

June 18, 2008

# Risk WATCH

15-Passenger  
Van Safety

Office of Financial Management – Risk Management Division

15-PASSENGER  
VANSAFETY



<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/>

*The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has revamped their home website page to include a link to a 15-passenger van safety page. They also recently issued a warning that rollover crashes for 15-passenger vans are more likely during the summer.*

*Many agencies no longer have or use 15-passenger vans, having transitioned to 12-passenger vans. Others may have 15-passenger vans that are being used through the phase-out stage. Either way, the NHTSA's summer time warning and resources on their new 15-passenger van website are well worth taking the time to review if your agency operates any passenger van. The rollover crash summary of 15-passenger van crash data (link below) should be of particular interest to risk managers, fleet managers and agency transportation officers.*

## Rollover Crashes for 15-Passenger Vans More Likely during Summer

New research shows the deadliest time of the year for 15-passenger vans is between June and August. Statistics show that rollover crashes are 31 percent more likely to occur during the busy summer travel months - [Read More](#)

## Top Safety Tips for 15-Passenger Vans

- **SEAT BELTS** - All occupants need to wear seat belts at all times.
- **TIRE PRESSURE** - Inspect the tires and check tire pressure before each use.
- **DRIVER** - A 15-passenger van should only be operated by trained, experienced drivers who operate these vehicles on a regular basis.
- **ATTENTION** - Driver should be well rested and limit use of cell phones, conversations with other passengers, and limit drive time to eight hours per 24-hour period.

## Learn More about 15-Passenger Vans

- [Reducing the Risk of Rollover Crashes in 15-Passenger Vans](#)
- [Don't use 15-passenger vans for school transportation](#)
- [Print out the new English & Spanish safety hangtag](#) ( To order free copies of the hangtag, call 1-888-327-4236)
- [Spread the word: Use this free article in your organization's newsletter, website or other publications.](#)

Does your agency plan to purchase or occasionally lease passenger vans? Refer to the Statewide Administrative and Accounting Manual (SAAM), Chapter 12.60-Van Management for statewide van policies at <http://ofm.wa.gov/policy/12.60.htm>

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