

WORK ZONE AWARENESS

Work zones are **temporary**. Actions behind the wheel can last **forever**.

From 2018 to 2022 in Illinois

on average, each year there were:

6,286 work zone crashes and
1,610 people injured as a result.

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



Of the **148** work zone fatalities in Illinois from 2019 to 2023...



6 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 **2023**, nearly **52.2%** 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. →

