Defensive Driving Techniques Stats and Facts

FACTS

Potential Hazards of Defensive Driving

- While defensive driving encourages caution and anticipation, being overly cautious can lead to slow and hesitant driving, which might cause frustration to other drivers and disrupt the flow of traffic.
- 2. In some cases, other drivers may misinterpret the intentions of a defensive driver, such as slowing down to maintain a safe following distance as a sign that they want other drivers to pass.
- 3. Some aggressive drivers might view defensive driving practices as an opportunity to tailgate.
- 4. While focusing on defensive driving, drivers might become complacent or overconfident in their skills, leading to distractions and a decrease in attention to the road.
- 5. Not all drivers practice defensive driving, and some might behave unpredictably or negligently.
- 6. Inexperienced drivers or those who have not received proper defensive driving training may not fully understand or correctly apply defensive driving techniques, leading to potentially hazardous situations.
- 7. Some defensive driving techniques, such as smooth braking and acceleration, rely on well-maintained vehicles.

STATS

• According to research from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 77% of all crashes involve driver error, making defensive driving education a priority. Studies have found that individuals who complete formal driver training, such as defensive driving courses, have a

- 4.3% lower crash rate than those who do not take these classes.
- Teen drivers who take a defensive driving course are 62% less likely to receive traffic violations and 43% less likely to be involved in an auto accident compared to teens without defensive driver training.
- Commercial drivers also benefit from taking defensive driving courses: one study showed that they had 29% fewer collisions after completing such programs.
- The NHTSA estimates 94% of serious motor vehicle accidents result from human errors which can be addressed through proper instruction during safety classes or seminars.
- Motor vehicle fatalities could potentially decrease up to 43% if effective completion rates for these educational sessions increase significantly across North America's roads and highways. Additionally, within two years, 20% of newly licensed young adults will experience some form of a automobile collision due to their inexperience behind the wheel, thus emphasizing the importance of having access to quality instructional materials like those provided via a comprehensive Defensive Driving Course curriculum.
- 77% of crashes involve driver error, making defensive driving courses essential.