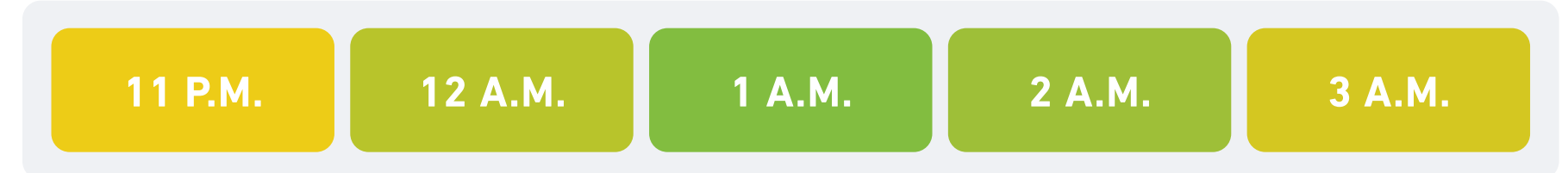
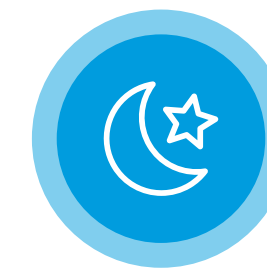
Tuesday   
Riskiest day for driving

## Riskiest Hours of the Day



12 P.M.–3 P.M.   
Carries the most driving risk, peaking at 2 P.M.

## Least Risky Hours of the Day



# Most Prevalent Risks by Time of Day



## 12 A.M. - 5 A.M.

Roads are empty but fatigue and drowsiness peak during the early morning hours. More collisions (per mile) occur at this time.

## 5:00 A.M. - 9:00 A.M.

Morning rush hour finds drivers in a hurry. Pedestrian strikes peak as people make their way to work.

## 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

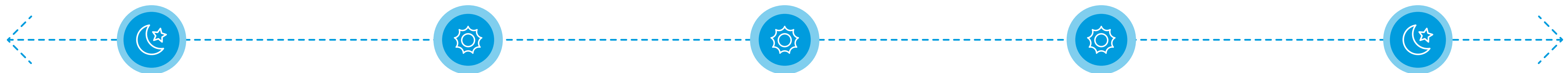
Distraction is high at this time as they juggle calls, texts, tasks, appointments and lunch.

## 2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Traffic peaks, and vehicles jostle for diminished space alongside cyclists.

## 6:00 P.M. - 12:00 A.M.

Evening hours are when aggressive driving habits tend to emerge after a long day.



- Animal Strikes
- Collisions
- Fatigue
- Lane Departure

- Seat Belt
- Pedestrian
- Speeding
- Running a Red Light

- Handheld Device Use
- Food & Drink
- Inattentive
- Not Using Mirrors
- Smoking

- Following Distance
- Near Collisions
- Bicyclists
- Driving Too Fast for Conditions
- Unsafe Lane Change

- Aggressive Driving

# Holiday Risk

- Christmas Day has returned to the top spot, shifting from second in 2024 and first in 2023.
- Halloween leapt from 15th place in 2024 to 2nd place in 2025, likely because it landed on a Friday, encouraging more celebrations and higher traffic.

6% ↑

increase in collisions during a holiday compared to the same day of the week on non-holidays.



2025 RANK	
1	CHRISTMAS DAY
2	HALLOWEEN
3	FOURTH OF JULY
4	COLUMBUS DAY
5	MEMORIAL DAY



# Riskiest Month of the Year

July was an especially dangerous month to be driving in 2025. Of the top 10 riskiest days of the year, eight landed in July. In fact, 9 out of the top 10 occurred between July 3 and August 3.

*“While winter is often perceived as more dangerous, our data confirm the findings from the National Safety Council\* and AAA\*\* showing fatal crashes peak late summer due to increased travel mileage, teen drivers on break, and holiday-related impairment.”*



**JONATHAN HAYFT**  
SENIOR MANAGER, LYTX CLIENT INTELLIGENCE

\*National Safety Council, Injury Facts. [Source](#)

\*\*“The 100 Deadliest Days,” American Automobile Association, May 29, 2025. [Source](#)



# Addressing the Risk

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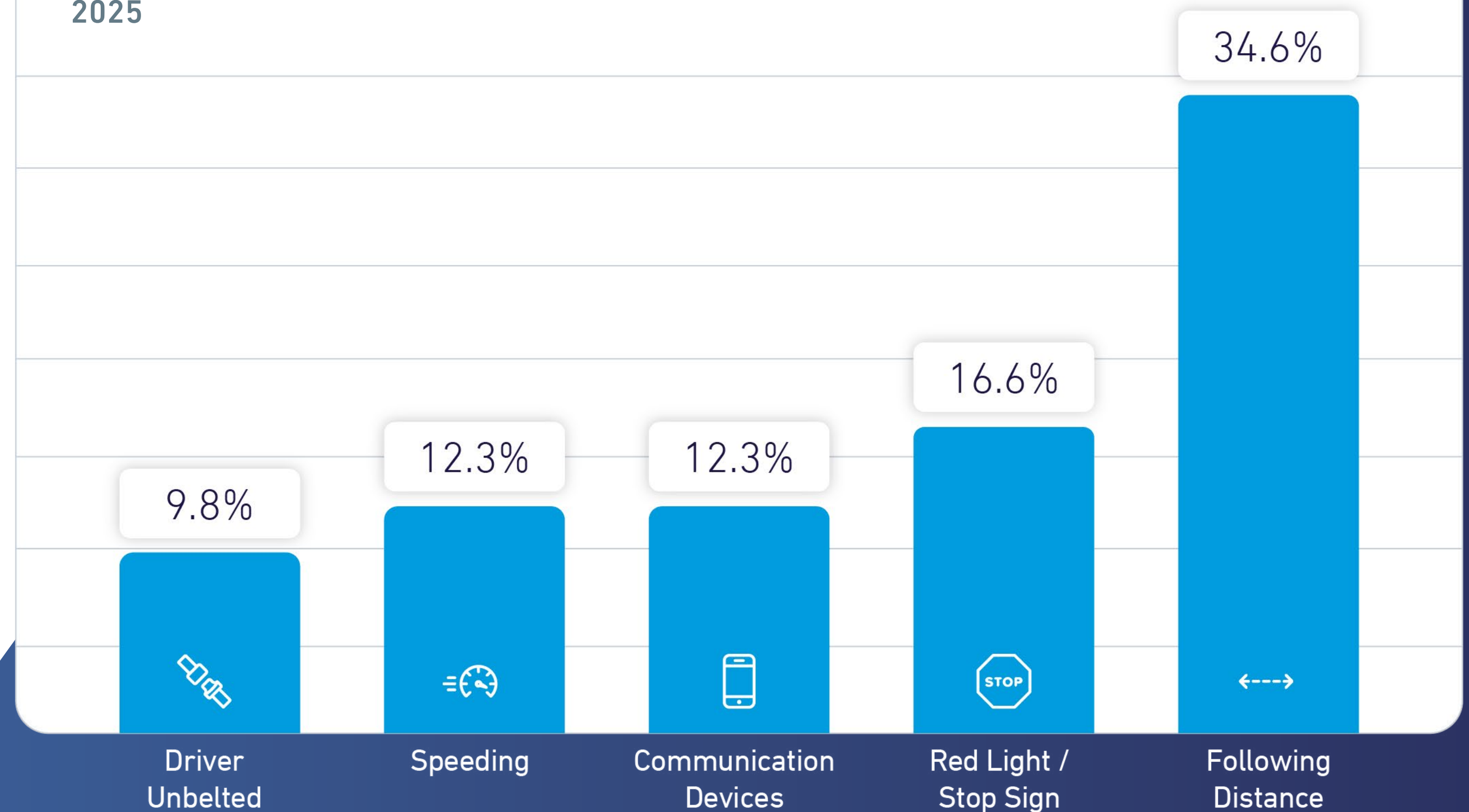
# Top Behaviors Coached

Following too closely remains the top behavior coached in 2025, with more than one third of all coaching sessions. **Coaching for device usage jumped from 8.8% to 12.3% – a 40% increase. Speeding nearly doubled from 6.6% of coaching sessions to 12.3% year over year.** One out of 10 sessions included coaching on seat belt compliance.



## Top Driver Behaviors Coached by % of Total

2025



# Driver Recognition

Great drivers don't just happen. They're built through coaching, accountability, and recognition. In 2025, fleet managers using Lytx issued an astounding 381,721 recognition certificates to their drivers, a **52% increase over 2024.**

Coaches issued

381,721 

Lytx safety recognition certificates to their drivers in 2025, up **52%** from 2024.



# Impact on Fleets

In 2025, Lytx helped its clients, across fleets, achieve an estimated\*:

**\$725 Million**   
savings in fuel costs

**\$1.9 Billion**   
savings on claims (including workers compensation and insurance claims)

**\$527 Million**   
savings on vehicle maintenance



\*Results not guaranteed and vary by client. These estimates are Lytx internal and based on a sampling of Lytx client data.



# About the Data

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# About the Data

The data for Lytx's 2026 Road Safety Report was sourced from its comprehensive global driving database, which encompasses more than 341 billion miles of analyzed data from 6.3 million drivers in over 90 countries. In 2025, Lytx identified and examined over 217 million new driving events and processed upwards of 126 billion minutes of video via its DriveCam<sup>®</sup> event recorders.

**341.7 Billion**  
Total mileage (all time)

**126.5 Billion**  
Minutes of video processed (2025)

**6.34 Million**  
Total drivers

**217.3 Million**  
Driving events (2025)

**595,300**  
Driving events per day

## NOTES

### Severity Level Definitions

**Level 1: High Crash Severity** - Airbag deployed or injury likely (vehicle occupant/s or bystanders), vehicle towing likely, incident involving three or more vehicles, a change in speed during impact of >20 mph or change in lateral or forward G force of + or - 2g or greater (excluding curb strikes). Common examples of Level 1 crashes include rollovers, head-on crash, intersection crash, or rear-end crash at 30 mph or greater, and crashes that involve striking a pedestrian, bicyclist, or motorcyclist.

**Level 2: Moderate Crash Severity** - Any crash that does not meet Level 1 criteria but includes at least one of the following: a moderate level of property damage where it's likely all vehicles can be driven from the scene; a change in lateral or forward G-force during impact of at least +/- 1g (excluding curb strikes); impacts with traffic signs, light poles and roadside barriers unless Level 1 criteria or low-speed level 3 criteria met. Examples of Level 2 crashes include most rear-end and intersection crashes at less than 30 mph, and sideswipes at 30 mph or greater.

**Level 3: Minor Crash Severity** - Any crash that does not meet Level 1 or 2 criteria; the vehicle makes physical contact with another object (other than curb strikes) or departs the road but sustains only minimal or no damage. This includes any loss of control resulting in a spin-out, road departure or curb, median or similar tire strikes that occur while underway; any road departures that result from an evasive maneuver in response to a previous incident (e.g. steering off the road to avoid a stopped lead vehicle). Examples of Level 3 crashes include most animal strikes, low-speed fixed objects, barrier arms, side swipe incidents (less than 10 mph), trailer drops, and backing collisions.

**Level 4: Low Crash Severity** - Any crash that does not meet Level 1, 2, or 3 criteria but includes at least one of the following: at least one tire departed the road or struck a curb, median, or similar low barrier during a low-speed maneuver (e.g. turning, parking); at least one tire departed the roadway or struck a curb, median, or low barrier at a speed of <20 mph. Note: Crashes that involve two or more parties will receive a Level 1, 2, or 3 rating.



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