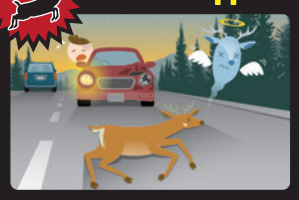
What Happens if You Hit a Sika Deer?



Vehicle repairs after colliding with a large animal like a sika deer: An average of **674,000 yen**

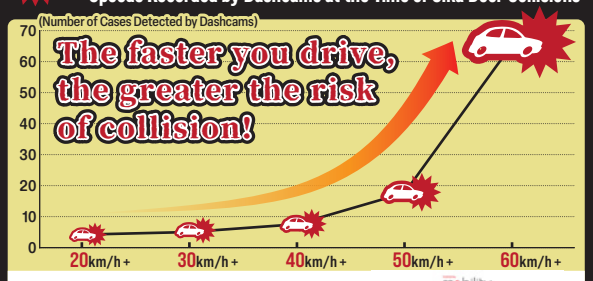
I'm done for…

*Average vehicle insurance payout for FY2025.

Source: Research by The General Insurance Association of Japan, Hokkaido Branch

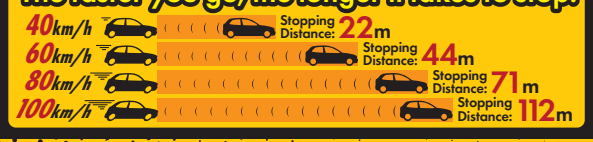
Are You Driving Too Fast?

Speeds Recorded by Dashcams at the Time of Sika Deer Collisions



Source: Yarushikanai! Dosanko Project

The faster you go, the longer it takes to stop!



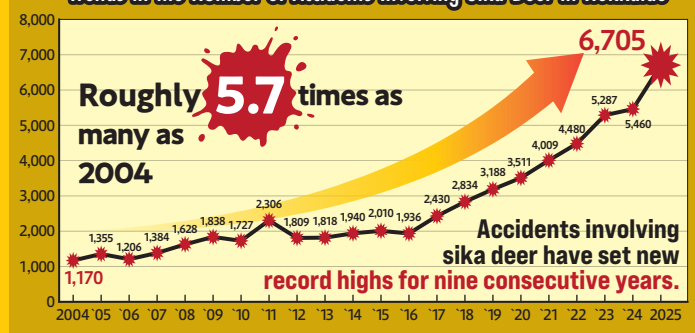
Source: Based on "Preventing Rear-End Collisions," Chubu District Transport Bureau, MLIT

Hokkaido's Sika Deer Are Big!

They are much larger than the sika deer found in Honshu

Accidents Involving Sika Deer Are Increasing Year by Year!

Trends in the Number of Accidents Involving Sika Deer in Hokkaido



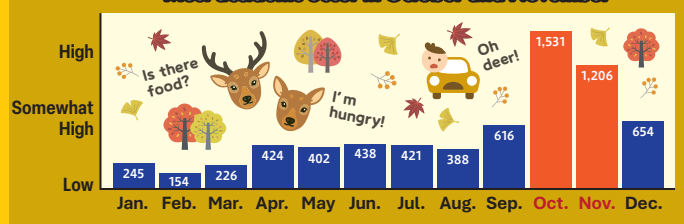
Source: Materials from Hokkaido Prefectural Police Headquarters, Traffic Department, Traffic Planning Division

Sika Deer Activity

More active in autumn

Sika deer become more active in autumn as they search for food.

Most accidents occur in October and November



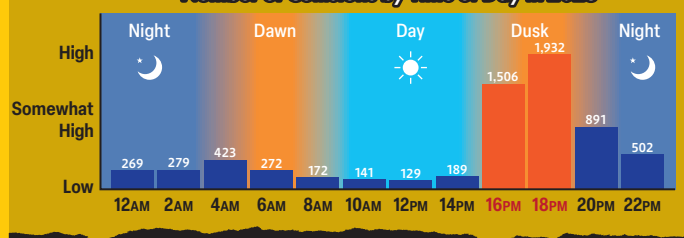
Drive carefully, especially during October and November when accidents increase.

Source: Materials from Hokkaido Prefectural Police Headquarters, Traffic Department, Traffic Planning Division

More active at dawn and dusk

Sika deer tend to venture out to feed during low-light hours like dusk.

Number of Collisions by Time of Day in 2025



Use your lights, slow down, and be extra careful during low-light hours.

Source: Materials from Hokkaido Prefectural Police Headquarters, Traffic Department, Traffic Planning Division

Hokkaido-wide Edition

Before You Know it, it's Right in Front of You!!

Colliding with a Sika Deer Can be Fatal.

Don't be next!

Check the high-risk areas and tips on preventing collisions.

If you find a fallen sika deer or notice something unusual on the road:

Road Emergency Dial 24h service #9910

You can now report issues via LINE!
Nights, weekends & holidays: processed next business day

Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
• 2026 Edition •

Key Points to Consider!

Learn About Sika Deer Behavior to Help Prevent Accidents!

1 More Deer May Follow

Sika deer travel in herds. When one deer crosses the road, others may suddenly follow, one after another. Areas where forests border both sides of the road may be deer crossing routes. Take extra care in these areas.

If one deer crosses, slow down and expect more to follow.

2 They Can Move Unexpectedly

Sika deer are often unpredictable and may suddenly dart out, change direction, or turn back without warning. Their hooves can also slip, causing them to fall.

Drive cautiously, anticipating that a deer may suddenly move or fall.

You never know when or where a deer may dart out. Always be prepared for the unexpected when driving!

Watch the Video!

Seeing is believing!
Warning: This video contains some startling scenes.

Scan to watch actual footage of deer darting out!

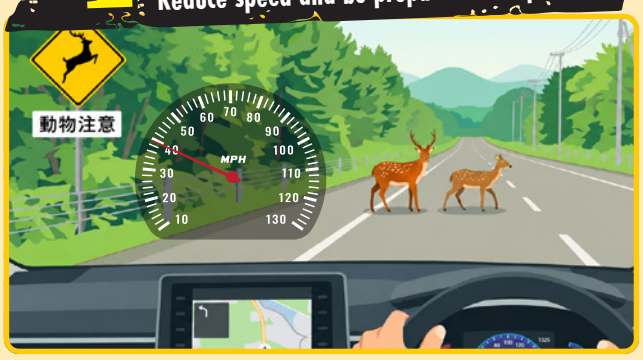
Source: Hokkaido Development Engineering Center

Tips for Drivers

Follow These Three Tips to Avoid Sika Deer Collisions

1 Slow Down

Reduce speed and be prepared to stop!



Sika deer may suddenly dart out onto the road. Driving at a lower speed helps you spot them earlier. Slow down when you see warning signs or other caution signs.

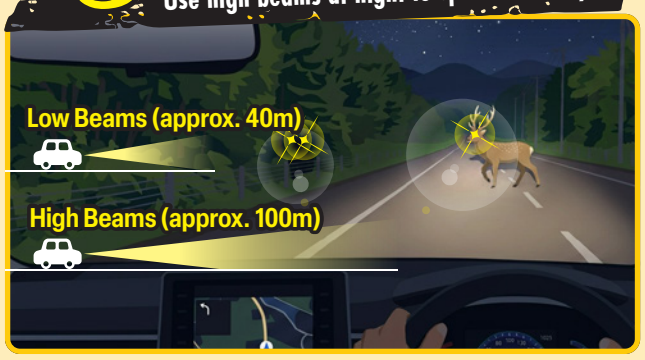
2 Drive with Caution

Always think: There may be sika deer ahead!

Sika deer can suddenly dart out onto the road at any time and in any place. Thinking "there may be sika deer ahead" whenever you drive is the first step towards preventing accidents.

3 Use High Beams

Use high beams at night to spot deer early!



High beams illuminate the road up to 2.5 times as far as lo beams. This helps you spot sika deer in the distance early on and prevent accidents. The deer's eyes reflect light from vehicle headlights, making them easier to see.

This map was created based on the GSI Maps

This map is provided to raise awareness among road users about the rising number of Ezo Sika deer-related road collisions (accidents involving vehicles and trains).

Please exercise caution when driving in the area to avoid potential encounters with Ezo Sika deer.

Map of Ezo Sika Deer Collision Accidents
URL:https://www.hkd.mlit.go.jp/ky/kn/dou_iji/splaat0000003n3x.html
Source: "Hokkaido Regional Development Bureau" website

Roadkill information is also provided below.

xROAD
URL:https://www.xroad.mlit.go.jp/
Source: "Road Data Platform" website

Hokkaido Ezo Deer Roadkill Map (Web version)
URL:https://www.wildlife-traffic.jp/roadkill/
Source: "Wildlife and Traffic" website

Map of Ezo Sika Deer Collision Accidents

on National Highways across Hokkaido: 2026 edition

※ Number of Ezo Sika deer accidents reported in a zone of approx. 10 km (2021-2025)

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 12
Around Kamuikotan / Harushinai

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 38
Near Lake Takisato

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 36
Near Hana Road Eniwa Roadside Station

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 230
Near the Jozankei Onsen hot spring district

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 272
Near Betsukai Town, Nishishunbetsu

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 44
Kushiro Town - Hamanaka Town
Nemuro City Kawaguchi - Around Onneto

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 272
Around Kushiro-Beppo Interchange, Doto Expressway

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 240
Around Akan Interchange, Doto Expressway

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 36
In the area from Tomakomai City to Noboribetsu City

Zone requiring caution
National Highway No. 36
National Highway No. 234
National Highway No. 235
National Highway No. 276
Near New Chitose Airport and Tomakomai City

Number of Ezo Sika deer accidents reported on national highways

- 100 or more (※Zone requiring caution)

* Sections where the number of Ezo deer accident cases handled is 100 or more per approximately 10 km section

- 50 or more
- 10 or more
- One to nine

Legends

- National Expressway
- Limited Highway
- National Highway
- JR Line
- General Subprefectural/ Subprefectural border
- City/Town/Village border
- "Michi-no-Eki" roadside station

1 : 1,200,000
10 0 10 20 30 40 50km