St. Patrick’s Day has ended in tragedy for too many Americans because of drunk drivers getting behind the wheel. Help NHTSA spread the word about the consequences of drinking and driving after celebrating the luck of the Irish. Use the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign materials from NHTSA’s Traffic Safety Marketing to remind people that law enforcement will be looking for drunk drivers. Click here for campaign materials.

Additionally, the Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving campaign reminds those celebrating St. Patrick’s Day to always plan ahead—designate a sober driver or find another way to get home safely. Click here for campaign materials.
New from NHTSA

Recent Publications

**Drug and Alcohol Crash Risk: A Case-Control Study** (DOT HS 812 355) This study used a “case-control” design to estimate the risk of crashes involving drivers using drugs, alcohol or both obtaining 10,221 breath samples, 9,285 oral fluid samples, and 1,764 blood samples from more than 3,000 crash drivers and 6,000 control drivers. Alcohol was the largest contributor to crash risk. Analyses found no statistically significant interaction effects when drivers were positive for both alcohol and drugs. Although initial analyses suggested that the combination of alcohol and other drugs were contributors to increased crash risk, additional analyses adjusting for other risk factors indicated no significant effect. When both alcohol and other drugs were consumed, alcohol alone was associated with crash risk.

**2013-2014 National Roadside Study of Alcohol and Drug Use by Drivers: Alcohol Results** (DOT HS 812 362) This report focuses on the alcohol breath-test results, presents the 2013-2014 prevalence estimates for alcohol-involved driving, and compares them with the four previous NRS studies. The data indicates a continuing trend of decreasing alcohol-involved driving on U.S. roads during weekend nights over the five NRS studies, including a large change in the percentage of drivers who were alcohol positive, from 36.1% in 1973 to 8.3% in 2013-2014, and an 80% reduction in the percentage of drivers with breath alcohol concentrations (BrACs) of .08 grams per deciliter (g/dL) and higher, from 7.5% in 1973 to 1.5% in 2013-2014.
Partner's Corner

Traffic Tuesdays—FREE TSRP Webinar

The SFSTs and Drug Impairment

The roadside study of 1973 indicated that over one-third of drivers had alcohol in their system. A subsequent study indicated that law enforcement officers were not doing a good job recognizing impaired drivers—detecting only 22% of drivers with a BAC of .10 or above. As a result, NHTSA contracted with the Southern California Research Institute to see if tests could be developed that could help officers determine whether a driver was impaired. From this research, the standardized field sobriety tests were born. Since that time, the tests have been shown to be very reliable in detecting drivers with a BAC of .08 or above. Whether the SFSTs can also reliably detect impairment caused by drugs other than alcohol is a question that frequently comes up.

This webinar will go back to the basics of the original studies that proved the SFSTs show impairment, regardless of the impairing substance. It will discuss how clues on the walk and turn and one leg stand relate to cognitive impairment. This webinar will be presented by Carson Nuss, Technical Trooper with the Kansas Highway Patrol.

New Publication

The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids: The Current State of Evidence and Recommendations for Research

In one of the most comprehensive studies of recent research on the health effects of recreational and therapeutic cannabis use, a new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine offers a rigorous review of relevant scientific research published since 1999. This report summarizes the current state of evidence regarding what is known about the health impacts of cannabis and cannabis-derived products, including effects related to therapeutic uses of cannabis and potential health risks related to certain cancers, diseases, mental health disorders, and injuries. Areas in need of additional research and current barriers to conducting cannabis research are also covered in this comprehensive report. Click here to retrieve this publication.
New Resource: Teen Driving Program Planning & Evaluation Guide

In partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute has released a guide that covers how to establish and implement an evidence-informed, practical process to plan, select, and evaluate teen driver safety programs with the ultimate goal of reducing crashes. The resource includes a guidebook and videos on the CHOP Program Planning & Evaluation YouTube Channel.

The guidebook and videos are designed to help teen driver safety stakeholders make the most of their programming, including:

- how to identify a specific community’s traffic safety issues and needs
- how to leverage that information to maximize program impact
- how to measure impact to revise programs for the future

The 13-chapter guidebook comes with a resource book that contains worksheets, helpful websites, and a database of teen driving programs. The CHOP Program Planning & Evaluation YouTube Channel comprehensively walks viewers through each step of planning and evaluating teen driving programs. Best of all, the concepts are applicable for anyone involved in traffic safety, injury prevention, education, or public health program planning. Click here to access the guidebook.
Lifesavers is the premier U.S. highway safety meeting dedicated to reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on our nation’s roadways. Drawing over 2,000 participants in 2016, Lifesavers continues to be the must attend conference since its start in 1982. Each year, Lifesavers provides a forum for the presentation of proven countermeasures and initiatives that address today’s critical highway safety problems. This year, Lifesavers is celebrating 35 years of delivering solutions to today’s critical highway safety problems.

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