Tennessee among top states in number, percentage of fatalities involving older drivers

by Adrian Mojica | Tuesday, March 13th 2018

Tennessee is among the top states in the number and percentage of fatalities involving drivers 65-years-old and older. PHOTO: MGN

NASHVILLE, Tenn.--Tennessee is among the top states in the number and percentage of fatalities involving drivers 65-years-old and older. A new report from the non-profit transportation research group TRIP examines mobility and safety issues facing older Americans behind the wheel. Using data compiled from 2012-2016, TRIP looked at each state’s demographic and makeup of older drivers. Tennessee is ranked 13th with 1.035 million drivers over the age of 65. Over the four year time period, the state has seen a 27% increase in older drivers, ranking 4th overall. In 2016, Tennessee had the eighth-most fatalities involving at least one driver 65+ with 233 fatalities. The total represents a 20% increase since 2012. The actual number of drivers 65+ killed in 2016 was 151, seventh-most among the 50 states. TRIP is recommending improvements to states in an effort to improve mobility for all drivers. Improvements range from clearer, brighter signage, adding roundabouts, and more training programs to including better technology in vehicles for older drivers. See the full report HERE.