

# **Driving Safely Well into Your Senior Years**

**Ministry of Transportation**  
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# Senior Driver Licence Renewal Program

Ministry of Transportation



# Road Safety Picture

**Ontario roads are among the safest in North America.**

**In 2012, Ontario**

**Recorded the third lowest number of road fatalities – 568 – since 1944.**

**The second lowest number of road fatalities in North America**

**Long-term trends indicate substantial reductions in fatality and injury rates. Since 2003, fatalities are down by almost one third. Injuries are down by almost one quarter.**

*Ontario Road Safety Annual Report 2012*

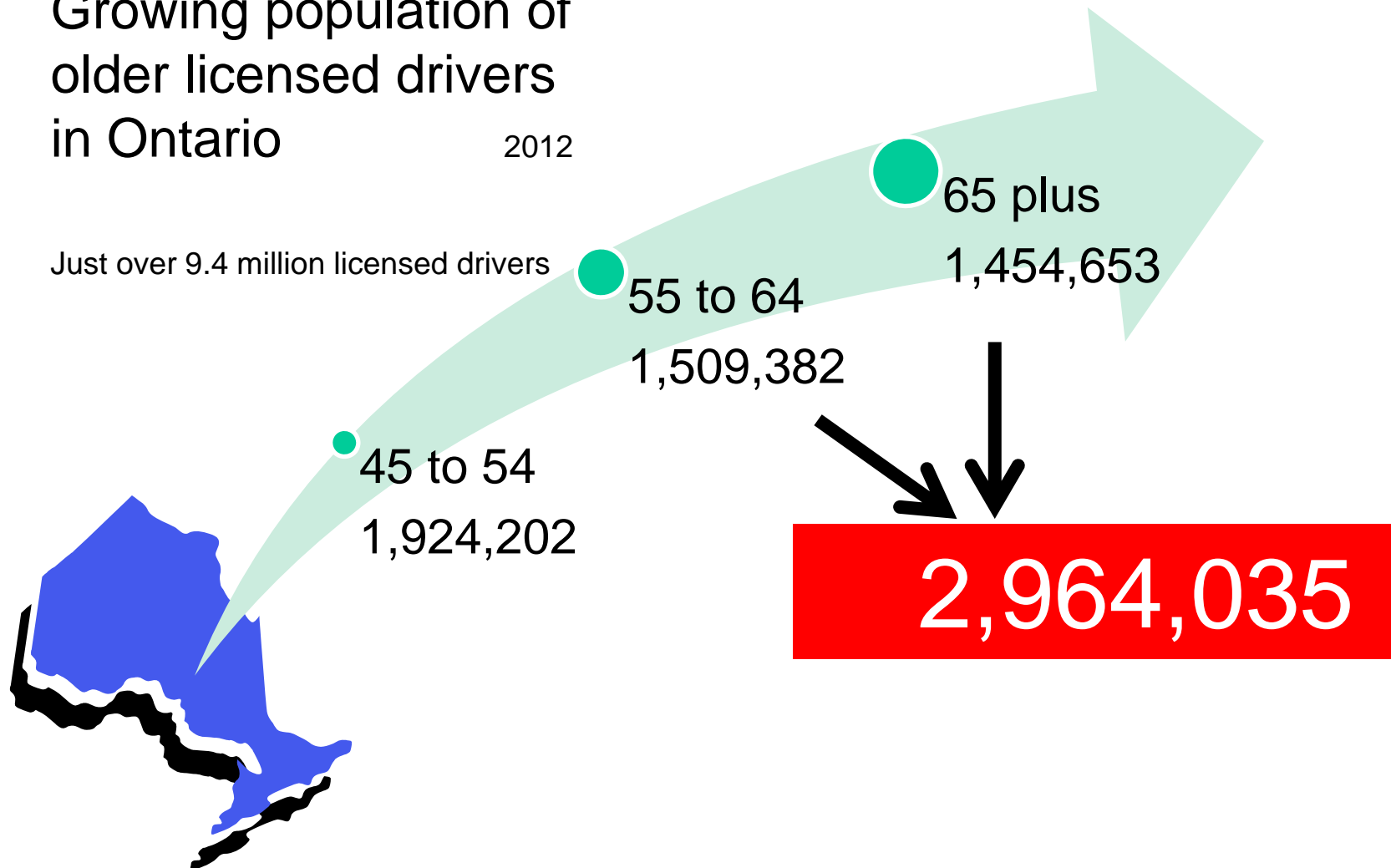


# Older Drivers Increasing

Growing population of  
older licensed drivers  
in Ontario

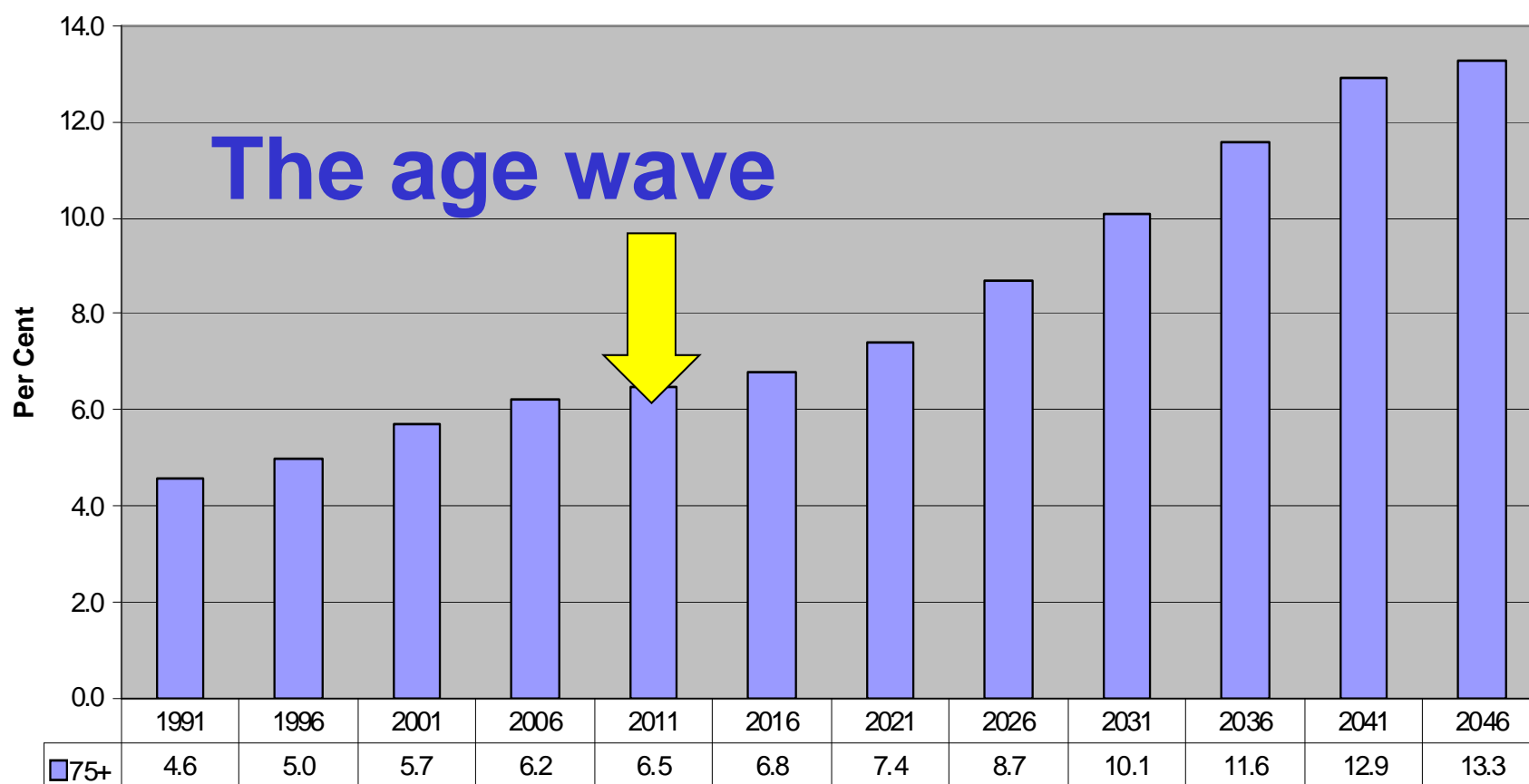
2012

Just over 9.4 million licensed drivers



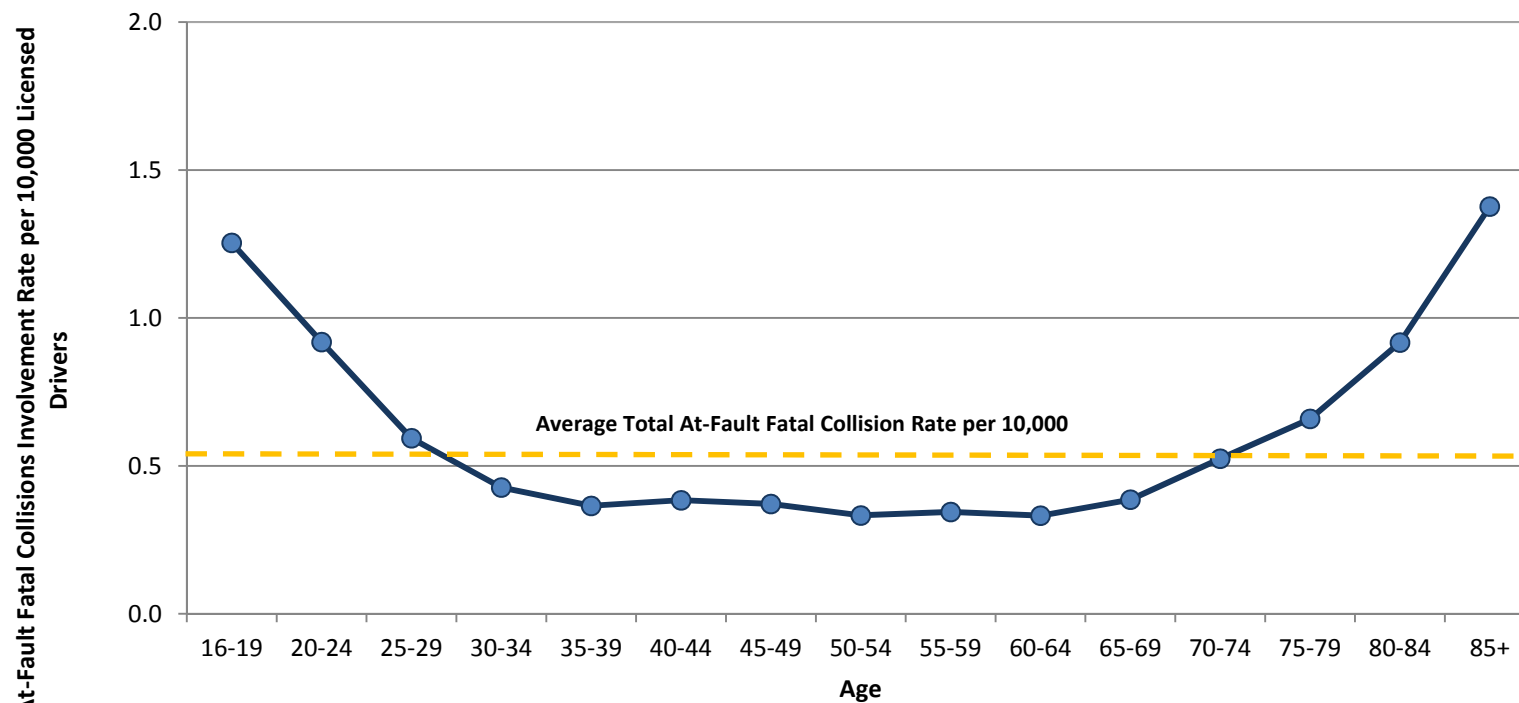
# Ontario's Seniors Living Longer

Source: Research Institute for Quantitative Studies in Economics and Population,  
McMaster University



# Fatal Collision Involvement

**At-Fault Fatal Collision Involvement Rates by Driver's Age, 2003-2012\***



\* Includes drivers of light duty vehicles only

# What is it? Why?

## **The Senior Driver Licence Renewal Program:**

- Requires drivers aged 80 and over to renew their licence every two years.
- Program helps seniors drive safely and help stay mobile and independent longer.

# Recent Changes

**As of April 21, 2014:**

- **Group Education Session** will only take 1.5 hours, instead of 3-3.5hours, and
- **Knowledge test** will be replaced with two cognitive screening tool
- **Cognitive screening tools** are designed to detect declines in competence or cognitive function

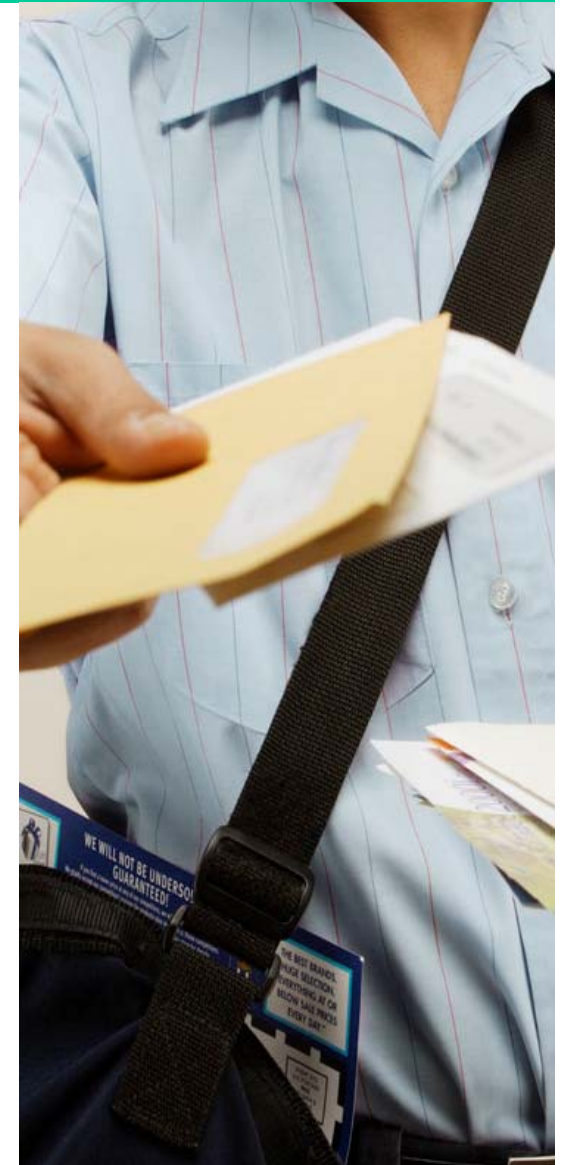


# What Happens?

## Renewal Application

- On your 80<sup>th</sup> birthday a licence renewal form and letter is mailed to you approximately 90 days before your licence expires.

Birthday soon? No renewal and notice in mail?  
You need to contact MTO.



# What Happens?

## Renewal Application

- The letter instructs you what to do.
- Keep the letter and form and bring it to the session.
- Your licence expiry date can be found on application & on the front of driver's licence.

# **What to do**

**Call and book your session when the renewal arrives.**

**MTO Scheduling Office:**

**1-800-396-4233**

Phone number is on the letter.  
Have your driver's licence number ready  
when you call.

# What You Can Expect

## **The Group Education Session**

- Attend the group education session which includes:
  - ✓ a vision test
  - ✓ and a cognitive screening tool.It will take approximately 1 1/2 hours.
- Remember to bring the renewal application with you to the session.



# REMEMBER

## Senior group education session:

- Bring:
  - driver's licence or temporary licence if you were issued one.
  - licence renewal form
  - eyeglasses you use for driving
  - hearing aid
  - water and or snack especially if diabetic

Remember - it's interactive for everyone.  
Participate in discussions and **relax**



# Vision Testing

## Vision Test

- Vision test happens at the time of your scheduled group education session.
- Or bring a certificate not older than 6 months (not a receipt) from an eye care professional. (Valid for six months)



# The Session

## **Group Education Session:**

- Effects of getting older (knowing yourself, vision, hearing, flexibility, reaction time and concentration)
- Possible effects of drugs on driving  
(including prescription and over the counter)
- Maintaining physical fitness
- Personal lifestyle action plan



# The Session

## Group Education Session topics:

- The safety driving cycle
- High risk driving situations
- Traffic laws and road signs
- Alternatives to driving
- When to hang up the keys

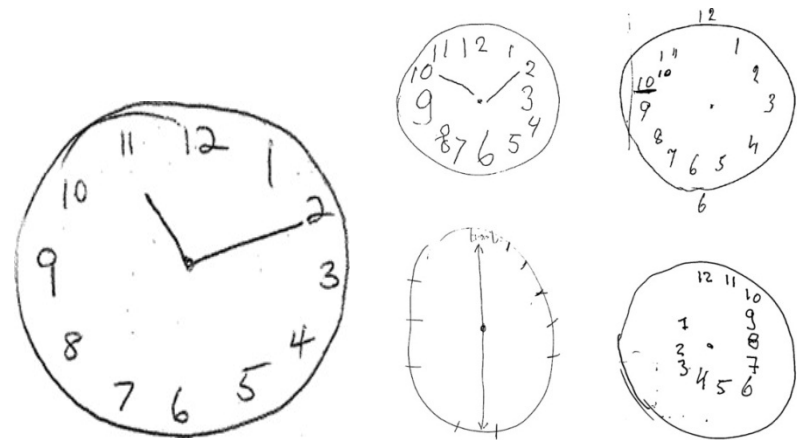


# Cognitive Screening

## Screening tool:

- Replaces the knowledge test
- cannot be practised or memorized
- Designed to detect declines in competence or cognitive function

**Clock Drawing Test**



**Letter Cancellation Test (letter H)**

H I H B D A H C F B H D E H D A F H I C H  
F H A D H C E H I H G D H G E B H E G H I  
H G H C G D H C B A H G D E H C H B E H D  
E B F H C D H F H G E H B H D H F A C H C  
H I H E B H G F B H F A H E B G H G F E H  
B H I G E H G H D E H C G H D H E B A H F

# Renewing your Licence

## Renewing your driver's licence:

- Your licence is renewed at ServiceOntario office.(no cost for session...\$33 to renew licence)
- Check Government Pages of phone book under Licences and Permits. Counsellor may tell you nearest location.
- Keep in mind you may require a new photo.

ServiceOntario

# Renewing your Licence – Road Test

## **Who are the drivers referred for road test?**

Road testing is rare and only if the screening tool determines it is necessary, **or**

- If you have accumulated demerit points in the past 2 years.
- If you have been in an at fault collision over the age of 70.
- If you have certain medical conditions

# Renewing your Licence – Road Test

The session counsellor will give instructions (envelope) on what to do. It does not happen the same day as the group education session.

- Contact closest **Drive Test Centre** to book road test (marked on front of envelope by Senior Group Education Session counsellor).



# Renewing your Licence – Road Test

Road testing if required.

Basic driving skills

**No** highway driving



# DRIVE/E TEST

# REMEMBER

## Senior Driver Licence Renewal Frequency:

- The renewal process repeats every **two** years.
- You may renew your licence up to 6 months before it expires.



# REMEMBER

## **Senior group education session:**

- Relax
- Listen and participate in discussions
- Bring water and snacks



# Senior Driver Licence Renewal Program

## **For more information:**

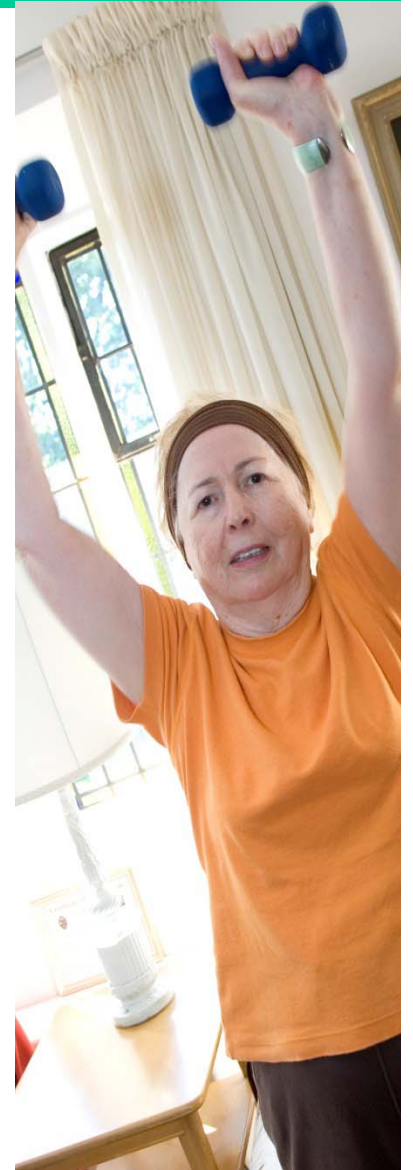
- Call 1-800-387-3445
- web site: [www.ontario.ca/seniordriver](http://www.ontario.ca/seniordriver)



# STAY SAFE AND MOBILE

## Recommended Activities:

- Take a refresher course with an approved driving school, the 55 Alive Course, or Mature Driver Course with CAA
- Drive on a regular basis to maintain a comfort level with driving.
- Have your eyes checked regularly.
- Stay physically and mentally fit.





STAY SAFE    DRIVE SAFE  
THANK YOU

**Road Safety**

**It starts  
with you**