



Quick Notes

from the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

April 9, 2012

Register today for the
Highway Safety Summit

May 8, 2012 – Boise, ID

www.highwaysafetysummit.com

Idaho Transportation Department - PO Box 7129 – Boise, ID 83707-1129
P: (208) 334-8100 F: (208) 334-4430 - - www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs

General Message from the Highway Safety Manager

Hi Highway Safety Partners:

Distraction is defined as a specific type of inattention that occurs when drivers divert their attention away from the task of driving to focus on another activity instead. These distractions can be electronic distractions, such as navigation systems cell phones and texting, or more conventional distractions, such as interacting with passengers and eating. These distracting tasks can affect drivers in different ways and are categorized into the following three types:

- **Visual** - taking your eyes off the road;
- **Manual** - taking your hands off the wheel; and
- **Cognitive** - taking your mind off the road.

Over the last 3 years (2008-2010), there have been 179 fatal crashes and 1,199 serious injury crashes involving distracted drivers that have resulted in 192 people killed and 1,534 people seriously injured: this represents 30% of all fatal crashes (and 29% of fatalities) and more than a third (36%) of all serious injury crashes (and 36% of serious injuries).

Most (63%) of the vehicles involved in fatal and serious injury distracted driving crashes were going straight, while 15% were turning left and 11% were negotiating a curve. Driver inattention is a leading factor in many crashes, and cell phone use and texting are some of the most common driver distractions.

On April 5, 2012 Idaho became the 37th state in the nation to enact a law that bans texting while driving. The texting ban is primary enforcement, meaning that law enforcement officers can ticket a driver for texting while driving without any other traffic offense taking place.

This new law becomes effective on July 1, 2012 and means that texting drivers that are caught by police face an infraction with a fine of \$85. The measure bars motorists from using smart phones and other handheld devices to review, prepare or send written communications. After three years of trying, this legislation generated broad support backed by endorsements from law enforcement and auto insurers.

Although the right combination of education and enforcement does help to keep Idaho's road, it ultimately is up to each one of us as motor vehicle operators to pay attention and stay focused on the task of driving to help eliminate death and injury on all Idaho roadways.

Brent Jennings, PE
Highway Safety Manager
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2012 Highway Safety Summit open for registration www.highwaysafetysummit.com

Whether you've attend the summit for the past several years or you are a first timer you are all welcome to attend the 2012 Highway Safety Summit in Boise, Idaho. This year's theme is **"One Team"** . We all work towards the goal of Towards Zero Deaths. As **One Team** borders, demographics, and boundaries are removed.

WHAT IS THE HIGHWAY SAFETY SUMMIT?

The Highway Safety Summit will provide highway and traffic safety professionals and advocates with innovative, results-oriented solutions to help save lives and reduce serious injuries from motor vehicle crashes. The Summit is designed to foster discussion and interaction between presenters and participants on a variety of topics through seminars and workshops. There will also be several industry related vendors available.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Highway safety professionals from a variety of backgrounds including law enforcement, city and county officials, educators and counselors, traffic safety engineers, emergency responders and all other traffic safety advocates are encouraged to attend the Summit. The Summit is a forum in which to share ideas, and gain insight on traffic safety issues, program ideas and solutions.

WHAT IS THE COST?

FREE! There is no cost to participants. Lunch and snacks are included. This event is brought to you by the Idaho Transportation Department Office of Highway Safety.

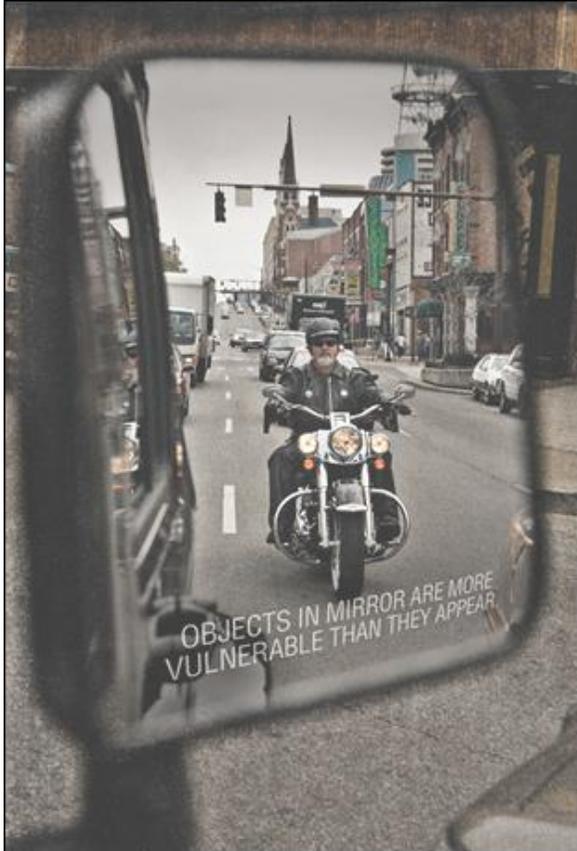
ACCOMMODATIONS

Fifty hotel rooms at the [Owyhee Plaza](#) for officers may be provided for those traveling outside of the area. To maximize the number of attendees, we strongly encourage you to room share. Rooms will be reserved for ONE NIGHT for up to two participants from each agency on a first-come, first-serve basis.

VENDOR RECEPTION

There will be a reception, including a buffet dinner, hosted by the vendors on **Monday, May 7th at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel** Ballroom from 5:00 - 9:00pm. Please come visit with the vendors and enjoy the reception!

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month



Motorcyclists have all the same rights and privileges as any motor vehicle driver on the roadway. During Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month in May – and during the rest of the year – drivers of all other vehicles and all other road users are reminded to safely “share the road” with motorcyclists, and to be extra alert to help keep motorcyclists safe.

Please use the resources from this [2012 Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month Planner](#) to spread the word about increasing motorcyclists’ safety, and to support and enhance your motorcycle safety awareness programs.

8532-030612-42



New Study: Little Progress in Reducing Speeding-Related Traffic Deaths

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A [report](#) released by the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) highlights the continued role [speeding](#) plays in traffic deaths and makes recommendations to address the problem. Despite progress in nearly every other area of highway safety, speeding continues to be a factor in approximately one third of traffic deaths every year. In 2010, 10,530 people lost their lives in speeding-related crashes in the U.S. and Puerto Rico, representing 31 percent of all traffic deaths. Since 2000, the share of traffic fatalities linked to speeding has increased by seven percent, even as seat belt non-use in fatal crashes dropped 23 percent and alcohol-impaired fatalities declined three percent. Speed remains the one highway safety area where progress has not been made in almost three decades.

The [new report](#), “Survey of the States: Speeding and Aggressive Driving,” includes responses from highway safety offices in all 50 states and Guam. States were similarly surveyed on this topic in 2005. The survey revealed little improvement in state laws since that time, with some states in fact regressing. [Among the findings](#):

Alive at 25

News media recently focused on the Alive at 25 program to remind young adults and parents there is a class available specifically for young adults that raises their awareness of driver choices. This class is FREE.

After the recent vehicle crash where 2 teenagers died, Boise Police Department was able to provide an option that will not cost any cash to attend. Read more and view the video at <http://www.ktvb.com/news/Boise-Police-work-to-prevent-fatal-teen-car-crashes-142399545.html>

Youthful Drivers

An interesting article on a teenage driver that 'forgives' his parents for concern: Tomorrow (March 18) is "National Forgive Mom and Dad Day," so I'm going to forgive my parents. Since I got my driver's license, my parents have been overly protective and restrictive. While I'm inclined to think that they don't want me to be independent, I realize they're acting this way because they love me and don't want me to become another statistic. Read more at <http://www.app.com/article/20120316/NJOPINION02/303160073/Teen-driver-forgives-parents-for-concern>

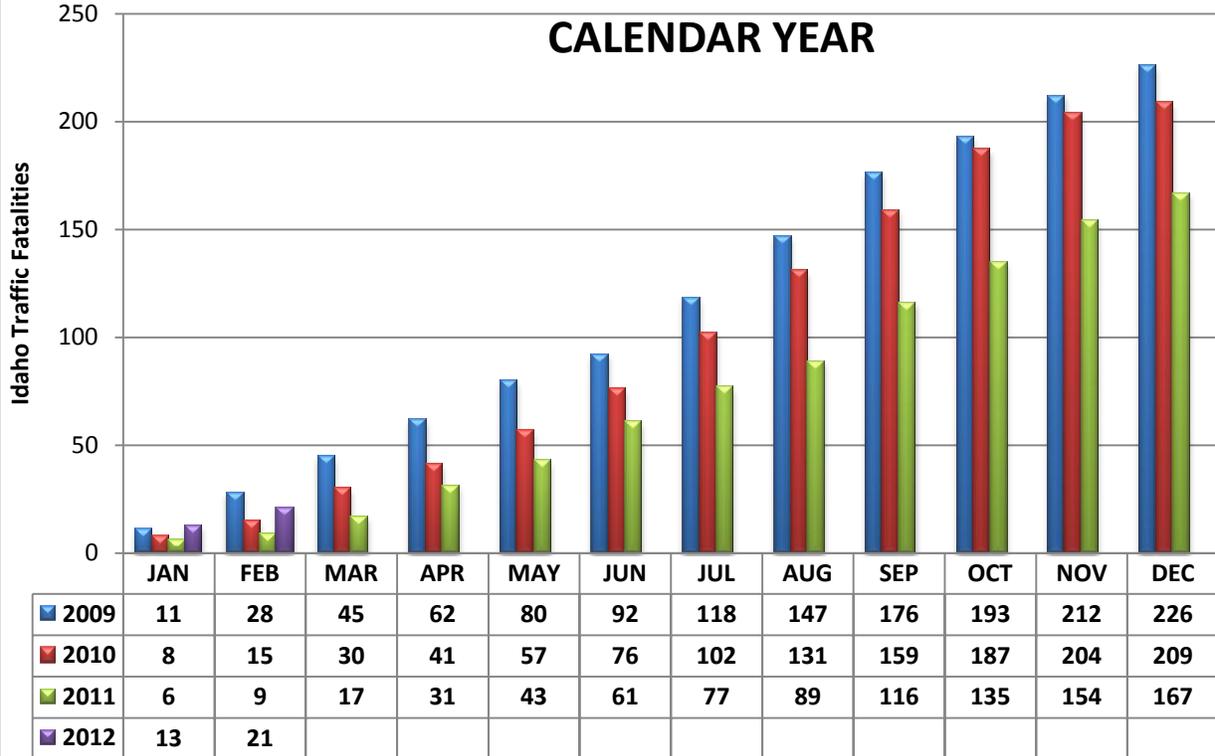
IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

February 2012 - Fatalities By the Month*

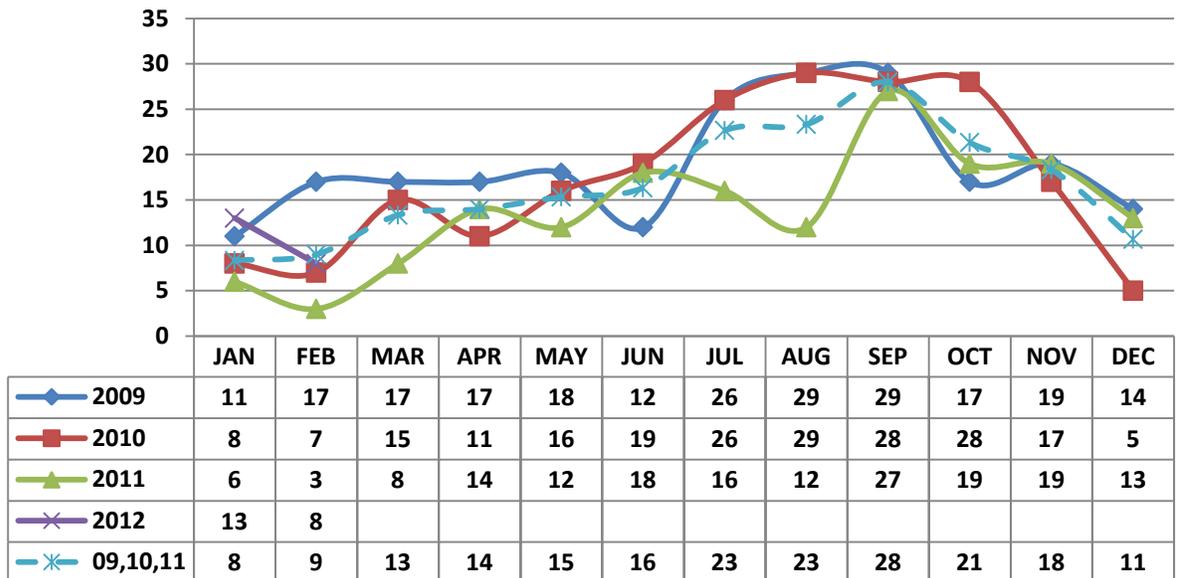
MONTH						CUMULATIVE TOTALS			
	Actual	Actual	Actual	09,10,11	Actual	Cumulative (09,10,11,12)			
	2009	2010	2011	AVERAGE	2012	2009	2010	2011	2012
JAN	11	8	6	8	13	11	8	6	13
FEB	17	7	3	9	8	28	15	9	21
MAR	17	15	8	13		45	30	17	
APR	17	11	14	14		62	41	31	
MAY	18	16	12	15		80	57	43	
JUN	12	19	18	16		92	76	61	
JUL	26	26	16	23		118	102	77	
AUG	29	29	12	23		147	131	89	
SEP	29	28	27	28		176	159	116	
OCT	17	28	19	21		193	187	135	
NOV	19	17	19	18		212	204	154	
DEC	14	5	13	11		226	209	167	
YEAR TO DATE	226	209	167	201	21				

*Data limitations: This report is based on information provided by law enforcement agencies on crashes resulting in a death that occurs within 30 days of the crash. Data is preliminary and is subject to change. Totals of this report are the number of persons killed. Averages are rounded.

ACCUMULATIVE IDAHO TRAFFIC FATALITIES BY CALENDAR YEAR



IDAHO MONTHLY TRAFFIC FATALIES



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you would like to add an event to the calendar, please send an e-mail with the event details to lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov

Date	Event Description, Location
Apr 7, 2012	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Apr 11, 2012	Alive at 25 , Kootenai Fire Station #2, www.idsafedriver.org
Apr 14, 2012	Alive at 25 , Meridian Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Apr 16, 2012	Alive at 25 , Boise Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Apr 19-30, 2012	Aggressive Driving, Statewide Traffic Enforcement Mobilization
Apr 30, 2012	Alive at 25 , Boise Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
May 7-8, 2012	2012 Highway Safety Summit, Boise Centre on the Grove
May 14-17, 2012	Child Passenger Safety Car Seat Technician Certification course , www.safekids.org
May 22, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
June 14-16, 2012	Lifesavers Conference , Orlando, Florida, www.lifesaversconference.org
July 18, 2012	Alive at 25 Workshop , Boise, Idaho
July 19-20, 2012	Northwest Alcohol Conference , Boise, Idaho www.northwestalcoholconference.org
July 24, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Sep 25, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 10, 2012	Alive at 25 , Orofino Police Dept., www.idsafedriver.org

Quick Reference Guide – click on the topic to go directly to website.

[OHS](#), Office of Highway Safety

[ITD](#), Idaho Transportation Department

[NHTSA](#), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[FHWA](#), Federal Highway Administration

[2010 Idaho Crash Report](#)

Program Area	Idaho State Links	Federal Links
Impaired Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Impaired
Distracted Driving	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/DistractedDriving.htm	http://distraction.gov/
Teen Drivers	http://www.idahoteendriving.org/	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Teen-Drivers
Bike & Pedestrian Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/bike_ped/index_new2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Pedestrians http://www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles
Seat Belt Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ClickIt/ClickIt2.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Occupant+Protection
Child Passenger Safety	http://www.itd.idaho.gov/ohs/ChildSafety/index.html	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/CPS
Aggressive Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Aggressive
Motorcycles	www.idahostar.org	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/Motorcycles
Senior Driving		http://www.nhtsa.gov/Senior-Drivers
Lane Departure	http://itd.idaho.gov/info/home_articles/safety_plan.htm	http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept