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### Troubling News On Traffic Safety

Injuries and deaths from vehicle crashes have always been a major problem on U.S. roadways. But as a nation, we have made steady progress over the past four decades, thanks to education and many safety innovations. Then came reports in 2015, and now 2016, that this trend has been reversed.

So far, safety experts are still scrambling to pinpoint just exactly what is causing the upswing. But as we discuss in this must-read issue of "You Should Know," those of us who work to protect the rights of people injured in vehicle crashes know the common culprits all too well.





# Recent Spike in U.S. Traffic Deaths Reverses 40-Year Trend

For the past 40 years, the grim death toll from crashes on America's roadways has been on a downward trend. But we hit a major roadblock in 2015 when the number of people lost in crashes jumped 7.2 percent from 2014, the largest percentage increase in 50 years. Preliminary reports for 2016 look even worse. *You should know* what's driving this dangerous u-turn in highway safety and how you can better protect yourself and those you care about most.

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## BY THE NUMBERS

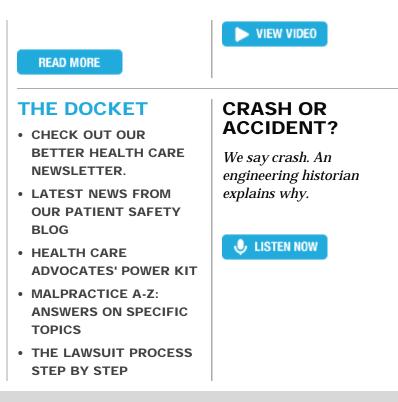


Estimated traffic fatalities for the first nine months of 2016 were up 8 percent over 2015, particularly bad news given that the percentage increase from 2014 to 2015 was the largest in 50 years.

### VIDEO BOOKMARK

#### Fiery Car Crash Captured on Snapchat

A Florida couple used a controversial Snapchat app to record their speed as they topped 115 mph on a Tampa freeway just before crashing head-on into a minivan.



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