

**FACT SHEET**  
***Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* Enforcement Campaign**  
**December 2019**

**General**

*Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* is Michigan's ongoing enforcement and education campaign to encourage safe and sober driving. Statewide enforcement periods typically occur during holidays when travel and traffic fatalities increase.

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**Impaired Driving Enforcement Quick Facts**

**Length of enforcement period:** Dec. 18, 2019 – Jan. 1, 2020.

**Number of grant-funded law enforcement agencies participating in the effort:** 109

**Number of counties where enforcement will take place:** 24

**Number of enforcement hours:** approximately 6,976

**Number of traffic fatalities during the holiday period:**

- Michigan averages 13 traffic fatalities per year for the three-day Christmas and New Year's holiday period. In 2018, there were 13 traffic fatalities over the Christmas holiday with nine crashes involving alcohol, and nine traffic fatalities over the New Year's holiday with one crash involving alcohol.

**Federal funding:** The OHSP dedicated approximately \$455,000 in stepped up enforcement and \$50,000 for paid advertising across the state for this campaign.



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**Enforcement**

- ☞ Law enforcement agencies across the state will make drunk and drugged driving enforcement a priority during the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over* campaign.
- ☞ Officers from 109 police departments, sheriff's offices, and Michigan State Police posts will put extra officers on the road to locate and arrest drunk and drugged drivers.
- ☞ The extra overtime enforcement is paid for with federal funds administered by the OHSP.
- ☞ The mobilization is about saving lives, not writing tickets, which is why it is widely publicized.
- ☞ To increase awareness and encourage safe and sober driving, advertising has been placed on social media sites including Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. A new :30 second video will also air on social media in December titled "Toe Tags," with an emphasis on drugged driving as impaired driving.

**Drunk and Drugged Driving Statistics**







**Nationally**

-  According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 839 people lost their lives in traffic crashes involving a drunk driver during December 2018.
-  During the Christmas and New Year's Day holiday in 2018 alone, there were more drunk-driving related fatalities (285) than during the other holiday periods that year. (NHTSA)





# FACT SHEET

## *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Enforcement Campaign*





### December 2019

-  Although it's illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 or higher, in 2018, one person was killed every 50 minutes by a drunk driver on our nation's roads. (NHTSA)
-  Men are more likely than women to be driving drunk in fatal crashes. In 2018, 21 percent of males were drunk in these crashes, compared to 14 percent of females. (NHTSA)
-  Of the traffic fatalities in 2018 involving children 14 and younger, 22 percent occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. (NHTSA)
-  It is illegal to drive impaired in all 50 states and the District of Columbia – no exceptions. (NHTSA)
-  Driving while high will also affect your ability to drive properly. It has been proven that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) — the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychoactive effects — slows reaction times, impairs cognitive performance, and makes it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane. This is a deadly combination. (NHTSA)
-  In addition, something as simple as cold medication or an over-the-counter sleep aid could impair a person's ability to drive. If it does, a person can be arrested for a DUI. A person should not drive until they know what effect the medication will have on their judgement, coordination, and reaction time. (NHTSA)




### Michigan

-  In 2018, there were 9,786 alcohol-involved crashes with 315 alcohol-involved fatalities statewide. *Michigan State Police Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC)*
-  The percentage of alcohol-related fatalities was approximately 11 times higher than fatalities in all crashes and the serious injury level was about six times higher. (CJIC)
-  In 2018, there were 2,636 drug-involved crashes and 247 drug-involved fatalities statewide. (CJIC)
-  The number of fatal crashes involving drivers testing positive for cannabinoid drugs has nearly doubled since 2013. *Michigan Traffic Crash Facts (MTCF)*

### Impaired Driving

-  Michigan law considers persons with a BAC of .08 or greater to be driving drunk, although motorists can be arrested at any BAC level if an officer believes they are impaired.
-  According to the NHTSA, laboratory and on-road research shows most drivers are significantly impaired at a BAC of .08 with regards to critical driving tasks such as braking, steering, lane changing, judgment, and divided attention.
-  Michigan drivers cannot operate, navigate or be in physical control of a motor vehicle under the influence of marijuana. Drivers and/or their passengers are also prohibited from smoking marijuana within the passenger area of a vehicle on a public roadway.
-  Michigan's drunk driving law contains a zero-tolerance provision for drivers with certain illegal drugs in their system. Prosecutors do not have to prove the driver was impaired, just that they were driving with those drugs in their system. The same penalties for drunk driving will apply to those convicted under the zero-tolerance drug provisions.

### Financial Impacts

-  If a person is caught driving impaired, they can face jail time.
-  On average, a DUI can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, car towing and repairs, etc.
-  The financial impact from an impaired-driving crash is devastating. Based on 2010 figures (the most recent year for which cost data is available), impaired driving crashes cost the United States \$44 billion annually.