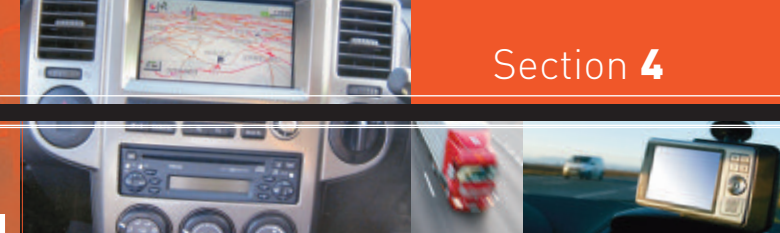


Driven to distraction



SAT-NAVS

Q10: In the past year, have you made an illegal or risky manoeuvre to rectify a mistake when following sat-nav instructions?

Of the 76% of drivers surveyed who use a sat-nav, one in six (16%) have made a risky or illegal manoeuvre in the past year as a result of following it.

Of the 76% drivers who use a sat-nav:

- 16% say they have made a risky or illegal manoeuvre
- 84% say they have not

Q11: In the past year, have you braked suddenly or swerved because you were slow to notice a hazard when distracted by a sat-nav?

Of the 76% of drivers surveyed who use a sat-nav, nearly one in nine (11%) have been forced to slam on the brakes or swerve because it was distracting them.

- 8% have braked suddenly or swerved because of a sat-nav
- 90% have not
- 2% did not answer

ADVICE: SAT-NAVS

Much research into sat-navs has compared the relative risks of different types of system. However, studies have tended to find reduced driving performance while using any type of system⁹. If you need to use a sat-nav, make sure you use it safely. Never input details while driving; pull over in a safe place to set up or amend your destination details. It is a good idea to get a feel for the route you are taking before you set off so that you aren't overly reliant or distracted by the sat-nav. When following a sat-nav, ensure you still pay attention to road signs and signals, and obey these rather than blindly following a sat-nav's instructions. A driver's first priority should always be safety and the road ahead.



End Note

⁹ Scoping study of driver distraction, Transport Research Laboratory, 2008