

# WORK ZONE AWARENESS

*Work Zones are a Sign to Slow Down*

## From 2016 to 2020 in Illinois

on average, each year there were:

**6,078** work zone crashes and  
**1,635** people injured as a result.



Workers are not the only ones injured or killed by work zone crashes.

Of the **141**  
work zone fatalities in  
Illinois from 2017 to 2021...



**5** were worker  
fatalities. The rest  
were road users.

## Heavy Vehicles

Look for heavy vehicles entering and leaving work zones. They need more time to slow down and speed up.



In **2021**, nearly **37.5%** of fatal work zone crashes involved a heavy vehicle.

- Crashes are not always the heavy vehicle's fault.
- Rear ending one is as deadly as being rear ended by one.

## Safety Tips



- Drop it and drive.
- Slow down and obey speed limits.
- If possible, move over for workers.
- Pay attention. Conditions can change quickly.
- Give heavy vehicles room to adjust to conditions.
- **Remember:** Traffic backups can occur at any time.



## Merging Safely

If lanes are reduced due to road work and

● the road is **not heavily congested**, merge early into the open lane.



● there is **heavy congestion or slow traffic**, use either lane up to the reduction, then take turns merging.

