

Q. What is the difference between careless and reckless driving?

A. Statute 39:4-96 describes reckless driving as a person who drives a vehicle heedlessly, in a willful or wanton disregard of the rights or safety of others, in a manner so as to endanger, or be likely to endanger a person or property. If convicted, a defendant can receive imprisonment in the county or municipal jail for a period of not more than 60 days, or receive a fine of not less than \$50.00 or more than \$200.00, or both. The defendant would also receive five motor vehicle points.

Statute 39:4-97 describes careless driving as a person who drives a vehicle carelessly, or without due caution and circumspection, in a manner so as to endanger, or be likely to endanger, a person or property. If convicted, a defendant would receive two motor vehicle points.