



General Facts from 2009 data

- 824 persons killed in motor vehicle crashes
- 729 fatal crashes
- 73,900 persons injured
- 109,800 property damage only (PDO) crashes

- 109 pedestrians killed (13 were children aged 14 or under) , 32% alcohol related
- 12 bicyclists killed, 33% alcohol related
- 104 motorcyclists killed, 41% alcohol related
- Helmet use in motorcycle crashes was 89%
- 6 persons killed in crashes involving a train
- Teen drivers are 2 times as likely to be in a crash if 1 other passenger is in the car
- Teen drivers are 5 times as likely to be in a crash if 2 or more passengers are in the car

Cost

- \$5.69 billion dollars is the cost Louisiana citizens pay for crashes annually
- A cost of \$1,991 per licensed driver
- Average inpatient costs for traffic crash victims who did not use safety belts were 55% higher than for victims who were belted.
- 1st DWI conviction could cost \$5,500 in court costs, fines, ignition interlock installation, vehicle impoundment, etc.
- If Louisiana citizens buckled up just 85% of the time we would save an estimate of \$140,000,000 annually

Impaired Driving

- 48% of Louisiana fatal crashes involved alcohol
- About 3 in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash as some time in their lives.
- In 2009, there were 402 alcohol related fatalities in Louisiana.
- The American Medical Association includes alcohol on the known carcinogenic list

1st DWI conviction – mandatory ignition interlock for conviction and to receive hardship license
maximum penalties (Note: 3rd plus DWI convictions are felonies)

- criminal record
- 6 months in jail
- \$1,000 fine plus court costs
- loss of driver's license for 365 days

Occupant Protection

- 65% of drivers killed were not wearing a safety belt
- 14% of all high school students report they rarely or never wear safety belts when riding with someone else
- Helmets reduce the risk of death by 29% and the risk of fatal head injury by 40%

SOURCES: 2009 La. Traffic Records Data Book (<http://lhsc.lsu.edu/Reports/TrafficReports/report.asp?year=2009&reportLet=A>)
FARS (www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/fars/fars.cfm)
** BAC = Blood Alcohol Content
National Public Service Research Institute

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