



Quick Notes

From the Idaho Office of Highway Safety November 26, 2013

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 2013 = 189

Hi Highway Safety Partners:

Surfs Up and no it does not involve your surf board or the ocean.

A recent survey conducted by State Farm indicates the number of Americans who are surfing the web behind the wheel has doubled in the past five years. Nearly one in four or 24 percent of drivers are reading or responding to email, and checking social media sites. That's up from 13 percent in 2009. Among drivers 18 to 29 years of age, the number rose from 29 to 49 percent.

While most state laws addressing distracted driving focus on texting, the rapid growth in the use of smart phones, particularly by drivers 40 and older, points to the need to ramp up efforts to educate this segment of the population about distracted driving. Simply put, the latest survey findings confirm that distracted driving isn't a "youthful problem." For drivers ages 40 to 49, the percentage owning smart phones rose from 47 percent in 2011 to 82 percent in 2013. For those 50 to 64 years of age, ownership went from 44 to 64 percent and for those 65 and older, it increased from 23 to 39 percent. Despite the uptick in the number of motorists using their cell phones to access the Internet, texting behind the wheel rose slightly over the past five years from 31 to 35 percent of all drivers. Among 18 to 29 year olds, the number who report texting and driving fell from 71 to 69 percent. Campaigns focusing on the dangers of texting while driving may be contributing to the change.

The latest Governors Highway Safety Association distracted driving report released earlier this year found that 47 states and DC now have specific laws prohibiting the risky behavior of texting, and this includes Idaho. Of those states, 41 ban texting by drivers (that's up from 28 in 2010) while just eight address both texting and handheld cell phone use. No state has a total ban. States are also stepping up efforts to educate the public about the threat of distracted driving. Currently, 47 states and DC, up from 37 states in 2010, have developed campaign messaging unique to their jurisdiction. Many are also using social media, including Twitter, YouTube and Facebook to get the message out to the motoring public. States use of these outreach channels has jumped 125 percent in the past three years.

For an overview of state distracted driving tactics, download the 2013 Distracted Driving: Survey of States at http://www.ghsa.org/html/publications/pdf/survey/2013_%20distraction.pdf. The State Farm survey results are at <http://www.multivu.com/assets/56801/documents/56801-Distracted-Drivers-Final-2013-11-original.pdf>

Distracted driving is a growing issue for highway safety and our environment of instant communication compounds the problem. Making the daily commitment of *"I choose not to surf the web and drive"* will go far in helping Idaho achieve the ultimate goal of *Towards Zero Deaths*.

Brent Jennings, PE
Highway Safety Manager
brent.jennings@itd.idaho.gov

Police Vehicle Evaluation



The Michigan State Police recently carried out its annual vehicle evaluation at the Chrysler proving grounds. The purpose of this exercise is to provide the law enforcement community with the most objective raw data that will assist them in making purchasing decisions for their agencies. The testing programs cover seven events: Top Speed, Acceleration, Braking, Vehicle Dynamics, Ergonomics, Communications, and Fuel Economy. Click the link to get the results.

<http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123--16274--00.html>

The Federal Highway Safety Administration Pedestrian Forum Newsletter

Included in this edition of the newsletter: http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/pedforum/2013/fall/fall2013.pdf

- New! A Guide for Maintaining Pedestrian Facilities for Enhanced Safety
- Update on FHWA's Pedestrian Safety Focus Cities Effort
- Everyone is a Pedestrian
- FHWA Personnel Change
- New! From FHWA and NHTSA

2012 Motor Vehicle Crashes: Overview – Traffic Safety Facts Research Note

US Department of Transportation (DOT) National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)
DOT HS 811 856

Motor vehicle crashes and fatalities increased in 2012 after six consecutive years of declining fatalities on our nation's highways. The nation lost 33,561 people in crashes on roadways during 2012, compared to 32,479 in 2011. The increase in crashes, and the resulting fatalities and injuries, can be seen across many crash characteristics – vehicle type, alcohol impairment, location of crash, etc. – and does not seem to be associated with some traditional risk factors, fell in 2012. For example, young drivers involved in fatal crashes continued to decline, as they have since 2005. Despite the general downward trend in overall fatalities in recent years, pedestrian and motorcycle fatalities have shown an upward trend. This was again the case in 2012, as motorcycle and pedestrian fatalities increased by 7 and 6 percent, respectively. For the complete research note click <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811856.pdf>

Summary of Vehicle Occupant Protection and Motorcycle Laws

DOT HS 811 768 November 2013

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is responsible for reducing motor vehicle-related fatalities and injuries on our Nation's highways. Research has shown that effective State and local traffic safety laws play an important role in helping to reduce motor vehicle crashes.

This publication provides summary charts of the key provisions of State occupant protection laws and motorcycle laws, and detailed lists of these laws in every State. Such laws include requiring the use of (1) seat belts, (2) child passenger restraint devices, and (3) motorcycle or bicycle helmets. Also included are laws concerning age restrictions for motorcycle passengers and laws that prohibit riding in the bed of a pickup truck. Except as noted, the status of the State laws reported is as of April 1, 2012. <http://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/pdf/811768.pdf>

Tips for Hosting a Responsible Party this Holiday Season

Many of us will be hosting and/or attending parties during this holiday season. With that in mind, below are some reminders that will assist you in having a safe and enjoyable party:



1. Control access to the alcohol you provide.
 - a. Avoid serving from common sources such as kegs or punch bowls.
 - b. Consider hiring a trained professional to serve drinks at your party
 - c. Be sure that whoever does pour the drinks is not consuming alcohol and monitors other guests' consumption.
2. Offer soft drinks, fruit juices, bottled water and coffee so that your guests have an alternative to alcohol.
3. Allow guests to have only one drink at a time. Discourage rapid or competitive drinking.
4. Provide plenty of appetizers, snacks and other food.
5. Plan entertainment and other activities so that drinking alcohol is not the primary focus of the party.
6. Request identification from anyone who appears 30 years of age or younger. Guests who cannot present a valid form of ID should not be given any alcohol.
7. Model appropriate behavior for your guests and be sure to communicate that becoming intoxicated is unacceptable.
8. Stop serving alcohol beverages at least one hour before the party ends. Encourage guests to stay for a while and enjoy a soda or coffee.
9. Make sure anyone who is visibly intoxicated does not receive any more alcohol and is not left alone. Even if the guest is not driving. An impaired guest can be injured or injure others in many ways, not just in a car.
10. When necessary, provide alternate transportations for impaired guests. Either call a cab, or enlist the help of sober friends to take the impaired guest home. **HAVE A PLAN.**

TEEN DRIVING SUCCESS DEPENDS ON PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

AAA studies show parents who spend the right kind of time with teens get better results

BOISE (October 22, 2013)— Practice, practice, practice is not the only message parents of new teen drivers need to hammer home, according to a series of research studies from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

AAA Foundation studies show that parents can be more effective coaches by devoting quality time with their young drivers. A new driver education tool for parents—AAA's *StartSmart Online Parent Session*—builds on the notion that good practice can be made better by requiring more participation by parents. Ample practice is more likely to help teens to be safer drivers.



For instance, one Foundation study that surveyed parents and teens during the process of learning to drive found:

- Nearly half of parents acknowledged they want their teens to get “a lot of practice,” yet only about one in four mentioned practicing under a variety of situations or conditions including bad weather, heavy traffic, or unfamiliar roads.
- Nearly half of parents (47 percent) expressed concerns with allowing their teens to operate a motor vehicle unsupervised, even after the teens successfully passed their driving test and got their license to drive independently.
- Few parents in the study were observed sharing more complex driving tips—such as visual scanning or anticipating other driver’s behaviors—with their teen drivers.

“Parents’ should make sure that their teens get ample driving practice, which goes beyond routine trips on familiar roads,” said J. Peter Kissinger, President and CEO of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. “If they do, teens will be more likely to have the skills and mindset needed to be safer drivers.”

The two-hour *StartSmart Online Parent Session* uses interactive elements and demonstrations, covering everything a parent needs to know. That includes a discussion about the situations and challenges parents will encounter. The program is offered at a 50 percent discount (\$9.95) in support of Teen Driver Safety Week, October 20-26.

The *StartSmart Online Parent Session* is being launched in conjunction with AAA’s new *How to Drive Online* novice driver program. While parent supervision requirements vary by state, the program is available nationwide and can be found [here](http://TeenDriving.AAA.com) at TeenDriving.AAA.com.

AAA has been a leader in driver education for nearly eight decades, offering a range of tools, including parent-teen driving agreements, licensing information and a free web-based parent support e-newsletter created in partnership with the National Institutes of Health.

To encourage parents to share their wisdom with younger drivers, AAA is launching a national contest soliciting the best driving advice that parents wish to impart on teen drivers, along with a chance to challenge their own driving smarts by taking the “Are You Smarter Than Your Teen Driver?” quiz. Parents can submit entries at Contest.TeenDriving.AAA.com from October 21 through December 11 and will be eligible to win prizes including an iPad® mini and VISA® gift cards.

Boise police to parents: Educate yourself now about drugs

If you don't talk to your kids, the streets will do it for you, police say.

Idaho Statesman By Cynthia Sewell, November 20, 2013

The following is a link to an article and video from the Idaho Statesman published November 20, 2013. Boise Police Department Officer Jermaine Galloway talk about some of the things parents should look for in their kid's bedroom concerning drugs and drug paraphernalia. <http://www.idahostatesman.com/2013/11/20/2883262/drugs-101-for-parents.html>

Community Choices for Idaho- Funding for Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety

Infrastructure Improvements

The Idaho Transportation Department – Division of Transportation Performance has released the 2014 Community Choices for Idaho Pre-application for the funding period October 1, 2014 through September 31, 2015. Pre-applications must be submitted electronically, through Idaho's Transportation I-TRIPS system. <http://i-way.org/announcements/community-choices-for-idaho-2014-funding-pre-application-now-available-on-i-trips>

Aggressive Driving

Guest opinion: Post Register (Idaho Falls)

Author: Jason Joyner November 20, 2013

IDAHO FALLS - The morning fog created a ghostly atmosphere, with light swallowed up by the fine mist. Visibility dropped, and the caravan slowed. Except for that guy.

On a recent commute to the desert, our car slowed to accommodate the hazardous driving conditions. Of course, that guy pulled up right behind us. Forget leaving room in case of a sudden event. He was glued to my bumper.

The fog cleared and he zoomed by. The funny thing was that when our vehicle hit the junction of highways 26 and 20, we pulled right up behind the race car driver.

Welcome to the INL 500.

The commute to the site is a drag at times, especially when you're sleep deprived from waking early in the morning to get there, or worn out from long days at work. Now that we're heading for winter conditions, the drive has the potential to be pretty harrowing. Idaho weather is notorious and there's enough open space across the sagebrush for blowing and drifting snow, hidden patches of ice and the occasional deer in the road. Last week we had to dodge a rogue herd of pigs.

Now you add the driver who is too aggressive. He runs up behind a car, tailgates and cuts into the passing lane with zig-zag maneuvers along the string of vehicles winding their way to the same destination.

Look, we all want to get to work. Even more, we want to go home at night. We all want to see our family and friends and enjoy the spoils of working hard. But when you drive like that one guy, you're putting all of us at risk.

What if another vehicle starts to slide? What about that deer in the headlights? The aggressive driving seen on the highways leaves little room for error. All it takes is one domino to fall to create the potential for a lot of people getting hurt -- or worse.

I wonder if aggressive driving is a symptom of our selfishness. If you really need to get there early, then leave early. If you're running late, what happened on the front end to cause the delay? Did a true emergency happen, or did you try to maximize your beauty sleep and leave no margin for the unexpected?

If we keep in mind that our actions have consequences beyond ourselves, will we change our behavior? None of the drivers on the road want to have an accident. We all want the same thing, to arrive at our destination safely and ready for whatever purpose took us there.

Please keep that in mind the next time you want to burn by another car in dangerous conditions.

Don't be that guy.

Joyner works as a physician assistant and lives in Blackfoot.

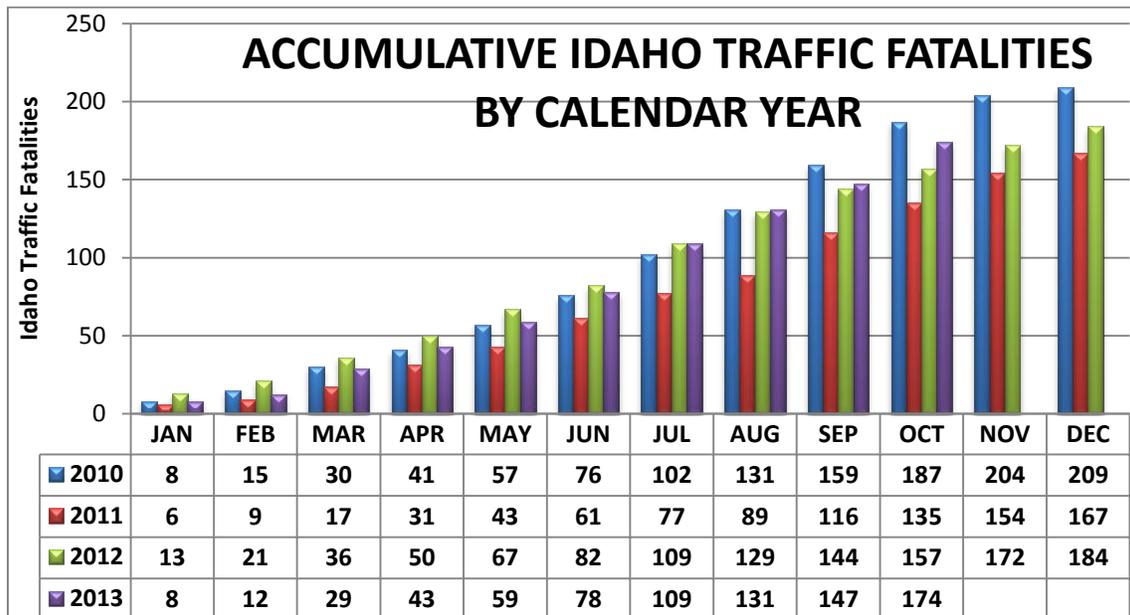
<http://apps.itd.idaho.gov/Apps/MediaManagerMVC/NewsClipping.aspx/Preview/74122>

**IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
Fatalities By the Month***

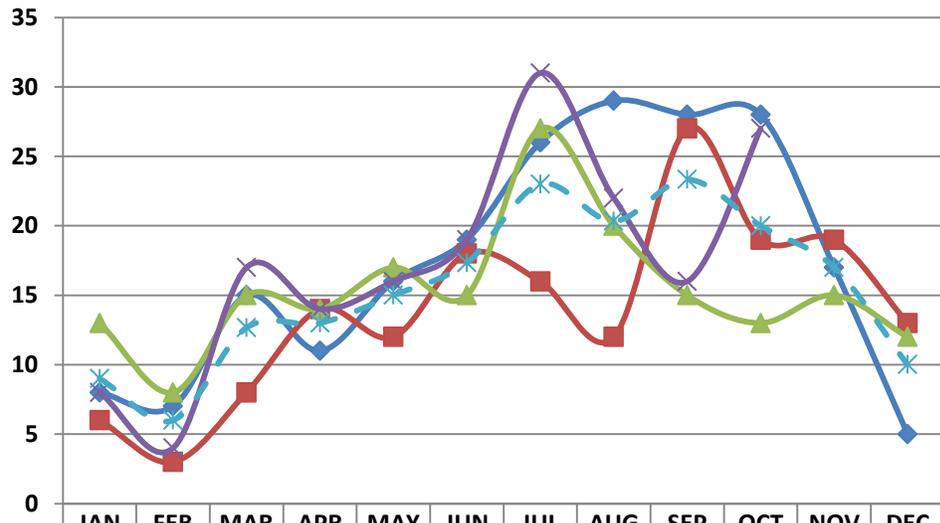
OCTOBER 2013

MONTH						CUMULATIVE TOTALS			
	Actual	Actual	Actual	10,11,12	Actual	Cumulative (09,10,11,12)			
	2010	2011	2012	AVERAGE	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
JAN	8	6	13	9	8	8	6	13	8
FEB	7	3	8	6	4	15	9	21	12
MAR	15	8	15	13	17	30	17	36	29
APR	11	14	14	13	14	41	31	50	43
MAY	16	12	17	15	16	57	43	67	59
JUN	19	18	15	17	19	76	61	82	78
JUL	26	16	27	23	31	102	77	109	109
AUG	29	12	20	20	22	131	89	129	131
SEP	28	27	15	23	16	159	116	144	147
OCT	28	19	13	20	27	187	135	157	174
NOV	17	19	15	17		204	154	172	
DEC	5	13	12	10		209	167	184	
YEAR TO DATE	209	167	184	187	174				

*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.**



IDAHO MONTHLY TRAFFIC FATALITIES



	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2010	8	7	15	11	16	19	26	29	28	28	17	5
2011	6	3	8	14	12	18	16	12	27	19	19	13
2012	13	8	15	14	17	15	27	20	15	13	15	12
2013	8	4	17	14	16	19	31	22	16	27		
10,11,12	9	6	13	13	15	17	23	20	23	20	17	10

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
2013	
Dec 2	Alive at 25, Meridian Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 2	Alive at 25, Moscow Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 4	Alive at 25, Kootenai County Fire Station #2 www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 6	Alive at 25, Nampa Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 7	Alive at 25, Cassia County Sheriff's Office www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 7	Alive at 25, Nampa Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 9	Alive at 25, Boise Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 10	Alive at 25, Snake River Youth Center. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 11	Alive at 25, Orofino High School. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 14	Alive at 25, Kootenai County Fire Station #2 www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 14	Alive at 25, Meridian Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 14	Alive at 25, Elmore County Sheriff/Marina Bldg. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 16	Alive at 25, Meridian Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 16	Alive at 25, Kootenai County Fire Station #2 www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 16	Alive at 25, Boise Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 17	Alive at 25, Kootenai County Fire Station #2 www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 18	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 19	Alive at 25, Caldwell Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 20	Alive at 25, Nampa Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 20 – Jan 3	IMPAIRED DRIVING MOBILIZATION
Dec 21	Alive at 25, Blackfoot City Hall www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 21	Alive at 25, Gem County Emergency Services www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 30	Alive at 25, Meridian Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Dec 30	Alive at 25, Boise Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
2014	
Jan 18	Alive at 25, Elmore County Sheriff/Marina Bldg. www.idsafedriver.org
Jan 23	Alive at 25, Caldwell Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
Feb 21	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Substation www.idsafedriver.org
Feb 27	Alive at 25, Caldwell Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
March 15-22	IMPAIRED DRIVING MOBILIZATION
Mar 27	Alive at 25, Caldwell Police Dept. www.idsafedriver.org
April 11-28	AGGRESSIVE DRIVING/SEAT BELT MOBILIZATION
April 14-15, 2014	Idaho Highway Safety Summit – Boise ID
Apr 19	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Substation www.idsafedriver.org
May 1-15	IMPAIRED/AGGRESSIVE DRIVING MOBILIZATION
Jun 20	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Substation www.idsafedriver.org
Sep 20	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Substation www.idsafedriver.org
Nov 21	Alive at 25, Pocatello Police Substation www.idsafedriver.org

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
- [2012 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://itd.idaho.gov/ohs/Aggressive.htm	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Aggressive
Motorcycles	www.idahostar.org	http://www.nhtsa.gov/Safety/Motorcycles
Senior/Mature Drivers		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