

Florida's Alcohol-Impaired Driving Traffic Safety Facts

2018 Data



Why Focus on Impaired Driving?

Despite impressive efforts to reduce traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries in Florida, alcohol-involved crashes continue to be a barrier to reaching our goal of zero fatalities on our roadways. In 2018, more than 800 people died on Florida's roadways in alcohol-involved driving crashes and 1,400+ were seriously injured.

Florida has observed a steady decrease in the number of serious injuries from alcohol involved crashes over the past eight years, with a reduction of 1,000+ serious injuries from 2011 to 2018. However, the number of alcohol-involved traffic crashes resulting in fatalities

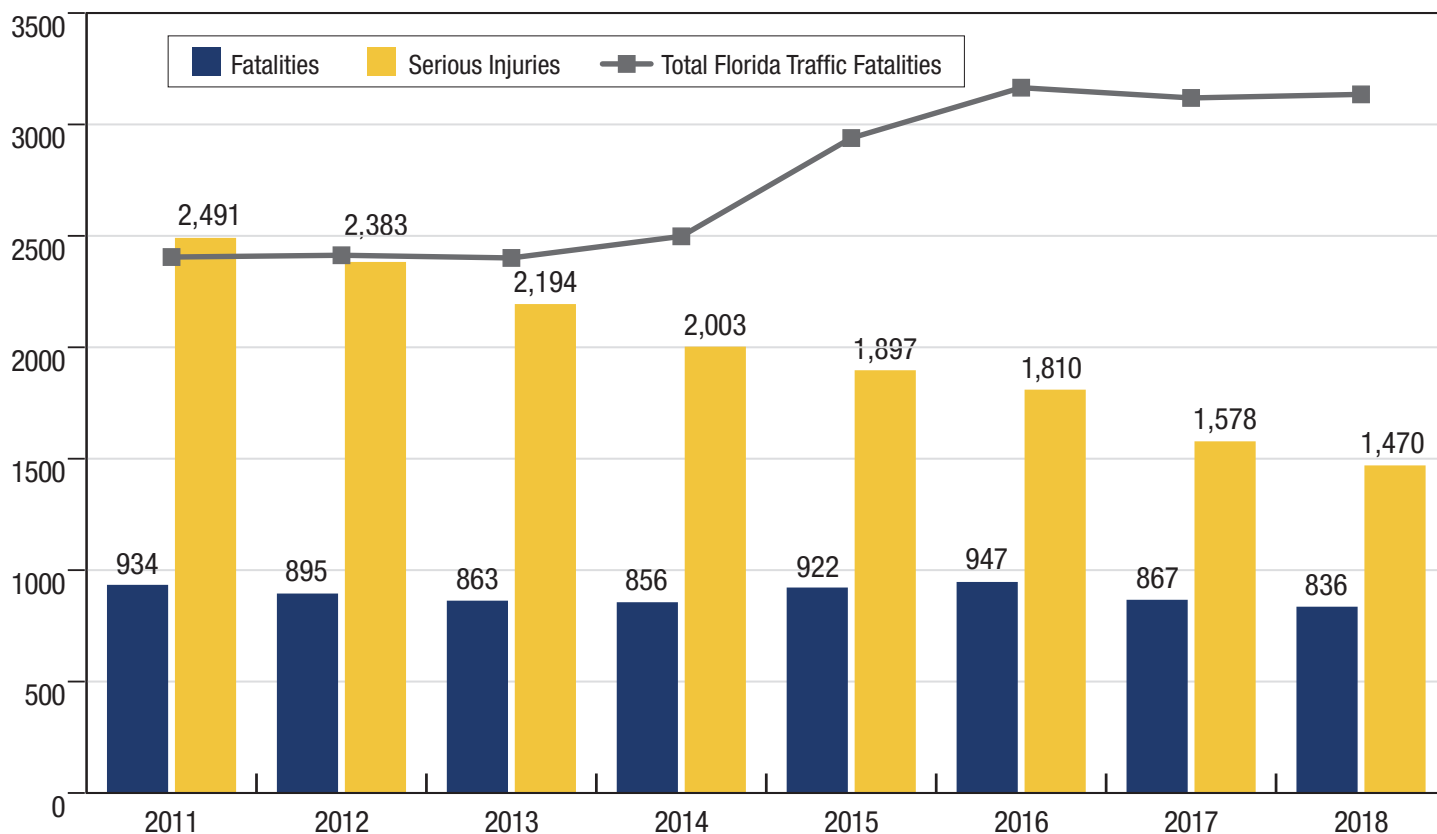
has fluctuated only slightly, remaining with 800 – 950 fatalities over the same period. It is notable that Florida observed a continued decrease in alcohol-involved fatalities in the past two years.

Alcohol-Involved Crashes

In this fact sheet, traffic crashes are considered to be alcohol-involved if the crash report data indicated that (a) the driver had a positive blood alcohol concentration (BAC), or (b) the responding officer indicated “suspected alcohol-use” of the driver in the report. The term “driver” refers to any operator of a motor vehicle, including motorcycles.

Figure 1

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes, Florida (2011-2018)



Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

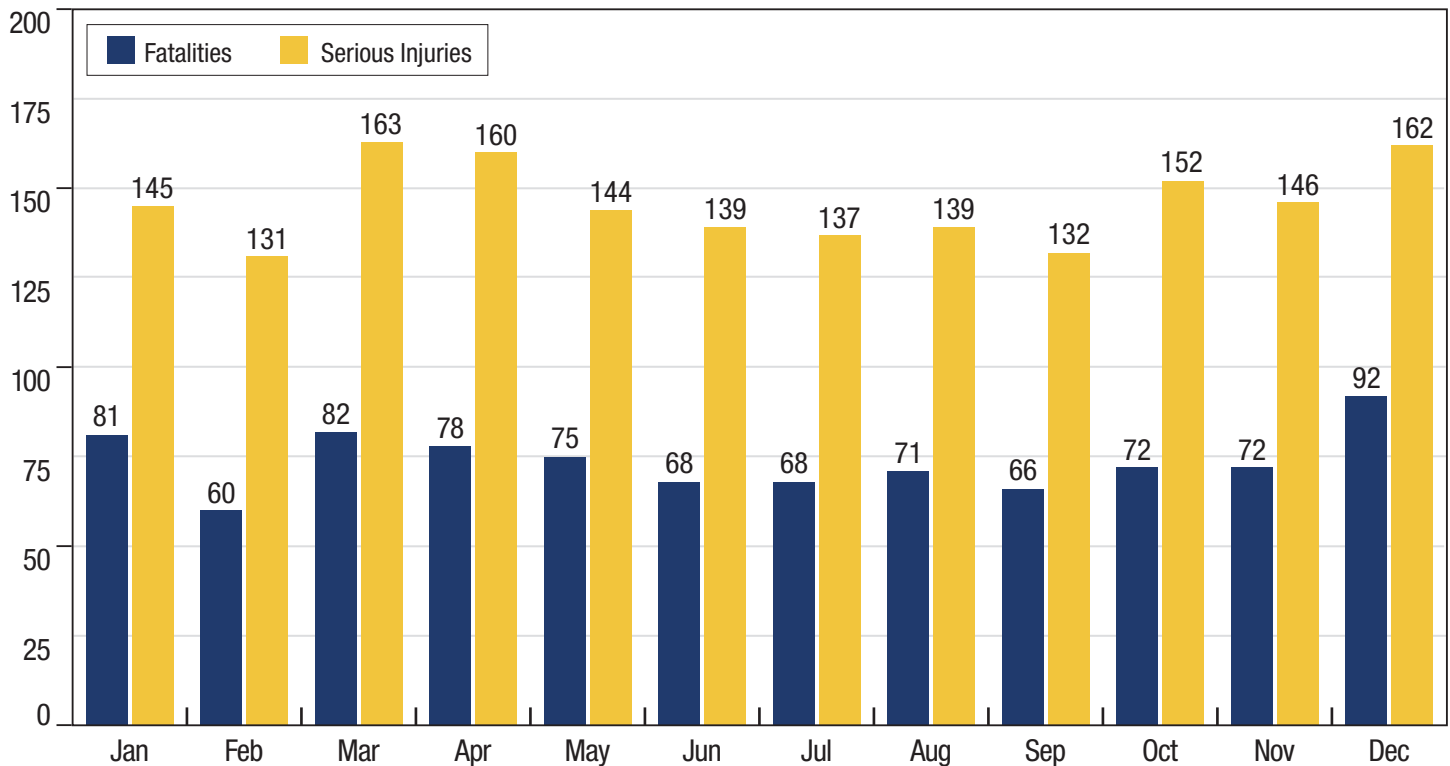


Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Month

Broken down by month, December had the highest annual average number of alcohol-involved traffic crashes resulting in fatalities, followed by March and January for 2014 to 2018.

Figure 2

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes by Month, Florida (2014-2018 Annual Average)



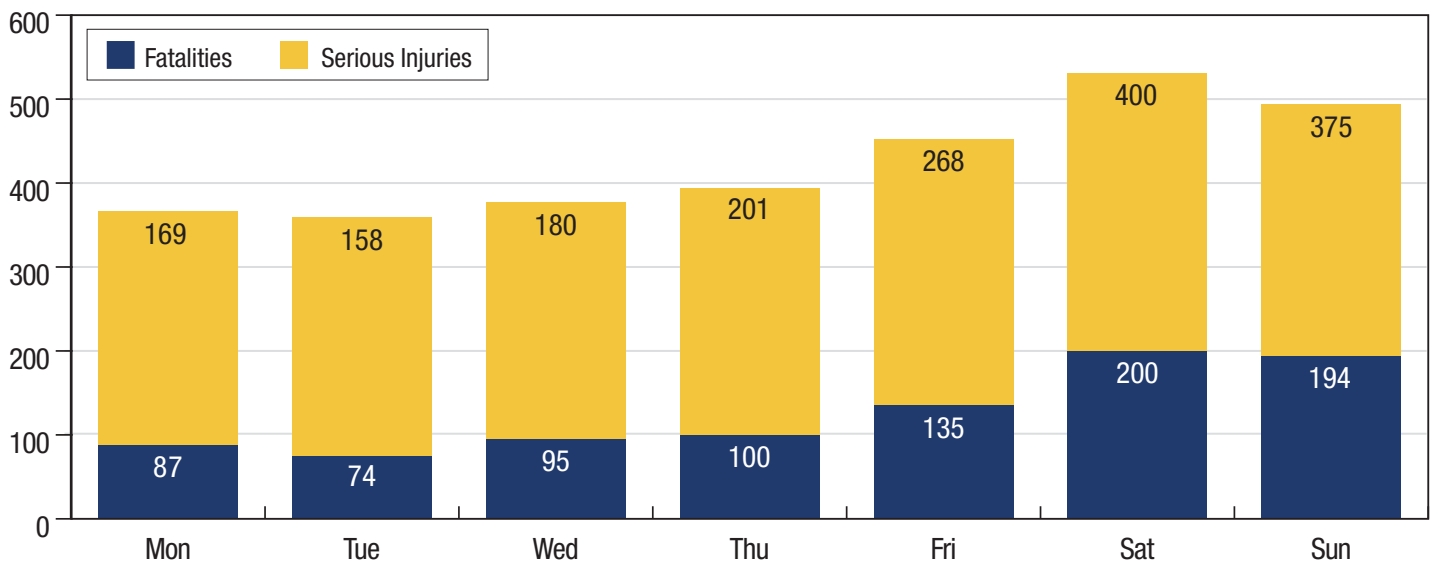
Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Traffic Fatalities in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Day of Week

Alcohol-involved fatal traffic crashes in Florida were most frequent on Saturdays for 2014 – 2018; however, a high proportion of fatal alcohol-involved crashes occurred on Sunday, with almost 38% of all crashes involving alcohol.

Figure 3

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes by Day of Week, Florida (2014-2018 Annual Average)



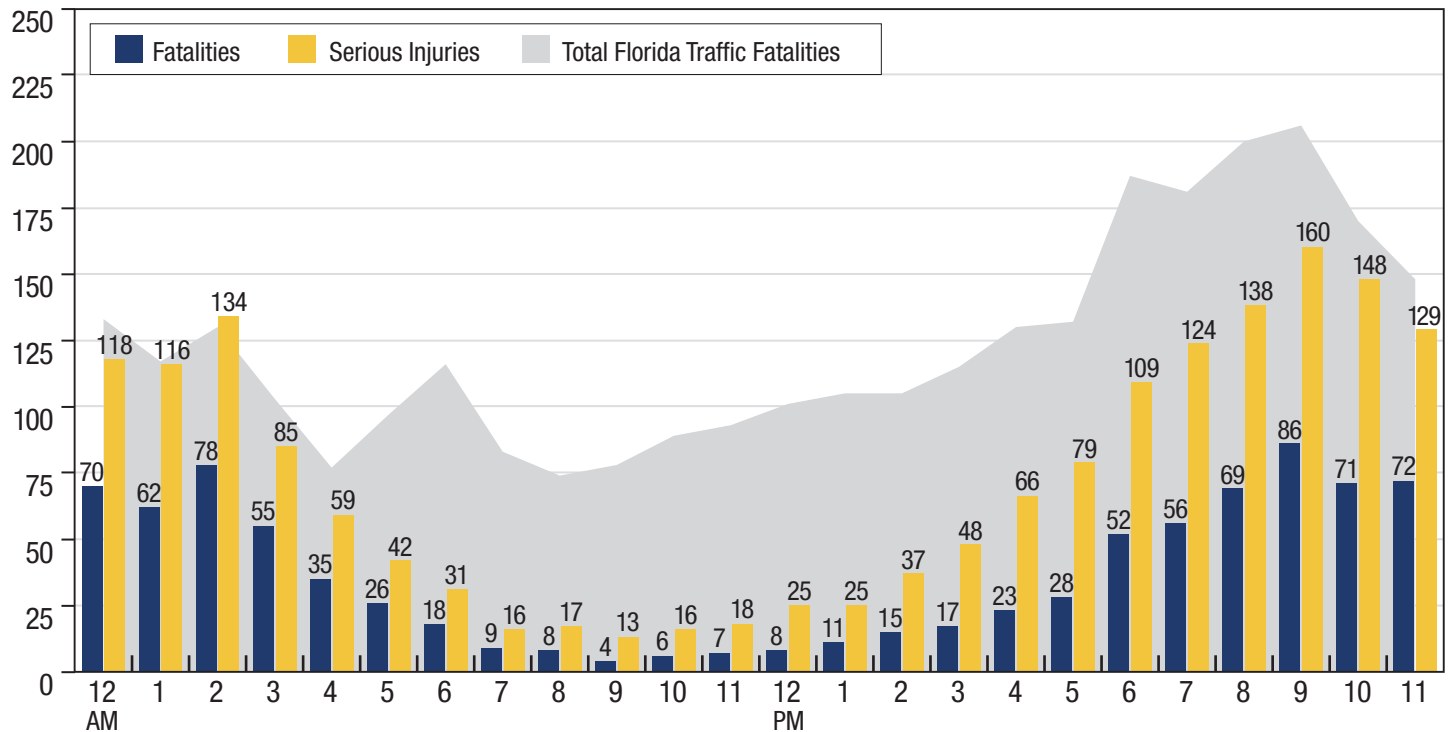
Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Time of Day

From 2014 to 2018 in Florida, alcohol-involved crashes resulting in fatalities were more frequent in the evening and early morning hours, with the high number of fatalities occurring from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Relative to all fatal traffic crashes in the state, a significant proportion of fatal alcohol-involved crashes occurred between 11:00 pm and 3:00 am, with more than 50% of fatalities involving alcohol.

Figure 4

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes by Time of Day, Florida (2014-2018 Annual Average)



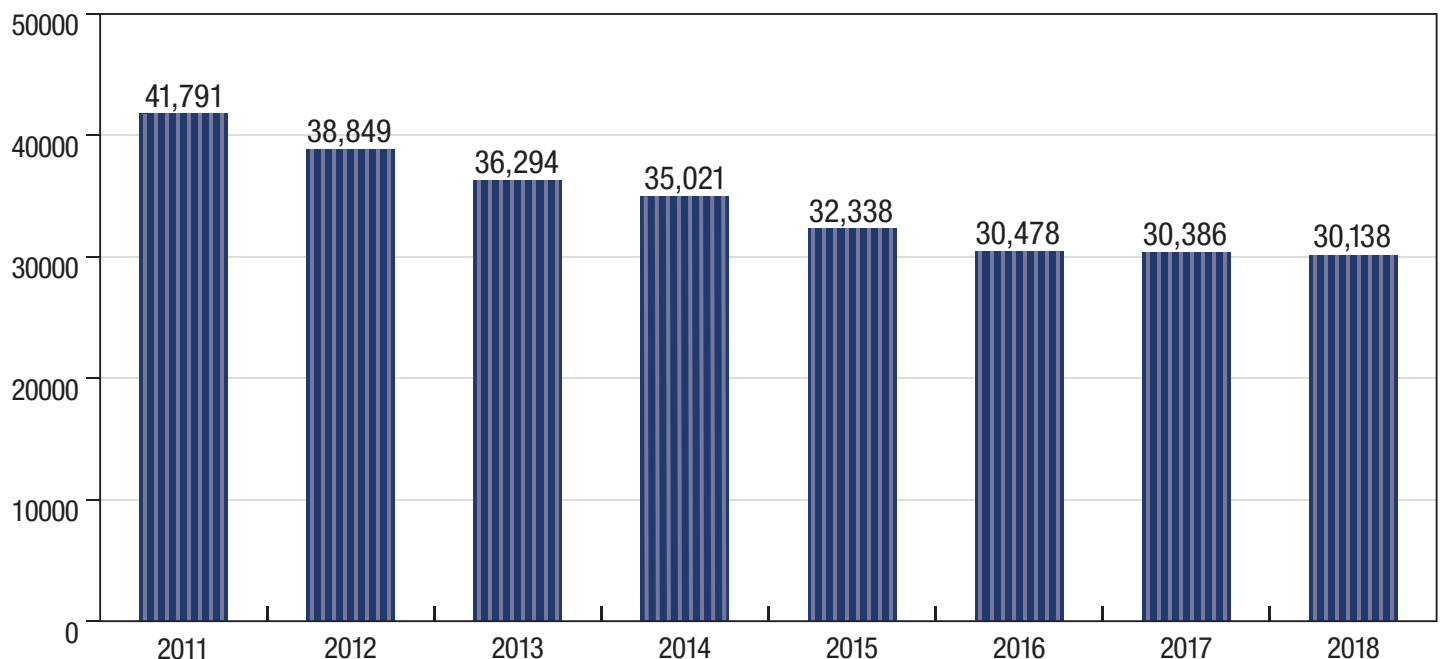
Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Total Breath Tests Administered using Intoxilyzer 8000, Florida (2011-2018)

The number of breath tests administered in Florida using the Intoxilyzer 8000 decreased by almost 28% from 2011 to 2018.

Figure 5

Total Breath Tests Administered using Intoxilyzer 8000, Florida (2011-2018)



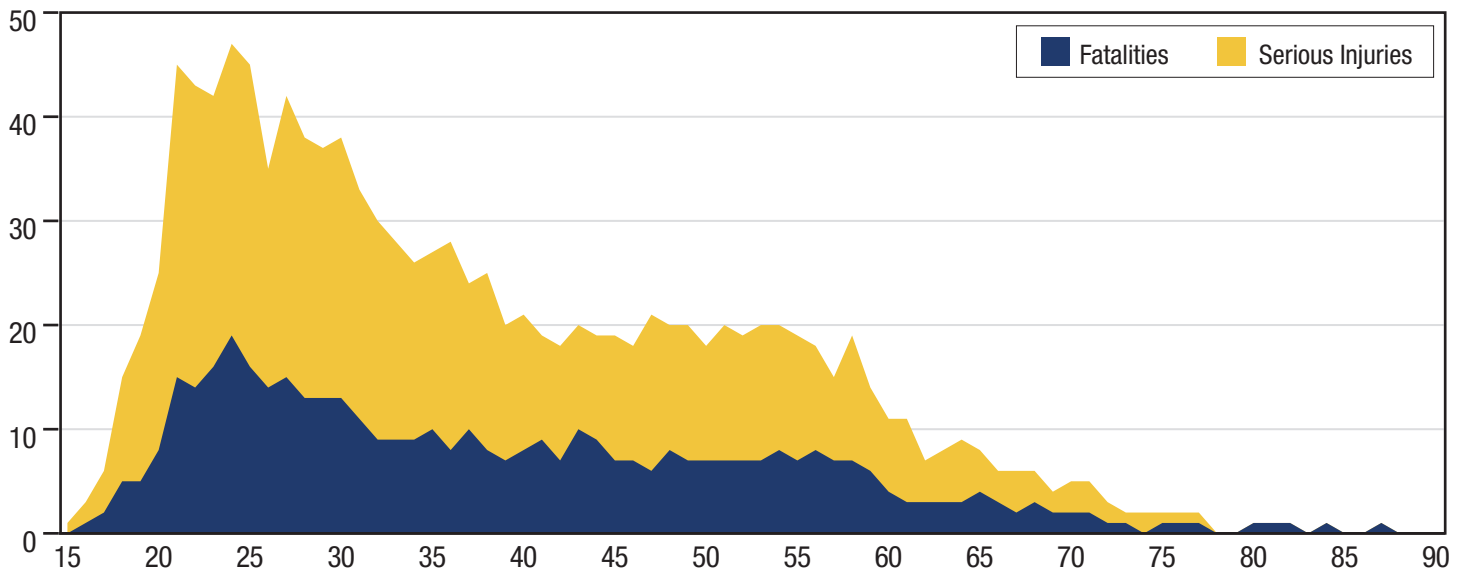
Florida Fatally-Injured Drivers in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Age

Throughout Florida, from 2014 to 2018, fatal alcohol-involved crashes were observed most frequently among drivers ages 20 to 29; however, for all traffic crashes by age group, the 25–49 age category also had a significant proportion (about 35%) of

alcohol-involved crashes. Following a peak in the 20–29 age group, the frequency of fatally injured drivers in alcohol-involved crashes decreased as the age of the group increased.

Figure 6

Florida Fatally-Injured Drivers in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Age (2014-2018 Annual Average)



Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Table 1

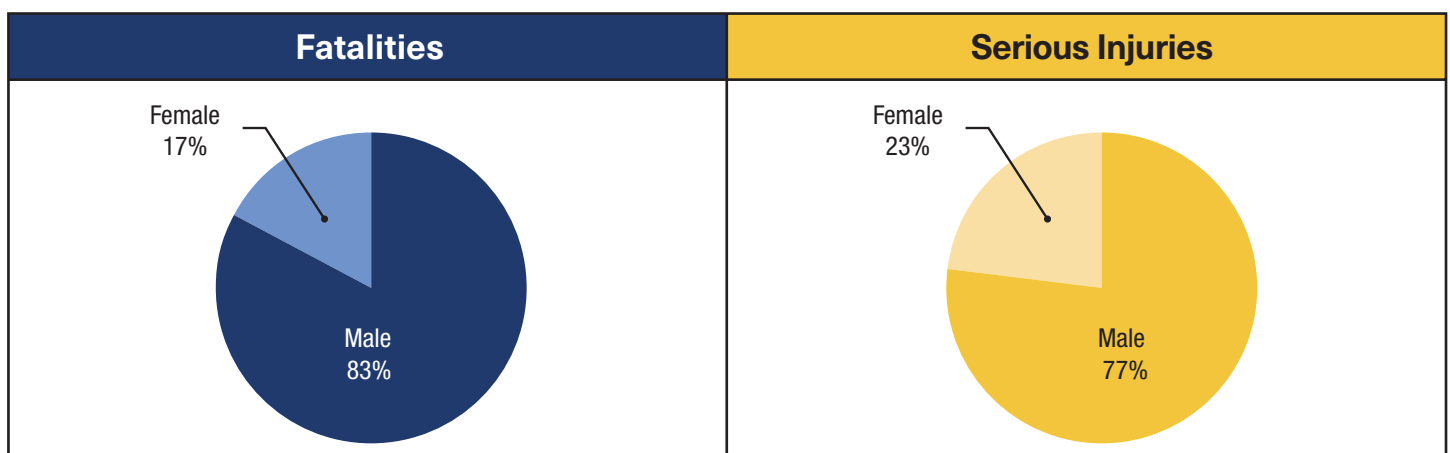
Age Group	15-20	21-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80 or more
Percentage of fatally injured drivers in alcohol-involved crashes compared to fatally injured drivers in all traffic crashes	16%	33%	35%	34%	35%	29%	16%	8%	5%

Fatally-Injured Drivers in Alcohol-Involved Crashes by Gender, Florida (2014-2018)

From 2014 to 2018, the majority of fatally-injured drivers in Florida alcohol-involved crashes were male (83%), which is 4 points higher than other traffic crashes.

Figure 7

Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Alcohol-Involved Traffic Crashes by Gender, Florida (2014-2018)



Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Vehicle Types in Alcohol-Involved Fatal Crashes

Passenger cars were the most frequently observed vehicle type—followed by motorcycles and pickup trucks—for drivers fatally injured in an alcohol-involved crash from 2014 to 2018. When delineated by gender, somewhat different patterns were

observed. For example, utility vehicles were the second most common vehicle type among fatally injured female drivers, but they were the fourth most common vehicle type (after passenger cars, motorcycles, and pickup trucks) among males.

Figure 8
Proportion of Vehicle Types in Alcohol-Involved Fatal Crashes, Florida (2014-2018)

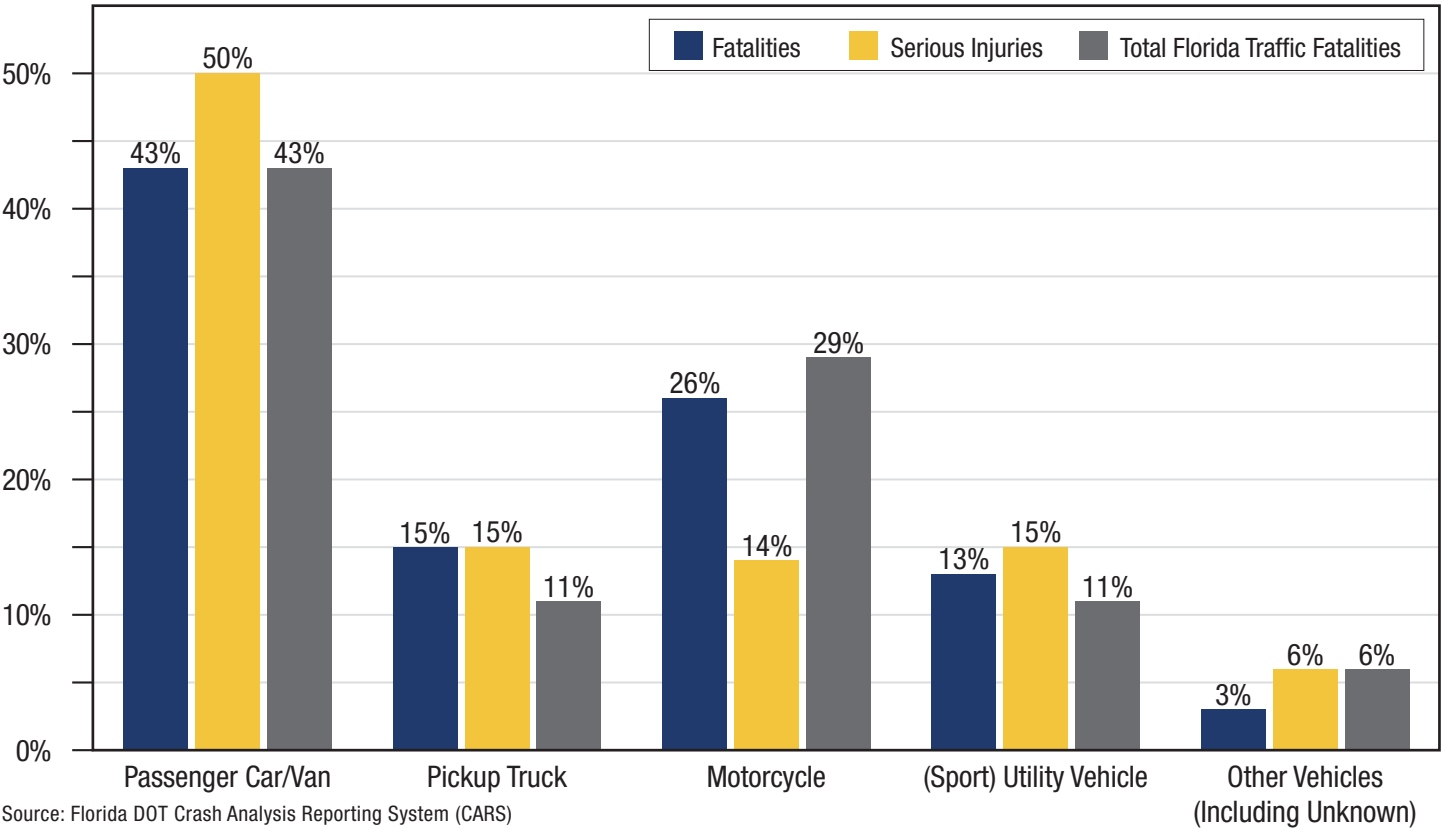


Table 2
Vehicle Type/Gender of Drivers in Alcohol-Involved Fatal Crashes, Florida

	Fatalities			Serious Injuries		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Passenger Car/Van	38%	65%	43%	45%	68%	50%
Pickup Truck	17%	9%	15%	18%	8%	15%
Motorcycle	30%	4%	26%	18%	2%	14%
(Sport) Utility Vehicle	11%	20%	13%	13%	20%	15%
Other Vehicles (including unknown)	4%	2%	3%	6%	2%	6%
Grand Total (N)	100% (1847)	100% (386)	100% (2233)	100% (2906)	100% (887)	100% (3793)

Source: Florida DOT Crash Analysis Reporting System (CARS)

Attacking the Problem

FIDC members and their agencies or associations are working to implement the following strategies to reduce impaired driving and its consequences in Florida:

Program Management and Strategic Planning

- Expand Florida Impaired Driving Coalition membership to include key partners.

Prevention

- Identify and share model laws that would make over-service of individuals grounds for license action.
- Promote Community Traffic Safety Teams to develop and implement strategies to address impaired driving.

Criminal Justice System

- Identify and share model laws that would increase the existing penalties for chemical test refusals.
- Support codification of a uniform statewide impaired driving diversion program.
- Review proposed and new legislation for compliance with the impaired driving components of the FAST Act.
- Support a process to link citations to impaired driving court cases.
- Ensure the accuracy of toxicology labs that meet minimum recommendations for the toxicological investigation of suspected drug-impaired driving cases.
- Identify and share model laws that would improve the existing process for requesting blood draws to test for impaired driving.

Florida Impaired Driving Coalition

The Florida Impaired Driving Coalition (FIDC) was formed in 2009 to identify and prioritize the State's most pressing impaired driving issues and develop a strategic plan to maximize its ability to impact these crashes. FIDC members have a working knowledge and understanding of Florida's impaired driving system and how its parts interrelate.

The Florida Impaired Driving Strategic Plan (IDSP) identifies six key areas where FIDC will focus its efforts over the next five years:

- Program Management and Strategic Planning
- Prevention
- Criminal Justice System
- Communication
- Screening, Assessment, Treatment, and Rehabilitation System
- Program Evaluation

Communication Plan

- Develop a comprehensive multi-pronged approach to communicate to the public and impaired driving stakeholders the importance of driving sober.

Screening, Assessment, Treatment, and Rehabilitation System

- Develop and share guidelines for a standard DUI program for Florida.
- Develop and share recommendations to remove barriers that prevent impaired drivers from seeking treatment.

Program Evaluation

- Support the Florida Traffic Safety Information System Strategic Plan to address the need for data linkages and integration, data dictionaries, and data formats for various data files used to address highway safety issues including impaired driving crashes, fatalities, and injuries.
- Identify and share strategies to streamline electronic reporting methods.
- Identify the impact of Florida's DUI Diversion Programs on impaired driving arrests.
- Track law enforcement training related to impaired driving.

Florida Impaired Driving Coalition Members

AAA
Advocate Program, Inc., Florida
Association of Community Corrections
DUI Counterattack, Hillsborough, Inc.
Florida Association of State Prosecutors
Florida Dept. of Business and Professional Regulation
Florida Dept. of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Florida Dept. of Law Enforcement, Alcohol Testing Program
Florida Dept. of Transportation
Florida DRE Program
Florida Highway Patrol
Florida Police Chiefs Association
Florida Restaurant & Logging Association
Florida Safety Council

Florida Sheriff's Association
Florida TSRP Program
International Association of Chiefs of Police
Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
Multiple Florida Police Departments
Multiple Florida Sheriffs Offices
Seminole Tribe

State Attorney's Office
Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
University of Miami, Division of Toxicology
University of North Florida, Institute of Police Technology and Management
University of South Florida, Center for Urban Transportation Research