



Driving Under the Influence

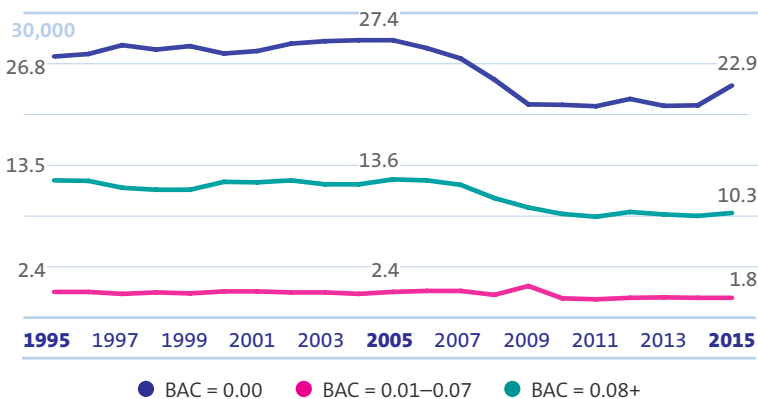
Driving Under the Influence (DUI) is defined as operating a vehicle while impaired due to alcohol consumption, drug use, or both. However, **most research concerns driving under the influence of alcohol.**^A Alcohol-related DUIs are determined by a person's blood alcohol concentration (BAC). All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico define alcohol-impaired driving as a driver with a **BAC of 0.08 or higher.** Overall, the number of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities has declined over the past decade. Declines in this area of victimization, changing societal attitudes toward impaired driving, and improved responses to victims have been attributed in part to the work of the victim services field—particularly the influence of Mothers Against Drunk Driving.^B

CRIME TRENDS

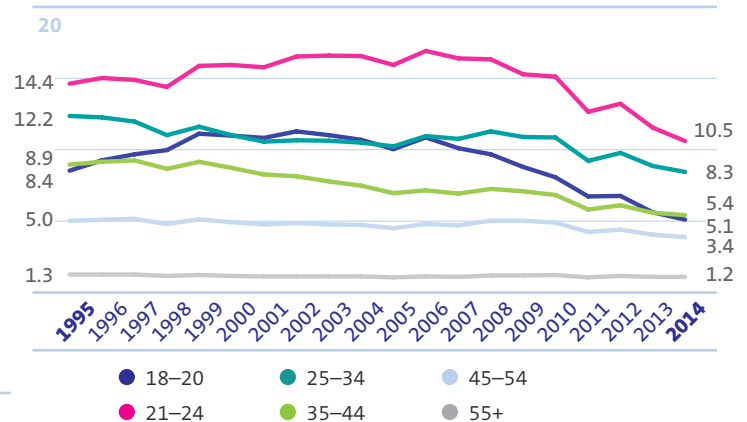
In 2014, the rate of adults arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs was about **5 per every 1,000 people**, a **36% decrease** since 1995. People age 21 to 34 are arrested for driving under the influence at consistently higher rates than drivers of other ages. The rate of individuals arrested for driving under the influence has remained relatively stable for people age 45 and older.^C

While the number of fatalities from alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes declined 24% between 1995 and 2015, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that more than **123,000 individuals were killed** in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes over the past decade. Crashes are considered alcohol-related if a driver's BAC is 0.01 or greater.^D

Car Crash Fatalities by Driver BAC^D
in thousands of fatalities



DUI Arrests by Age^C
rate per 1,000 people



DID YOU KNOW?

Drivers age **18–25** are the most likely to drive under the influence of **illicit** substances.^E

In 2015, **3x as many men** as women were arrested for drunk driving.^F

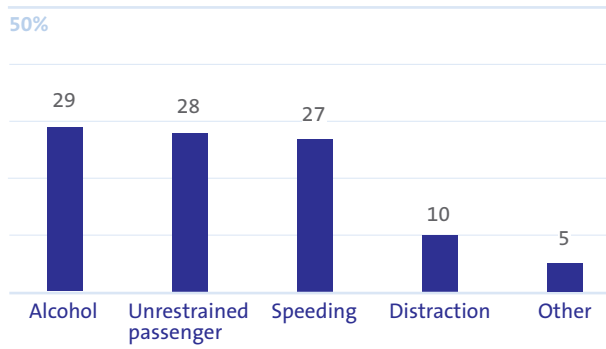
In 2015, just over **one-third** (32%) of crashes involving alcohol impairment (BAC .08+) occurred at **night**.^G

Alcohol-involved crashes accounted for 14% of **property-damage-only** crash costs, 17% of nonfatal **injury** crash costs, and 48% of **fatal** injury crash costs.^G

CURRENT DATA ON DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

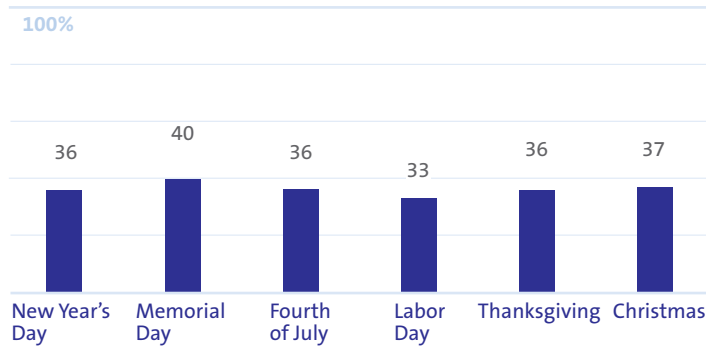
In 2015, **alcohol-impaired driving contributed to 29% of all motor vehicle fatalities**, 28% were linked to the absence of a seatbelt, 27% involved speeding, and 10% involved distracted driving.^H

Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes^H
involving various factors



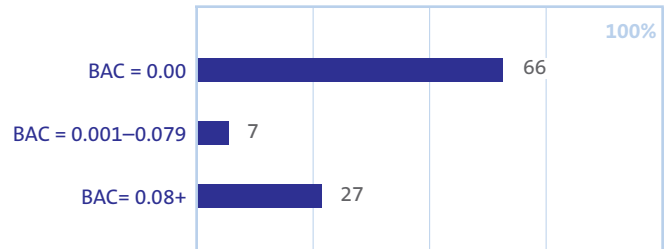
The percentage of fatalities resulting from alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes is **slightly higher during the holidays**. In 2015, alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes accounted for 36% of all motor vehicle fatalities on New Year's Day, Fourth of July, and Thanksgiving. On Labor Day and Christmas Day, alcohol-related vehicle crashes accounted for 33% and 37% of motor vehicle fatalities. The highest percentage (40%) of fatalities resulting from alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes occurred on Memorial Day.^G

Motor Vehicle Fatalities involving Alcohol Impairment^G
by holiday



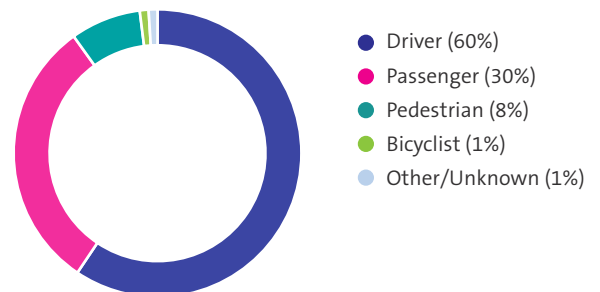
In 2016, **more than half (55%) of all driving fatalities recorded by the NHTSA had no associated blood alcohol test**. Of those that did, 66% of driving fatalities were not related to drunk driving (BAC= 0.000), nearly 7% involved drivers with a BAC between 0.001 and 0.079, and 27% involved drivers with a BAC of 0.08 or higher. Of drivers with a BAC above the legal limit, the majority (70%) had a BAC **just over the legal limit** (between 0.08 and 0.09).^I

Motor Vehicle Fatalities by Driver BAC^I



In 2015, 91% of people killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes were one of the drivers or passengers. About 7% of fatalities included a pedestrian, and 1% of fatalities included a bicyclist.^I

Motor Vehicle Fatalities involving Alcohol Impairment^I
by person type



SOURCES

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- B Nady El-Guebaly, "Don't Drink and Drive," *World Psychiatry* vol 4, 1(2005): 35-26, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1414720>
- C H. Snyder, A. Cooper, and J. Mulako-Wangota, Arrest Data Analysis Tool, <https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=datool&surl=/arrests/index.cfm>
- D *FARS Encyclopedia*, (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1995-2015), <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/Trends/TrendsAlcohol.aspx>

E Results from the 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Summary of National Findings, (SAMHSA, 2014), www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUHresultsPDFWHTML2013/Web/NSDUHresults2013.htm

F FBI, 2015 Crime in the United States, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2015/crime-in-the-u.s.-2015/tables/table-33>

G Traffic Safety Facts, 2015, (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812384>

H "2015 Motor Vehicle Crashes: Overview," Traffic Safety Facts (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2016), <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812318>

I FARS Encyclopedia, Query Tool: 2015, (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration), <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/QueryTool/QuerySection/SelectYear.aspx>