

Impaired Driving Action Team Accomplishments

BACKGROUND

The alcohol-involved fatalities in Michigan decreased from 359 in 2017 to 315 in 2018. Drug-involved fatalities increased from 246 in 2017 to 247 in 2018. Impaired driving crashes were most prevalent among young male drivers, including underage males, as well as in crashes occurring during the weekend. Better reporting methods and data collection are giving a more accurate look at the problem of impaired driving.

Michigan has responded to these issues through a combination prevention, education, enforcement and adjudication countermeasure programs. The Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan and the Michigan Judicial Institute have delivered numerous training sessions to law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, probation officers and court staff on emerging issues in drunk driving, as well as changes in the state's impaired driving laws. This is complemented by over 100 specialty courts established in Michigan to deal with hardcore Impaired driving offenders.

Supporting initiatives for reducing underage drinking and driving have furthered efforts for improved coordination at the state and local levels. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services continues to complement the IDAT's mission by focusing on preventing underage drinking and prescription drug misuse and abuse. Funding to support high-visibility enforcement has historically been provided by the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP).

STRATEGIES

- Continue high-visibility enforcement.
- Promote efforts to increase sobriety courts and the use of ignition interlocks.
- Support public information and education campaigns.
- Explore innovative countermeasures for impaired driving.
- Provide enhanced training for all sectors of the criminal justice community.
- Provide recommendations related to impaired driving legislation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Impaired driving enforcement efforts in FY18 included more than 150 state, local, and county law enforcement agencies and took place in up to 40 counties. These efforts produced 60,639 hours of overtime traffic enforcement and 8,019. Enforcement activities resulted in:

- 96,810 Vehicles stopped
- 9,631 Seat belt and child restraint citations
- 1,719 OWI/High BAC arrests
- 853 Drug arrests
- 400 Other alcohol arrests
- 16,512 Speeding citations
- 3,174 Other misdemeanor arrests
- 779 Other felony arrests
- Continued to support standalone and regional sobriety courts in Michigan to ensure eligible participants in rural counties have access to treatment and intense supervision.
- Developed and distributed traffic safety materials to traffic safety partners, advocates, and stakeholders. In FY18 fifteen special mailings were shipped to 7,319 locations (including law enforcement agencies, high schools, child passenger safety programs, libraries, government agencies, and businesses) for a total of 158,142 items. Safety partners and the public requested 439,716 items.
- The OHSP issued 32 new releases in FY2018.
- Continued development of a smartphone application, available on Android and Apple platforms, for law enforcement officers to utilize during traffic stops that covers SFST and other impaired driving resources.
- Increased administrative oversight of ignition interlock vendors to ensure compliance with NHTSA guidelines and to stay current with emerging technology.
- Trained annually up to 1,000 judges, magistrates, sobriety court staff, probation officers and other court personnel on various traffic safety issues, including specialty courts and ignition interlocks.

- For FY2018, 55 SFST Practioner classes have been conducted with 1,273 officers training. 62 SFST Refresher classes have been conducted with 678 officers trained. An additional SFST Instructor Refresher training was conducted with 10 SFST instructors having been trained. 25 ARIDE classes were conducted with 861 officers and prosecutors trained. Michigan graduated an additional 22 certified law enforcement DREs and five DRE-trained prosecutors. The Michigan State Police mandated that all troopers receive ARIDE training by spring of 2018.
- Trained annually more than 1,500 professionals in Cops in Court, Visual Trial, Nuts and Bolts of OWI Prosecution, Advanced OWI, Lethal Weapon and basic prosecuting training by the two Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutors.
- MDHHS/OROSC offers training opportunities for Michigan's substance use disorder prevention and treatment professionals. Trainings are available on the CMHAM website as well as the Improving MI Practices website. In addition, each September they host a Substance Use Disorder / Co-Occurring Disorder Conference that focuses on relevant information for prevention, treatment and recovery.