



Quick Notes

From the Idaho Office of Highway Safety

December 10, 2015

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

Fatalities for 2015 as of 11/30/15 = 198

Strong Partnerships Key to SHSP Success

At our recent Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) kickoff workshop in Boise, I talked about the importance of partnerships. Strong Highway Safety Partnerships are the key to changing behavior and making Idaho roads safer. Over the next several months, the Office of Highway Safety will be working with our safety partners throughout the state to identify strategies that move us Toward Zero Deaths.

Regrettably, early numbers indicate that fatalities are up nationally this year as compared to 2014. Idaho is no exception to this unfortunate trend. To reach our ultimate goal of Toward Zero Deaths, we need the help and expertise of our strong partners. As the year comes to an end, this is an excellent opportunity to reflect on what has worked, and come up with innovative strategies that will lower the number of fatalities and serious injuries in the Gem State. I am excited about this opportunity to work as a team to come up with the best five-year roadmap for the future of highway safety in Idaho.

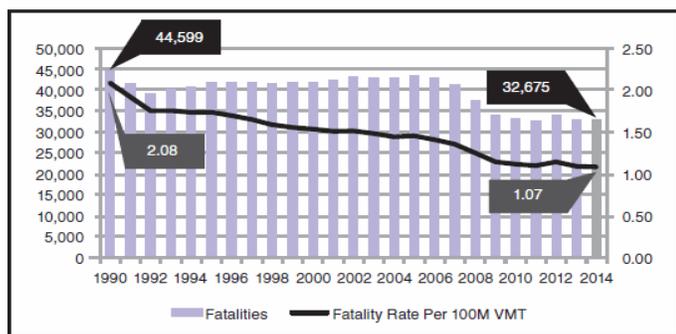
John Tomlinson
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2014 National Crash Data Findings

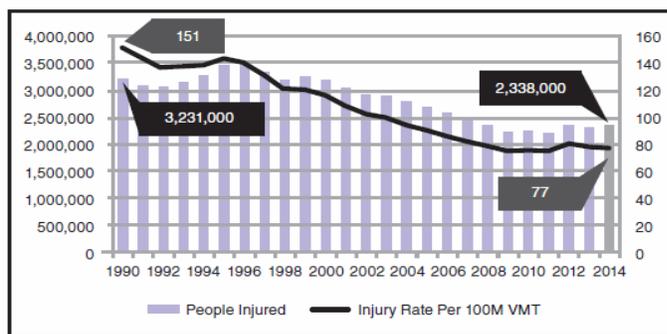
[NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts, DOT HS 812 219, November 2015](#)

- In 2014 there were 32,767 people killed in motor vehicle crashes on U.S. roadway. An additional 2.3 million people were injured in crashes in 2014.
- While showing slight fluctuation in recent years, fatalities and injuries have been in a general decline. Fatalities have decreased 25 percent from 2005-2014 and the number of people injured has decreased 13 percent from 2005-2014.
- There were 6.1 million police-reported crashes in 2014. Seventy-two percent of these crashes involved only property damage – no one was injured or killed in the crashes.

Figure 1: Crash Fatalities and Fatality Rates, and People Injured and Injury Rates, per 100 Million VMT, 1990-2014



Source: FARS 1990-2012 Final File, 2013-2014 ARF.

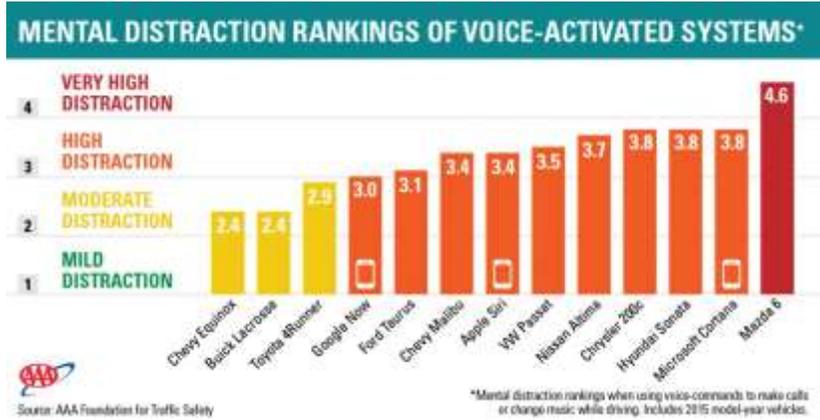


Voice-Activated Technologies Pose Mental Distractions

POTENTIALLY UNSAFE MENTAL distractions can persist for as long as 27 seconds after dialing, changing music or sending a text using voice commands via a phone or an in-vehicle information system while driving, according to new research from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. This is the third phase of the Foundation's comprehensive investigation into cognitive distraction, which shows how technologies can mentally distract drivers even if their eyes are on the road and their hands are on the wheel.

Researchers discovered the residual effects of mental distraction while comparing new hands-free technologies in ten 2015 vehicles and three types of smart phone. All systems studied increased mental distraction to potentially unsafe levels. The systems that performed best generally had fewer errors, required less time on task and were relatively easy to use.

"The massive increase in voice activated technologies in cars and phones represents a growing safety problem for drivers," said AAA President and CEO, Marshall Downey. "We are concerned that these new systems may



invite driver distraction, even as overwhelming scientific evidence concludes that hands-free is not risk free."

AAA is calling on technology developers to design systems that are "no more demanding than listening to the radio or audio book." In the meantime, consumers should "use caution when interacting with these technologies while behind the wheel." *Fact sheets describing the research and key findings are at*

www.aaafoundation.org/research/completed-projects

The IMPAIRED DRIVING Holiday Traffic Enforcement Mobilization begins statewide on December 13, 2015 and runs through January 3, 2016. If you have any questions regarding the mobilization please contact Impaired Driving Coordinator Mary Burke 208-334-8125 or mary.burke@itd.idaho.gov.



2010 - 2014

Impaired Crash Summary

Summary

Special points of interest:

- 42% of all fatal crashes
- 17% of all serious injury crashes
- 372 Fatal Crashes
- 409 People Killed
- 909 Serious Injury Crashes
- 1,262 People Seriously Injured
- 70% Killed were unbelted (passenger vehicles only ages 7 and older)

At the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) our Strategic Plan is "Your Safety, Your Mobility, Your Economic Opportunity."

ITD is committed to providing the safest transportation system possible. Each year progress is made to eliminate death and serious injuries on Idaho's highways.

The goal, "Toward Zero Deaths", is the foundation upon which we work.

The crash data summarized is a 5-year average, 2010 through 2014. The source of the crash information is the ITD statewide crash database which consists of crash reports completed by all law enforcement agencies in Idaho.

Driving under the influence (DUI) is the act of driving or being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle, with blood levels of alcohol in excess of a legal limit. "Actual physical control" is defined as being in the driver's position of the motor vehicle with the motor running or with the motor vehicle moving. **DUI** is a criminal offence. In Idaho, Impaired Driving is covered under *Idaho Code 18-8004-- PERSONS UNDER*

THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, DRUGS OR ANY OTHER INTOXICATING SUBSTANCES.

The top 10 counties represent 63% of the fatal and serious injury crashes occurring in Idaho over the last five years (table 1). The table shows the percent of crashes in the county compared to the percent of licensed drivers in a county.

Table 2 shows the involvement by gender and age. Involvement is determined by dividing the percentage of the drivers involved in crashes by the percentage of licensed drivers. The expected involvement is 1. A value greater than 1 indicates that the group is over involved in crashes.

Males represent 50% of all licensed drivers but make up 76% of the drivers involved in fatal and serious injury crashes.

Eighty-three percent of drivers were licensed in Idaho, 15% were from other states and the remaining drivers were unlicensed. There was only one driver from another country involved in an impaired crash.



Top Ten Counties

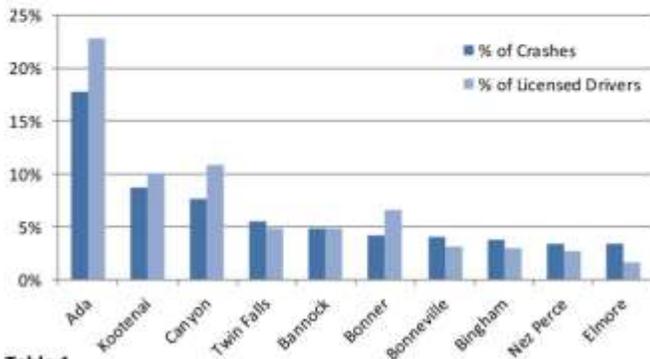


Table 1

Age of Drivers

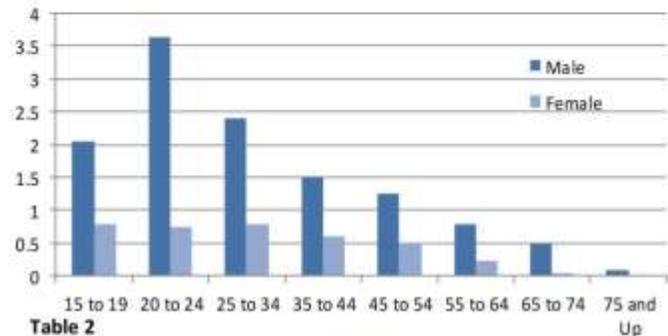
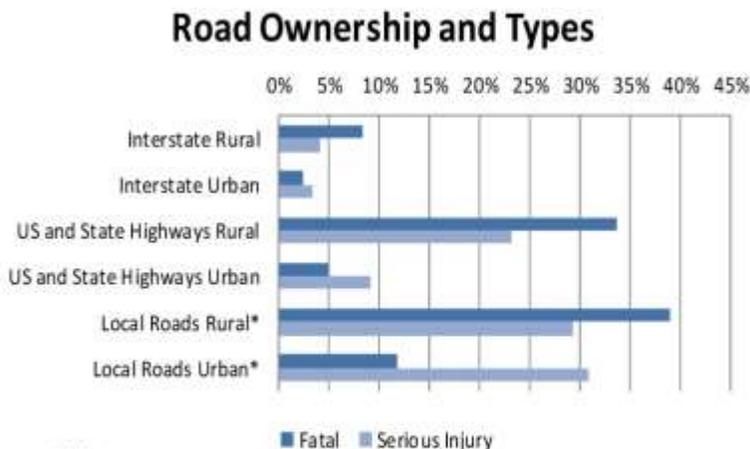
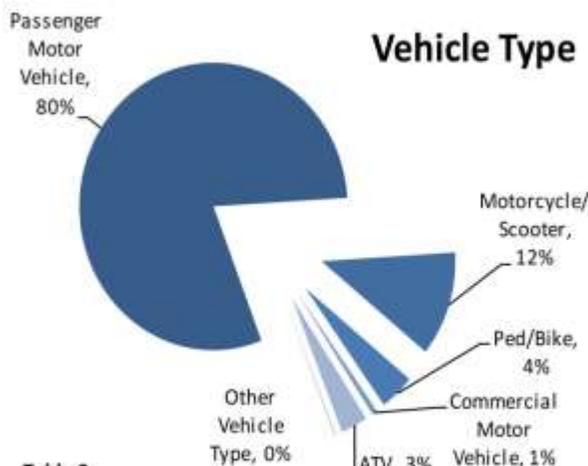


Table 2

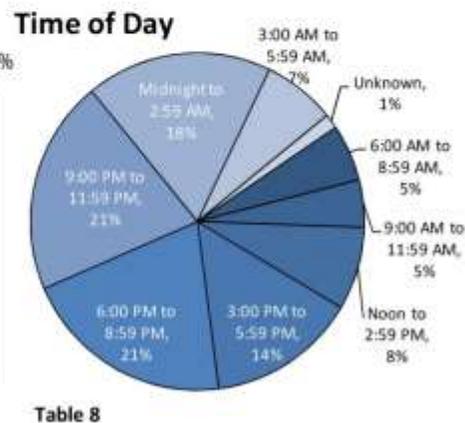
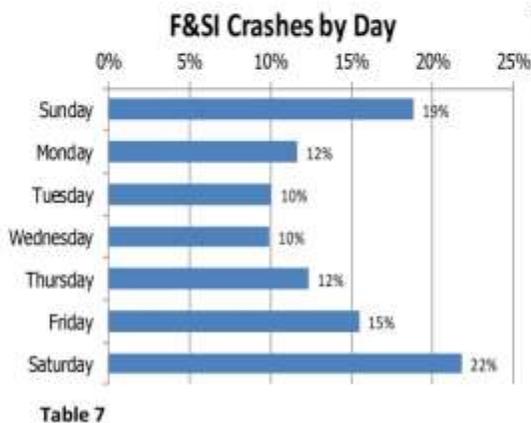
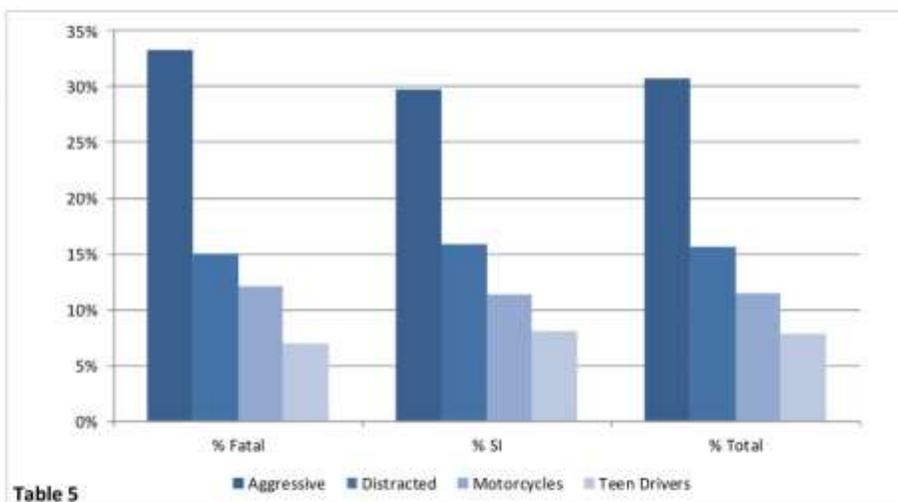
For more information about the Impaired Driving Program contact Mary Burke , 208.334.8125,

Mary.Burke@itd.idaho.gov



*Roads not maintained by the Idaho Transportation Department

This graph represents some of the other contributing factors in fatal and serious impaired driving crashes.



For more information about the Impaired Driving Program contact Mary Burke, 208.334.8125, Mary.Burke@itd.idaho.gov

The Seven Deadly Sins of Impaired Driving Cases

December 2, 2015, Idaho TSRP Jared Olsen - view the webinar on the NLELP website at: <http://www.nlelp.org/nlelp-webinar-the-7-deadly-sins-of-impaired-driving-cases/>. Jared provided a lot to think about coupled with some good take-a-ways, specifically, the 7 deadly sins and many tips for gathering evidence, testifying, and prosecuting impaired driving cases, and several handouts which may be downloaded from the website. Please feel free to share the link with your partners. You may also want to view a video recommended by Jared and provided by the Texas District and County Attorneys Association titled, Effective Roadside Investigation through Conversation at the Window - <http://www.tdcaa.com/video/effective-roadside-investigation-through-conversation>. The video provides instruction for building the case for a successful prosecution.

2015/2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

To add an event to the calendar, contact lisa.losness@itd.idaho.gov

| Date | Event Description, Location |
|--------------------|---|
| Dec 18 – Jan 3 | Impaired Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization |
| March 12-20 | Impaired Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization |
| March 14-15 | Highway Safety Summit – SAVE the DATE - Coeur d’Alene, Idaho |
| April 1-11 | Distracted Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization` |
| May 16-30 | Seat Belt Traffic Enforcement Mobilization |
| June 24 – July 6 | Impaired Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization |
| Aug 26 – Sept 5 | Impaired Driving Traffic Enforcement Mobilization |

[Click to view or register for Upcoming Alive at 25 courses in Idaho](#)



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

Idaho Office of Highway Safety Facebook page: www.facebook.com/IDOHS

[OHS](#), Office of Highway Safety

[ITD](#), Idaho Transportation Department

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

[FHWA](#), Federal Highway Administration

