



**State
Police**

Impaired Driving Enforcement Strategies

Expanding Engagement in the Law
Enforcement Community-Post MADD Summit

October 29, 2019

Impaired Driving and the New York State Police

Mission Statement: The New York State Police works to ensure the safety of the state's roadways, prevent and investigate crime, prepare for and respond to emergencies and disasters and provide support to other law enforcement agencies.

Mission Priorities

Improve Highway Safety

- To make our roads safe for all users.
- To reduce injuries, property damage and the loss of life caused by motor vehicle accidents through vehicle and traffic enforcement and education.

NYS Drug Impaired Fatalities Trending Upward (ITSMR)

New York State Fact Sheet on Impaired Driving

Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Crashes

	2015	2016	2017	2018*	Change 2017-18
Total Fatalities	1,116	1,029	1,000	921	-7.9%
Total Fatalities in Impaired Driving Crashes	468	413	390	455	16.7%
% of Total Fatalities	41.9%	40.1%	39.0%	49.4%	
Alcohol	313	272	252	284	12.7%
% of Total Fatalities	28.0%	26.4%	25.2%	30.8%	
Drugs	264	267	235	297	26.4%
% of Total Fatalities	23.7%	25.9%	23.5%	32.2%	
Alcohol & Drugs	109	126	97	126	29.9%
% of Total Fatalities	9.8%	12.2%	9.7%	13.7%	

*Preliminary data based on 7/15/19 snapshot

- Total fatalities and fatalities in impaired driving-related crashes were on downward trends between 2015 and 2017. In 2018, total fatalities continued to decline, dropping 8% from 2017, while impaired driving-related fatalities increased 17%.
- The proportions of fatalities in alcohol and/or drug-related crashes increased in 2018 compared to the previous years of 2015 - 2017. In 2018:
 - ✓ 49% of the fatalities occurred in impaired driving crashes, up from 39% - 42%
 - ✓ 31% occurred in alcohol crashes, up from 25% - 28%
 - ✓ 32% occurred in drug crashes, up from 24% - 26%
 - ✓ 14% occurred in crashes involving both alcohol and drugs, up from 10% - 12%

DRE Evaluations

	2017 (N=2,401)		2018 (N=2,414)	
Toxicology Results Available	1,352	56%	1,260	52%
Toxicology Results Pending	592	25%	745	31%
Sample Not Collected/Not Tested	457	19%	409	17%

Toxicology Results

	2017 (N=1,352)		2018 (N=1,260)	
Cannabis	543	40%	563	45%
Narcotic Analgesic	366	27%	276	22%
Depressant	330	24%	272	22%
Stimulant	205	15%	220	17%
Dissociative Anesthetic	11	1%	13	1%
Hallucinogen	1	0.1%	0	0.0%
Inhalant	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

- Cannabis is the most commonly reported drug found in the specimens submitted by DREs to the state's toxicology labs; 45% of the subjects had cannabis reported in 2018, up from 40% in 2017.



Possible Factors in upward shift

- **Growing public acceptance of marijuana use (62% of Americans favor legalization & 63% of New Yorkers)**
- **Decriminalization/Legalization regionally and nationwide**
- **Misconception of effects of marijuana – “It’s just weed.”**
 - **No longer the low THC percentages of the 60s and 70s that most associate with marijuana**

Factors continued...

- **Increases in trainings (ARIDE & DRE) have likely increased recognition of drug impairment both qualitatively and quantitatively**
- **Small sample size**
 - **However, data from other states such as Colorado and Washington correlate legalization with increases in crash/fatality data**

NYSP Fatal Investigations

- 2017-18 Fatality Data
 - 27 Alcohol related fatalities
 - 2 Drug involved fatalities
- 2018-19 Fatality Data*
 - 21 Alcohol related fatalities
 - 6 Drug involved fatalities

*Preliminary data

NYSP Crash Investigations

- 2017-18 Crash Data
 - DWI Arrests
 - 12,957
 - Crashes
 - 81,106
 - Alcohol Related
 - 2,077
- 2018-19 Crash Data*
 - DWI Arrests
 - 12,724 (1.8% decrease)
 - Crashes
 - 80,046 (1.3% decrease)
 - Alcohol Related
 - 2,082 (0.2% increase)

*Preliminary data

NYSP DRE & ARIDE

- **DREs have increased from just over 40 in 2017 to 105 in 2019**
- **Over 1000 members will be ARIDE trained by Spring of 2020**
- **ARIDE added to Academy Training**
- **FTO ARIDE added to FTO school**

Combating Cultural Change

- Deterrence by Enforcement
 - Increase the number of DREs for the agency
 - Increase the number of DREs on dedicated patrol for impaired driver
 - NYS Oral Fluids Workgroup(GTSC)
 - Proactively researching latest technologies to combat impaired driving

Combating Cultural Change

- Deterrence by Education
 - Holiday Enforcement periods supported by GTSC, Stop DWI and MADD
 - NYSP and MADD have partnered to promote Victim Dedications for every holiday enforcement period (10 enforcement periods annually)
 - Public Information Officer (PIO) – pushing program on multiple media platforms/press events

Combatting Cultural Change

- Deterrence by Education continued...
 - Drug Awareness Trainings including DITEP
 - DITEP – Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professionals
 - Magistrates, Prosecutors, Prison Chaplains, School staff, Etc.
 - 3 LEL's-NYSP, Sheriff and Local-GTSC

Engaging Law Enforcement

- **Collaborate with other agencies**
 - **GTSC/GHSA make holiday enforcement pushes possible**
 - **Run multi-agency traffic details**
 - **Multi-agency media pushes surrounding enforcement periods**
 - **Public promotion of details**
 - **Follow-up of results**
- **Encourage participation at Victim Impact Panels**



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Questions?

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