



You have stopped for a break at a service area on the expressway. The photo shows the view from the driver's seat as you pull out to get back on the expressway again. You see that a father and child have just crossed the road, and a couple is crossing further down. You move forward, keeping your eye on the man crossing from the left.



You are about to leave a service area.

What should you be looking at right now?

ANSWER

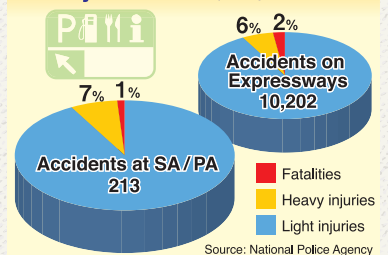
You should be watching the people visible between the cars on the right.

A child suddenly ran out from between the cars and you narrowly avoided an accident. One person dressed in black can be seen in the first photograph, but another person can be seen – the dark-haired head of a child – just before the person dressed in black. It is very easy for children to end up in a driver's blind spot, and they often seem to pop out into the road from nowhere, so drivers have to

pay particular attention whenever children might be about. In service areas, both adults and children tend to act without thinking. They might simply be enjoying a breath of fresh air after being cooped up in a car for a long time, or perhaps they are in a rush for the toilets. It is common for people to simply run across the vehicles lanes without even checking, so drivers need to keep their speed low

enough that they can stop quickly at any moment.

Expressway injury and fatality statistics (2014)



Accidents in Service & Parking Areas

Although vehicles travel much slower in service areas (SA) and parking areas (PA), the percentage of accidents that result in death or heavy injury at SAs and PAs is similar to that on expressways themselves. (See pie charts.) These areas are especially dangerous for children, so at SAs and PAs, keep them close by holding their hands and don't let them out of sight.

