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Fact Sheet

Title

2019 SafeTREC Traffic Safety Facts: Alcohol-Involved Driving

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TRAFFIC SAFETY FACTS

Alcohol-Involved Driving

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INTRODUCTION

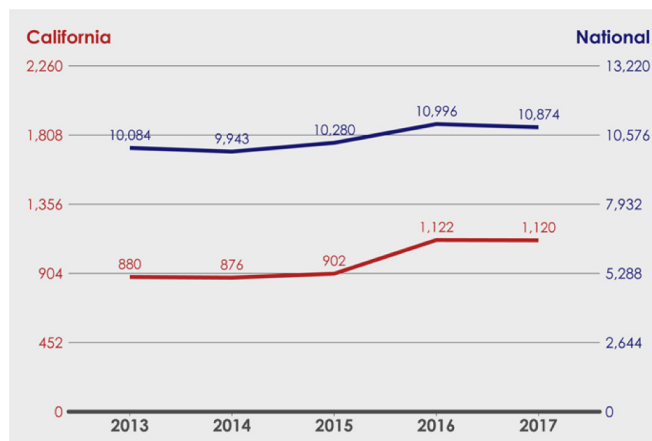
While alcohol-involved driving fatalities have fallen significantly in the last three decades, NHTSA reports that alcohol-involved driving still comprises a large percentage of traffic injuries and fatalities. On average in 2017, one person died from an alcohol-involved driving collision every 48 minutes. There was a decrease in the numbers of alcohol-involved driving fatalities in the United States between 2016 and 2017. The figures refer to drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians fatally killed or seriously injured in an alcohol-involved collision in California in 2017.

CALIFORNIA FACTS

CALIFORNIA DATA

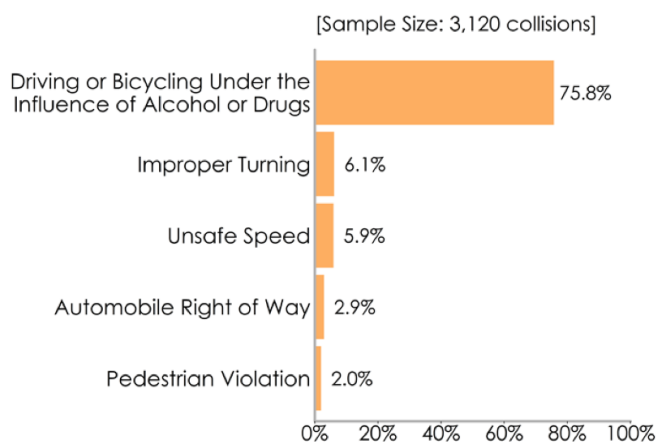
- There were 1,120 people killed in alcohol-impaired collisions in 2017, a 0.2 percent decrease from 1,122 in 2016, and a 27.3 percent increase from 880 in 2013.
- Of the 3,602 motor vehicle fatalities in 2017, 31.1 percent involved a driver with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of 0.08. This is slightly higher than the national average of 29.3 percent.
- California only reported BAC results for 28.9 percent of drivers involved in a fatal crash in 2017, which is lower than the national average of 40.7 percent. Testing rates were higher for drivers who died than drivers who survived, but testing rates in California for both groups were lower than the national average. Of drivers who died, 40.9 percent had known BAC test results compared to only 21.2 percent of drivers that survived.
- In 2018, Californians were asked about their top traffic safety concerns in the Traffic Safety Study sponsored by the Office of Traffic Safety. The fifth most frequently cited safety problem was “Drunk Driving,” which dropped to 6.5 percent of concerns expressed from 22.9 percent of concerns expressed in 2017.

Alcohol-Impaired Fatality Trends, Nationwide and California, 2013-2017



Source: FARS 2013-2016, FARS ARF 2017

Top Five Primary Collision Factors for Alcohol-Involved Driving Fatal and Serious Injury Collisions, 2017

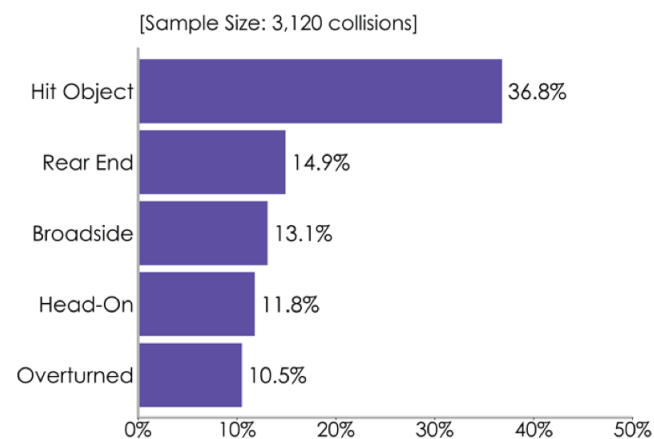


Source: Provisional SWITRS 2017

CALIFORNIA DATA (continued)

- Not all areas in California are equally affected by alcohol-involved driving. In 2017, eight counties reported 10 or fewer fatal and serious injuries from alcohol-involved driving. In contrast, eleven counties reported more than 100 fatal and serious injuries from alcohol-involved driving.
- The highest number of alcohol-involved fatal and serious injuries were concentrated in southern and central California, with the greatest number in Los Angeles County. The highest rate of alcohol-involved fatal and serious injuries *per population* were concentrated in the northern and more rural parts of California, with the highest rate in Alpine county, followed by Trinity and Plumas counties.
- Over half (59.6 percent) of alcohol-impaired fatalities occurred in urban areas compared to 40.3 percent on rural roads. However only about 15.9 percent of travel took place on rural roads in 2017.
- In 2017, there were 748 alcohol-impaired fatalities in passenger vehicles, 176 victims on motorcycles, and 185 as pedestrians and bicyclists. Passenger vehicles include passenger cars, vans, SUVs, light trucks, and pickup trucks. Most alcohol-impaired fatalities, 66.7 percent, were in passenger vehicles.
- Alcohol-involved fatal and serious injury victims were predominantly male adults (age 15 to 34), comprising 39.0 percent of all victims.

Top Five Crash Types of Alcohol-Involved Driving Fatal and Serious Injury Collisions, California, 2017



Source: Provisional SWITRS 2017

Time of Day and Day of Week for Alcohol-Involved Driving Fatal and Serious Injury Victims, California, 2017

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	TOTAL
Midnight-3AM	98	61	115	135	116	237	259	1,021 [25.2%]
3-6AM	39	25	62	62	42	101	132	463 [11.4%]
6-9AM	12	9	14	21	11	27	38	132 [3.3%]
9AM-Noon	21	15	11	18	11	22	11	109 [2.7%]
Noon-3PM	29	21	27	28	28	50	42	225 [5.6%]
3-6PM	55	47	42	68	85	73	86	456 [11.3%]
6-9PM	76	87	86	90	117	120	120	696 [17.2%]
9PM-Midnight	103	92	103	120	149	192	143	902 [22.3%]
Unknown	6	8	7	12	4	5	5	47 [1.2%]
TOTAL	439 [10.8%]	365 [9.0%]	467 [11.5%]	554 [13.7%]	563 [13.9%]	827 [20.4%]	836 [20.6%]	4,051 [100.0%]

FSI Num+% 4 - 13 14 - 29 30 - 69 70 - 110 111 - 259

Source: FARS ARF 2017, Provisional SWITRS 2017

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