

Main Office
 8790 Manchester Road
 St. Louis, MO 63144
 (314) 962-3456



Branch Office
 1723 Pennsylvania Ave.
 St. Louis, MO 63104
 (314) 664-7550

MISSOURI ALCOHOL-RELATED TRAFFIC FATALITIES

The risk of a fatal crash for drivers with positive blood alcohol contents (BACs) compared with other drivers (i.e., the relative risk) increases with increasing BAC, and the risks increase more steeply for drivers younger than age 21 than for older drivers. Between 0.08 & 0.10% BACs, the relative risk of a fatal single-vehicle crash varies between **10%** for drivers under 21 as compared to **6%** for drivers age 35 and older.¹

It is generally impossible to determine the persons who have had one or a few drinks, yet these individuals may be as much of a hazard as the obvious drunk. Because of the time lapse from the moment of occurrence until an officer arrives at the scene to make the investigation, a person's condition concerning drinking can change a great deal. In cases where the individual may have been removed to a hospital, doctor's office or funeral home, his condition may never be determined.²

NATIONAL INFORMATION

The weekend time of day made a big difference in the likelihood of drivers having illegal BACs. Friday daytime, only 0.2% of drivers had illegal BACs (9:30 am to 11:30 am & 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm). Early nighttime, 1.2% had illegal BACs (10 pm to midnight). Late nighttime drivers, 4.8% had illegal BACs (1 am to 3 am Saturday).³

MISSOURI 2010 DRINKING-INVOLVED TRAFFIC CRASH STATISTICS

COUNTY	DWI ARRESTS	INJURIES	FATALIES	TOTAL
Franklin County	646	84	7	737
Jefferson County	728	138	7	873
Lincoln County	308	14	4	326
St. Charles County	1,640	166	10	1,816
St. Louis City	359	143	8	510
St. Louis County	5,001	405	10	5,416
Warren	161	13	3	177
All Other Counties	19,079	2,737	154	21,970
Missouri Total	27,922	3,700	203	31,825

¹NIAAA.nih.gov - Percentage of distribution of BACs among alcohol-involved drivers, according to Sex & Age in U.S.

²2006 Missouri Traffic Safety Compendium Report

³NHTSA's National Center for Statistics & Analysis, "Traffic Safety Facts"

Table Source: Missouri Traffic Crashes, 2010 Edition

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Resource from NCADA's RADAR library. For more information visit our website at www.ncada-stl.org. For questions on substance use, abuse and related problems, call NCADA's Help Line at (314)962-3456.