Impaired Driving Fact Sheet

Updated October 2023

Impaired Driving Defined: Accidents involving *drugs* or *alcohol* as contributing factors are classified as impaired driving incidents. For example, crashes where a sober driver collides with an impaired pedestrian are recorded as impaired driving accidents.^{1,2}

Did you know... In 2022, only 6.5% of all Idaho crashes were caused by impaired driving. Yet, impaired driving accounted for 51.2% of all crash fatalities in that same year, resulting in 110 avoidable deaths.¹

Impaired Driving in Idaho: Quick Facts

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- In 2022, of the 110 people killed in impaired driving incidents in Idaho, 85% were either the impaired driver, the person riding with the impaired driver, or an impaired pedestrian.¹
- Males comprised 71% of the Idaho drivers involved in impaired driving crashes in 2022.1
- Idaho drivers aged 21-25 were the most over-represented . population in impaired driving crashes in 2022, with a rate 2.1 times higher than expected.¹

Alcohol Impaired Driving in Idaho and Across the U.S.

Teen drivers have a much higher risk for being involved in a crash than older drivers with the same blood alcohol concentration, even at levels below the legal limit.²

- Approximately 3% of Idaho students report having driven a vehicle after drinking alcohol in the past 30 days.³
- While approximately 1.4% of Idaho adults report driving after drinking too much.5



Source: Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Crashes. 2022



Of the 1.184 children killed in traffic crashes in 2021, an

According to FBI data gathered in 2022, men accounted for roughly 3x the number of drunk driving arrests compared to women. ⁷ These rates are only slightly higher than the rates recorded in Idaho.

Did you know... In 2021, 5% of U.S. drivers reported they drove when they thought they were over the legal BAC limit in 2021, which was a 35.5% increase from 2020.4

What should be done?

Know the facts: At a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 (the legal limit), compared with a zero BAC, the likelihood of involvement in a fatal crash is 10 times higher among 16-20 year-old drivers, 7 times higher among drivers ages 21-34, and 6 times higher among drivers 35 and older.8



What Everyone Can Do: 9

- Don't let your friends and family drive while impaired. •
- Never get in the car with an impaired driver.
- If you host a party with alcohol or drugs, remind your guests to plan for a sober ride home.
- Always wear a seatbelt! Wearing a seat belt reduces the risk of dying or being seriously injured in a crash by about half.

Sources: (1) Idaho Transportation Department Office of Highway Safety: Idaho Traffic Crashes. 2022. (2) Voas RB, Torres P, Romano E, Lacey JH. Alcohol-related risk of driver fatalit n update using 2007 data. J Stud Alcohol Drugs. (3) Idaho Department of Eduction, Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey. 2021, (4) Traffic Injury Research Foundation, National Opinion Polls on Alcohol-Impaired Driving. 2021. (5) National Highway Traffic Saety Administration, Traffic Safety Administration, 2023. (7) U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Safety, Highway Loss data Institute, 2023. (7) U.S. Department of Justice FBI, Crime Data Explorer 2022. (8) Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss data Institute, 2023. (7) U.S. Department of Justice FBI, Crime Data Explorer 2022. (8) Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss data Institute, 2023. (7) U.S. Department of Justice FBI, Crime Data Explorer 2022. (8) Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Highway Loss data Institute, 2023. (7) U.S. Department of Safety Field Safet Alcohol-Impaired Driving. (6) and prevention. Impaired Drivina: Get the Facts, 2022.

304 N 8th St, Boise, ID 83702 | Phone: (208) 854-3040 | info@odp.idaho.gov