

Impaired Driving Crashes in Wisconsin

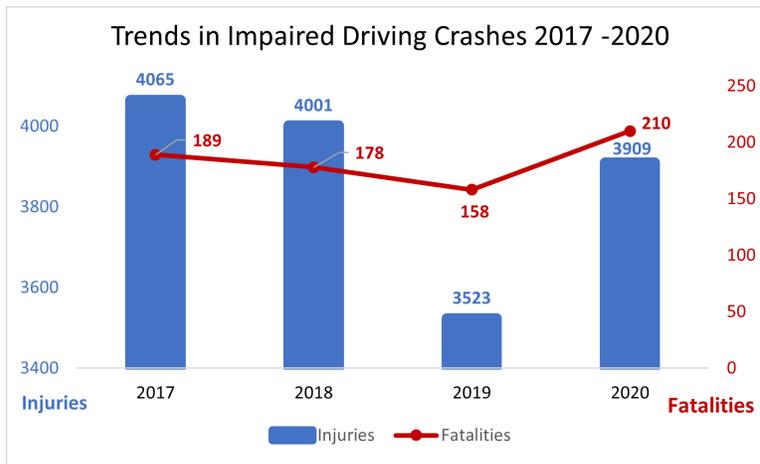


Did you know...

In Wisconsin, one person was injured or killed in an impaired driving crash every 2.1 hours in 2020.

- 7,742 impaired driving crashes occurred in Wisconsin in 2020.
- In these crashes, 210 people were killed and 3,909 people were injured.
- Impaired driving was listed as a contributing factor in 7% of all crashes and in 39% of all fatal crashes in 2020.

Impaired Driving Crash Trends



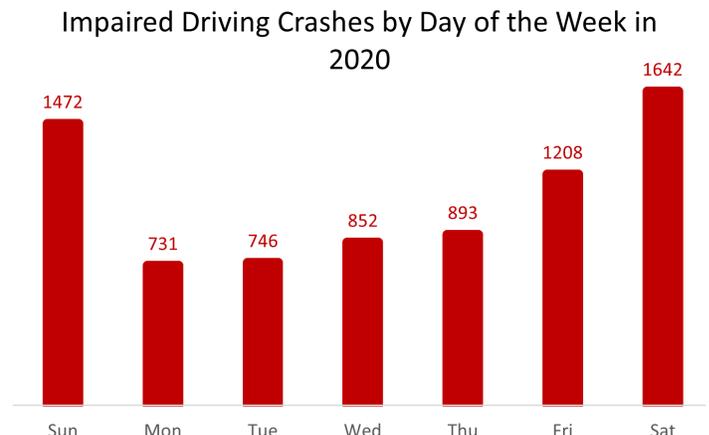
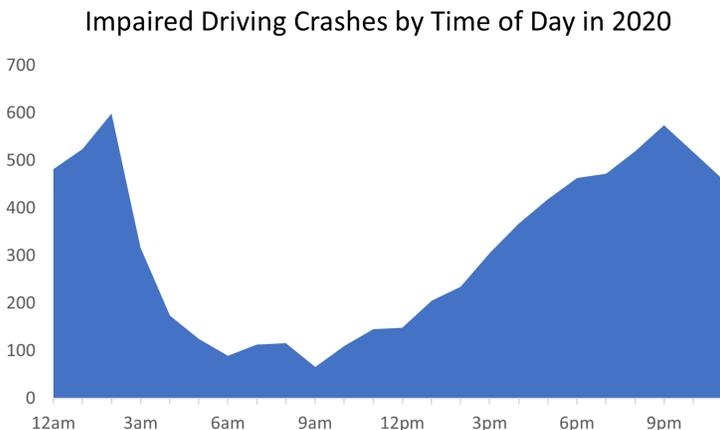
In 2017, impaired driving (OWI) began to include not only alcohol BAC, but also when a driver is found to be under the influence of an intoxicant, controlled substance, or any other drug that impairs their ability to safely operate a vehicle. Drivers can be flagged for suspected impaired driving, as well as subjected to further testing.

Impairment, whether from alcohol or any other type of drug, lessens one's ability to concentrate, make good judgements, and quickly react to situations. It takes roughly 30 minutes to two hours for alcohol to be absorbed into your bloodstream. Moreover, as with any intoxicant, cognitive skills may be delayed, so it is always dangerous to drive after drinking or drug use.

When do Impaired Driving Crashes Occur?

The majority of driver impaired crashes occur over the weekend with Saturday and Sunday accounting for nearly half of all crashes in 2020, particularly during late night and early morning hours.

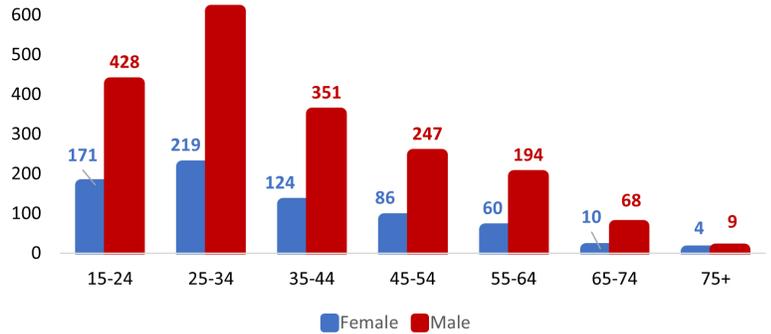
Over the day, impaired driving crashes steadily rise after 12 p.m. and peak from 2-3 a.m., after bars close and individuals are returning to their place of residence.



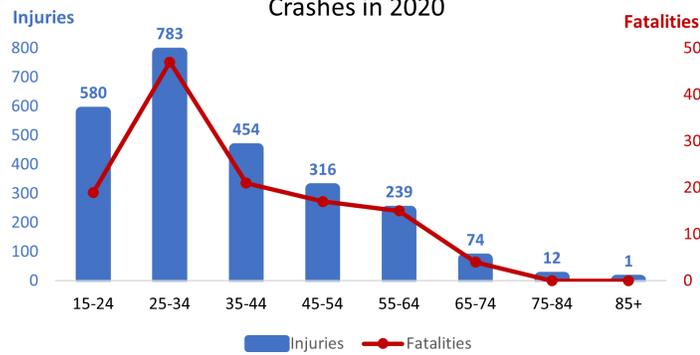
Who is at Risk for Impaired Driving Crashes?

Alcohol or drug consumption can put anyone at risk of causing a crash or other serious injury. However, some populations are more likely to get behind the wheel of a car while impaired. Male drivers account for 74% of drivers suspected of driving intoxicated in 2020.

Suspected Impaired Drivers in a Crash by Gender & Age in 2020



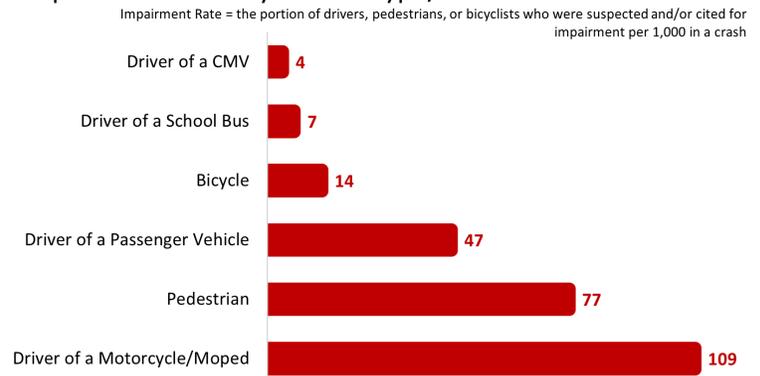
Injuries & Fatalities by Age in Impaired Driving Crashes in 2020



Drivers aged 15-34 accounted for over half of all drivers in impaired-related crashes in 2020. Looking at the age of persons involved in impaired driving crashes, fatalities and injuries generally follow the same pattern as drivers involved in the same type of crash: numbers rise steadily among younger drivers until they dramatically fall when people reach their mid-thirties.

All road users can be impacted by impairment. Impairment includes intoxication from drugs, controlled substances, and alcohol, all of which can increase one's likelihood of being in a crash. Impairment, per 1,000 crashes, actually causes the highest crash rates among drivers of motorcycles/mopeds, pedestrians, and then passenger vehicles.

Impairment Rates by Vehicle Type/Role in 2020



What Can You Do?

- Plan a safe ride home before you start the party.
- If someone you know has been drinking, don't let them get behind the wheel.
- If you drink, do not drive for any reason. Call a taxi, a ride-share service, or a sober friend.
- If you're hosting a party where alcohol will be served, make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.