

Wrong way drivers present an obvious danger to all motorists on our highways. The most recent available crash statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicates wrong way drivers are involved in 1.5% of all fatal crashes.

### **Who is the wrong way driver?**

Drivers who travel the wrong way on one way highways generally fall into one of four different categories:

- Intoxicated driver
- Older drivers who easily get confused
- Intentional drivers (example - trying to avoid traffic jams / congestion caused by crashes)
- Inattentive drivers who mistake an off ramp for an on ramp

### **Tips and other safety information**

- Watch far ahead for signs of a possible wrong way driver, looking for signs similar to pending problems or developing emergency situations such as other traffic braking or swerving to avoid something, or the obvious - headlights coming in the opposite direction.
- Caution against driving long periods in the inside lane on freeways, especially on curves.
- Be aware that wrong way drivers usually drive in the inside lane or inside shoulder, believing they are actually on a two-lane highway.
- Most common types of wrong way driver involved crashes are head-on or sideswipe crashes.