

**IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT
YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT
DRIVE HIGH GET A DUI**



August 2021 IMPAIRED DRIVING FACT SHEET

As we approach the end-of-summer Labor Day holiday, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is working together with the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) and the law enforcement community to decrease impaired driving.

We are working to spread the word about the dangers of drunk and drugged driving and to remind all drivers: If you are going to use alcohol or drugs, plan ahead for a sober driver. These expanded efforts to protect against impaired driving -- through the *Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over*; *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different*; and *Drive High, Get a DUI* campaigns -- will take place from August 16 to September 6.

Michigan

- Throughout 2020, there were 9,078 alcohol-involved crashes in Michigan with 326 alcohol-involved fatalities statewide.
- A total of 453 people died in 422 alcohol- and/or drug-involved traffic crashes in Michigan in 2020 -- the highest number of fatalities from alcohol- and/or drug-involved crashes since 2017 (470).
- In 2020, there were 1,833 crashes in Michigan over the Labor Day weekend, including 15 fatal crashes, resulting in 15 fatalities. Of the 15 fatal crashes, 8 involved alcohol and/or drugs (53.3 percent).
- Of the 1,833 Labor Day weekend crashes in 2020, 127 (13.9 percent) involved alcohol and 34 (1.9 percent) involved drugs.
- Nearly 42 percent of fatalities on Michigan roadways in 2020 involved alcohol and/or drugs.
- Throughout 2020, there were 3,040 drug-involved crashes in Michigan with 267 drug-involved fatalities statewide.
- In 2020, 30 percent of fatal crashes involved a drinking motor vehicle operator, pedestrian, or bicyclist, and 25 percent of fatal crashes were drug-involved.
- Of the 8,956 drinking drivers involved in crashes in 2020, 71.9 percent (6,436) were male. In fatal crashes, the percentage of male drinking drivers was 78.6 percent.
- In 2020, a total of 161 alcohol-impaired drivers involved in crashes were killed, and 63 of those drivers (39.1 percent) were not wearing seat belts.
- In 2020, there were 133 drug-impaired drivers in crashes who were killed, and 54 (40.6 percent) were not wearing seat belts.
- One person was killed in an alcohol-involved crash every 29 hours and 42 minutes in 2019. In 2020, the frequency increased, with someone dying in an alcohol-involved crash every 26 hours and 57 minutes.

Source: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute

(MORE)

Nationally

- Approximately one-third of all traffic crash fatalities in the United States involve drunk drivers (with blood alcohol concentrations [BACs] at or above .08). In 2019, there were 10,142 people killed in drunk-driving crashes nationwide.
- There are more nighttime crashes than daytime: The rate of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2019 was 3.3 times higher at night than during the day.
- In every U.S. state and territory, it is illegal to drive under the influence of drugs – no exceptions.
- Between 2009 and 2018, of those drivers killed in crashes and tested for marijuana, the presence of marijuana had nearly doubled over that period of time.
- In 2018, 46 percent of drivers who were killed in crashes and were tested for drugs, tested positive.
- It has been shown that marijuana can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance, and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.
- Your best defense against impaired drivers on the road is your seat belt. Every passenger should wear a seat belt, every trip, every time.

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

The Cost of Drunk Driving

- On average, a DUI can set you back \$10,000 in attorney's fees, fines, court costs, lost time at work, higher insurance rates, and more.
- Drunk or drugged driving can cause you to lose your driver's license and your vehicle.

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