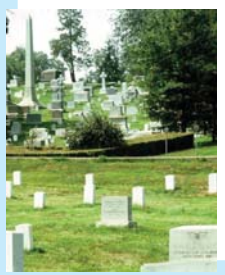


OVI Kills

It is estimated that alcohol was involved in 39 percent of fatal crashes and in seven percent of all crashes in 2005, nationally.

The 16,885 fatalities in alcohol-related crashes during 2005 represent an average of one alcohol-related fatality every 31 minutes.



An estimated 254,000 persons were injured in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present—an average of one person injured approximately every two minutes.

Of the 16,885 people who died in alcohol-related crashes in 2005, 14,539 or 86 percent were killed in crashes where at least one driver or non-occupant had a BAC of .08 or higher.

In 2005, 52 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes who had been drinking had a BAC level of .16 or above.

Intoxication rates for drivers in fatal crashes in 2005 were highest for motorcycle operators (27 percent) and lowest for drivers of large trucks (one percent). The intoxication rate for drivers of light trucks (21 percent) was slightly lower than that of passenger car drivers (22 percent).



OVI Costs

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates show that highway crashes cost society \$230.6 billion per year. This is equal to approximately \$820 for every person living in the United States.



**OHIO DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC SAFETY**
EDUCATION • SERVICE • PROTECTION

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR
CATHY COLLINS-TAYLOR, DIRECTOR

1970 WEST BROAD STREET, P.O. BOX 182081
COLUMBUS, OH 43218-2081
614-466-4775

WWW.PUBLICSAFETY.OHIO.GOV

HSY 8215 9/09

BAC



What is Blood Alcohol Concentration?

Blood Alcohol Concentration, or BAC, is a measure of the amount of alcohol in the body. BAC is measured by testing the breath, urine or saliva.

In Ohio, you are considered impaired if you test .08 percent BAC. This means there is 8/10 of a drop of alcohol for every 1,000 drops of blood. If you are under the age of 21 and you test at least .02, or if you are a commercial driver and test at least .04, you are considered impaired.

Several different factors affect a person's absorption of alcohol. They include: weight, gender, amount of food in the digestive tract and time spent drinking. The public most commonly associates BAC with drunk driving. It is more accurate to refer to it as alcohol-impaired driving since one does not have to be drunk (intoxicated) to be demonstrably impaired. Driving skills, especially judgment, are impaired in most people long before they exhibit visible signs of drunkenness.

BAC and Areas of Impairment

- .03 — divided attention, choice reaction time, visual function, tracking and steering, standing steadiness, emergency responses
- .05 — information processing, judgment, coordination
- .08 — concentrated attention, speed control