A SNAPSHOT OF FATAL IMPAIRED DRIVING CRASHES IN TEXAS

What is an impaired driving crash?
An impaired driving crash is a crash where the driver has a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) result of greater than 0.00 g/dL, or had a positive alcohol test, or had a positive drug test, or had a contributing factor of had been drinking, under the influence — alcohol, under the influence — drugs, or taking medication flagged on a crash report.

What is a fatal impaired driving crash?
A crash involving an impaired driver where at least one person has been killed. The person killed may have been an impaired or unimpaired driver, or a passenger of any vehicle involved, or a road user such as a pedestrian or bicyclist.

NUMBER OF FATAL IMPAIRED DRIVING CRASHES IN TEXAS, 2010 – 2018

From 2010 – 2018, there have been 10,795 fatal impaired driving crashes in Texas. Compared to 2017, there were 9.5% fewer fatal impaired driving crashes in 2018.

Of the 3,308 fatal motor vehicle crashes in 2018 35% were impaired driving crashes.

More than 1 in 3 fatal crashes in Texas was an impaired driving crash in 2018.

AVERAGE BAC OF AN IMPAIRED DRIVER IN A FATAL CRASH

The average BAC of an impaired driver in a fatal crash in 2018 was 0.165 g/dL, which is twice the legal limit of 0.08 g/dL.

In general, the average BAC of an impaired driver in a fatal crash appears to be decreasing from 2010 – 2018.

TOP FIVE COUNTIES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF FATAL IMPAIRED DRIVING CRASHES, 2018

Referenced data originates from the Texas Department of Transportation Crash Records Information System, and was pulled on September 3, 2019.
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**How are fatal impaired driving crashes occurring in Texas?**
- 57% are single motor vehicle crashes
- More fatal impaired driving crashes occurred on Sunday than any day of the week
- More fatal impaired driving crashes occurred from 2:00-2:59 a.m. than any other hour of the day

**Characteristics of impaired drivers in fatal crashes in 2018**
- 37 average age
- 81% male
- 44% of fatal impaired drivers were unrestrained

**Comparison of fatal alcohol-only crashes and fatal drug-only crashes**
- Drug-impaired driving crashes have been gaining a lot of attention in Texas and nationwide, but alcohol-only crashes continue to account for the majority of fatal impaired driving crashes in Texas.

**Unlicensed impaired drivers in fatal impaired driving crashes in Texas, 2010 – 2018**
- 18% of fatal impaired crashes had an unlicensed impaired driver in 2018

**Drugs (other than alcohol) present in impaired drivers with BAC > 0.00 G/DL in fatal impaired driving crashes, 2010 – 2018**
- CANNABIS
- MULTIPLE DRUGS
- CNS STIMULANTS
- CNS DEPRESSANTS
- OTHER DRUGS
- NARCOTIC ANALGESICS
- UNKNOWN
- HALLUCINOGENS
- DISSOCIATIVE ANESTHETICS
- INHALANTS

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