



Global Survey of Cell Phone Legislation (May 2010)

Country	Ban	Date	Notes
Argentina	Hand-held	1994	100-1000 pesos fine (25-250 USD). Buenos Aires banned text messaging (2007).
Australia	Hand-held	1990	Banned in all states; fines vary – AUD \$237 and 3 points (NSW)
Austria	Hand-held	1999	€50 fine
Belgium	Hand-held		€100-1,375 fine
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Hand-held	2006	€20.50-102 fine; penalty points plus 2 month driving ban if cell phone use involved in crash
Brazil	Hand-held	1990	Approximately 40 USD fine and up to 4 points
Bulgaria	Hand-held	2002	Approximately 35 USD fine and 1 point. Texting is implied but not explicitly stated
Canada	Hand-held	2002	Banned in Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Labrador. Up to 500 USD fine. In remaining provinces and territories, a driver could be charged under careless driving laws.
China	Hand-held	2004	RMV 100 (15 USD) fine and 2 points
Colombia	Hand-held	2002	135 USD fine; subsequent violations: license suspension or revocation
Croatia	Hand-held	2004	€70 fine
Czech Republic	Hand-held	2001	€40-80 fine and 3 points
Denmark	Hand-held	1998	60 USD fine for infringements
Ecuador	Hand-held	2008	22 USD fine and 3 points
Ethiopia	Hand-held		City of Addis Ababa and state of Oromia (represents 80% of the vehicles)
Egypt	Hand-held		Fines of about 100 USD per offense
Finland	Hand-held	2003	€50 fine
France	Hand-held	2003	€35-150 fine and 2 points
Germany	Hand-held	2000	Usage allowed without a hands-free unit only when the engine is off; €40 fine
Ghana	Hand-held	2010*	*New ban on cell phone expected to be enacted
Hungary	Hand-held		In 2009 penalties increased for using a hand-held mobile phone while driving HUF10,000 (approx. €40) inside built-up areas, HUF15,000 (approx. €60) outside built-up areas and HUF20,000 (approx. €80) on motorways
India	Banned in some states	2001	In New Delhi there is a total ban on cell phone use. In Andhra Pradesh the ban is now enforced with prison sentence.
Ireland	Hand-held		380 USD fine and/or up to 3 months imprisonment on a third offense. Hands-free kits allowed, although that is subject to review.
Israel	Hand-held	2005 or earlier	Approximately 200 fine USD and points
Italy	Hand-held	2003	Fines of up to 124 USD and 5 points
Japan	Hand-Held	1999	5,000–50,000 JPY (fines added in 2004)
Jordan	Hand-held	2005	30,000 JD (42 USD) fine and 1 point

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Kenya	Hand-held	2001	Up to 2,000 Kshs (26 USD) fine
Luxembourg	Hand-held	2009	€74 fine
Malaysia	Hand-held		300 YR (90 USD) fine and points
Mexico	Banned in some states		Ban in Mexico City – fine goes up to 5 times the daily minimum wage
Morocco	Hand-held	2010	New law as of Jan. 2010; fine 100-500 dirhams (60 USD)
Netherlands	Hand-held	2003	€130 fine
New Zealand	Hand-held	2009	\$80 NZ fine. Both hand-held and texting explicitly covered except if the device is secured or mounted to a fixed spot in the vehicle
Nicaragua	Hand-held	2004	\$10 fine
Norway	Hand-held	2000	Both hand-held and texting explicitly covered except if the device is secured or mounted to a fixed spot in the vehicle. Fines of over 600 USD
Nigeria	Hand-held	2007	
Pakistan	Hand-held		Banned in Islamabad
Peru	Hand-held	2009	
Philippines			No data
Poland	Hand-held		100 USD fine
Portugal	Total ban		
Russia	Hand-held	2001	
Serbia	Hand-held	2009	RSD 5000 fine
Slovak Republic	Hand-held	1996	€60 fine
Singapore	Total ban		
South Africa	Hand-held	1999	ZAR fine 500 and 2 points
South Korea	Hand-held	2001	47 USD fine + 15 points on the license
Spain	Hand-held		Fine: €91-300 and 3 penalty points
Switzerland	General		CHF 100 fine – Drivers can be charged under general distracted driving laws
Taiwan	Hand-held	2001	NTD 3000 (94 USD) fine
Thailand	Hand-held	2008	
United Arab Emirates	Hand-held	2008	UAE Dirhams 400 (109 USD) fine and 4 points.
UK	Hand-held	2003	Fine: £60 (fixed penalty) and 3 points
Uruguay	General		Covered under reckless driving. About 30 USD fine
Zambia	Hand-held	2002	

Sources:

http://www.cellular-news.com/car_bans/

http://www.rospa.com/RoadSafety/advice/driving/info/mobile_phones_and_driving_factsheet_2007.pdf

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