News from NHTSA

In July, NHTSA released early estimates of traffic fatalities for the first quarter of 2022. Unfortunately, an estimated 9,560 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes during that timeframe, an increase of about 7 percent over the same period last year.

To get the word out about this public health emergency and the risky driving behaviors that directly contribute to fatal crashes on our roadways, NHTSA launched a new campaign, Speeding Wrecks Lives. Additionally, from August through Labor Day, the annual Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Labor Day enforcement campaign ran across the country. These public awareness campaigns, combined with longer-term efforts such as the National Roadway Safety Strategy, and collaboration between traditional and non-traditional partners, are critically important to saving lives.

Leadership Changes

NHTSA Administrator Steven Cliff has left NHTSA to become the Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board (CARB). NHTSA's Chief Counsel, Ann Carlson, will be the Acting Administrator until further notice. NHTSA is excited to welcome Sophie Shulman, currently DOT's Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, as she takes on the role of Deputy Administrator. Barb Sauers, formerly the Director of the Office of Grants Management and Operations, is now the Associate Administrator of Regional Operations and Program Delivery. She has been acting in that role since 2021.
Impaired Driving Update

Partner Updates

Vision Zero for Youth Leadership Award

Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Vision Zero for Youth Leadership Award. Any city, county or local tribal government that is working to advance child and youth pedestrian and bicycle safety is encouraged to apply by October 21, 2022. The winner will be announced in Spring 2023.

Places all over the country have taken concrete steps to make their communities safer for children. This call for nominations is an opportunity to learn about those places in the United States that are leading the way in prioritizing pedestrian and bicyclist safety for children and youth where the risk is greatest. Now in its sixth year, the Vision Zero for Youth Leadership Award is given annually by the National Center for Safe Routes to School, in partnership with the FIA Foundation and the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center. Learn more at www.visionzeroforyouth.org/awards/us.

ARIDE eLearning Course Now Available

The Department of Justice’s Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office and NHTSA recently announced the launch of an Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) Refresher eLearning course, aimed at improving traffic safety and reducing injury and death related to impaired driving. The free course can be found on the COPS Training Portal (www.copstrainingportal.org).

The ARIDE Refresher course was developed for law enforcement officers who have attended the 16 hour in person ARIDE course. It is designed to provide the officers with key concepts taught in the full two-day training through an interactive web-based format. This course alleviates the need for officers to repeat the full course, leaving those seats open for officers who have not yet attended. It also can satisfy some state requirements for working grant overtime. All courses are free, and can be taken at the officer’s own pace. More eLearning courses will be developed through the partnership between NHTSA and the COPS Office in the years ahead.
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NCSL’s Safer Streets, Safer States Meeting

Ahead of the National Conference of State Legislatures’ annual conference in August, NCSL’s transportation staff held a special session on transportation issues for legislators, staff, and traffic safety professionals. Topics discussed during the meeting included poly-substance impaired driving, railroad crossing safety, interventions to combat speeding, and pedestrian and bicyclist safety initiatives. Speakers included safety experts, legislators, and NHTSA staff (pictured). The meeting agenda, speaker list, and select presentations are available on NCSL’s website.

Road to Zero Webinar

On September 28th, join the Road to Zero Coalition for Signs of Progress in Traffic Safety. This webinar will explore some of the wins being seen by communities and what can be learned to inspire similar change elsewhere. Speakers will share their experiences on overcoming challenges and creating shifts, providing examples and resources for others who wish to do the same. Speakers will include representatives from NACTO, Transportation Alternatives, and Washington Area Bicyclist Association.

Register for this webinar, see a recording of past webinars, and find more information about future events on the National Safety Council’s Road to Zero events page.
Impaired Driving Update

Partner Updates

Cannabis and Driving Fact Sheets

The International Council on Alcohol, Drugs & Traffic Safety (ICADTS) recently released a fact sheet series on cannabis and driving. The series covers recent epidemiological evidence, recent experimental evidence, impaired driving detection, policy and legislative issues, and medicinal cannabis and novel psychoactive substances. The series can be found at icadtsinternational.com/Fact-Sheets.

ABA Webinar: Impaired Driving in a Shifting Landscape

The American Bar Association’s Judicial Division will be holding a webinar to help attendees understand how the Supreme Court views Native sovereignty through the lens of impaired driving cases decided during the past three terms. Join Judge J. Matthew Martin, Judge Mary Jane Knisely, Professor Lauren Van Schilfgaarde (Cochiti Pueblo), and Sara Elizabeth Hill (Cherokee Nation) at 1pm ET/12pm CT/10am PT on September 21st for Impaired Driving in a Shifting Landscape: New Realities in Indian Country After McGirt, Cooley, and Castro-Huerta by registering on the ABA’s website.

Directions, a Newsletter from the National Judicial College

The most recent issue of Directions is now available! Subscribe to have Directions, the newsletter of the Judicial Resource Center on Drug-Impaired Driving from the National Judicial College, delivered directly to your inbox. Past issues can be found here.

Highway to Justice, an ABA Newsletter

The Summer 2022 edition of Highway to Justice, featuring an article on navigating medical marijuana laws by Judge Mary Katherine Huffman of Ohio, is available!
The next installment of Traffic Tuesdays, the National TSRP Webinar Series, will take place on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 2:00 pm ET. “Mellanby Effect: A LEO's Perspective on Homeostasis & Burn Off,” will be presented by Detective Tom Heller of the Seattle Police Department. Click here to register. All registrants will receive a link to the recording after the webinar, including those who cannot attend live.

NHTSA has funds available to provide financial support to States and local agencies for the implementation or strengthening of law enforcement phlebotomy programs and to document the process involved in establishing such programs. To learn more about eligibility or apply for these funds, interested entities should contact Linda Fisher at Linda.Fisher@dot.gov.

Between the Lines, a publication of the National Traffic Law Center, provides information for prosecutors who are instrumental in the prevention of impaired driving and recidivism. Click here for the latest issue or to subscribe.
Impaired Driving Update

Technical Assistance and Funding

Funding to Combat Drug-Impaired Driving

NHTSA has made funding available to a limited number of agencies and organizations to assist with overcoming the challenges identified during the completion of the Drug-Impaired Driving Criminal Justice Evaluation Tool (or DUID tool). A webinar was held on June 1st to explain the details of this program; a recording is available. For additional assistance, please contact DUIDTool@toxcel.com.

Impaired Driving Technical Assistance

NHTSA provides technical assistance to States and other entities to improve their impaired driving program. NHTSA has a cooperative agreement with the Traffic Injury Research Foundation (TIRF; www.tirf.ca) to provide technical assistance to enhance the implementation and delivery of impaired driving countermeasures. The goals are to help States identify strengths and gaps in their DWI system; track progress; develop solutions that are evidence-based, practical and tailored to the state's context; develop an operational plan to achieve improvements; and clarify the roles and responsibilities of agencies to strengthen the delivery of countermeasures.

E-Warrant Systems

Funding is available for selected agencies/organizations to assist with implementing new expedited search warrant (e-warrant) programs or enhancing existing e-warrant programs. This funding opportunity can only be used to support e-warrant programs that facilitate obtaining a search warrant to collect chemical evidence (i.e., blood or urine) from suspected impaired drivers. Any organization interested in developing and implementing an e-warrant program or addressing challenges and enhancing an e-warrant program can apply. For more information or to apply, contact Jennifer.Symoun@toxcel.com.
Impaired Driving Update

Campaigns

NHTSA's targeted awareness campaigns give the traffic safety community the chance to emphasize one message in a unified way across the country during a specific period of time. Each campaign has associated materials that can be found at TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov or at the specific links below.

By raising public awareness through paid, earned, and social media, and maximizing your local resources, you can make a difference. Looking to plan ahead? Yearly Communications and Events calendars can be found here. You can also sign up to receive email alerts about new campaign materials here.

Want to know more about the marketing tools NHTSA has available? Information on advertising, branding, types of media, and research on past campaigns can be found here.

Upcoming Campaigns

Fall is a time for gatherings, holidays, and more time on the road to visit family and spend time with friends, but it also means there are fewer hours of daylight and added stresses.

NHTSA will be highlighting the following campaigns in the months ahead:

- **October 16-22**: National Teen Driver Safety Week
- October 31: Halloween Impaired Driving Prevention
- November 23: Blackout Wednesday Impaired Driving Campaign
- November 23-27: Thanksgiving Weekend Safety Campaign
- November 28-December 13: Pre-Holiday Season Impaired and Drug-Impaired Driving Campaigns
Impaired Driving Update

Back to School: Substance Use and Misuse Prevention for Teens and Parents

The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has put together resources to help parents and trusted adults talk with the young people in their lives about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The “Talk. They Hear You.” campaign provides fact sheets, encouragement, and tips for these important conversations.

Impaired driving prevention for teens and new teen drivers is highlighted on this helpful webpage and the graphic above.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) recently released new materials for colleges, college students, and their parents about the dangers of using drugs and impaired driving. A one-pager, What You Should Know About Impaired Driving Among College Students, can be found here.

Best wishes for a healthy, safe, and successful school year!
Impaired Driving Update

The 2023 Lifesavers Conference is only six months away! Keep an eye on LifesaversConference.org for updates on registration deadlines, workshop topics, auxiliary trainings, speakers, attendee information and logistics, and much more.

We’ll “sea” you in Seattle!

Contact Us
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