



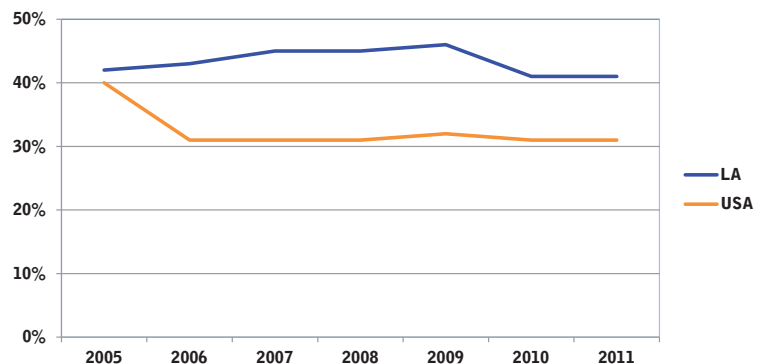
DWI in Louisiana

February 2013

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) continues to be a critical problem in Louisiana, destroying lives and costing taxpayers millions of dollars in direct and related costs. For the past several years, Louisiana's policymakers and traffic safety specialists have implemented proven countermeasures to address the problem, such as data-driven law enforcement, social norming, and public education and awareness. These efforts have resulted in a promising downward trend in the number of people killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes, particularly in the 18 – 24 year-old age group.

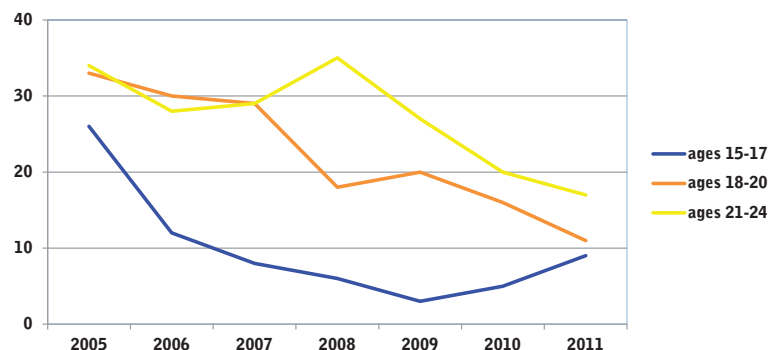
In 2011, a total of 277 people were killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes in Louisiana, representing 41% of all traffic fatalities. While this figure is down from 45% in 2010, it remains markedly higher than the national average of 31%.

Percentage of Total Fatalities That Were Alcohol-Related



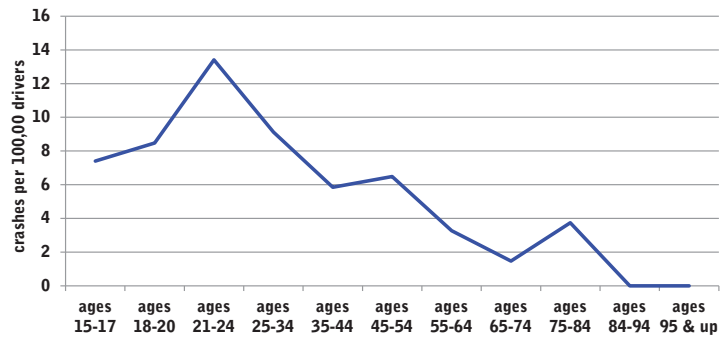
Alcohol-involved fatal crash rates, defined as the number of fatal crashes per 100,000 licensed drivers, have been trending downward over the past three years among 18 – 20 year old drivers.

Alcohol-Related Fatal Crashes per 100,000 Licensees



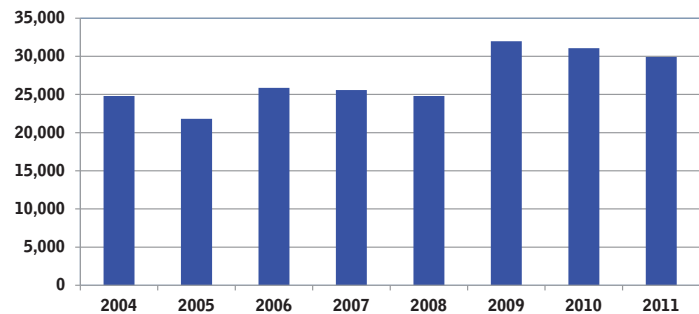
However, drivers ages 21-24 continue to have the highest alcohol-related fatal crash rate. This age group also leads the state in number of drivers killed in alcohol-related crashes who were not wearing seatbelts.

Alcohol-Related Fatal Crash Rate by Age Group



In 2011, there were 29,922 people arrested for DWI in Louisiana, marking the third year in a row of increased DWI arrests.

DWI Arrests 2004-2011



This SEW data brief presents a few select findings of the 2011 LA Traffic Records Data Report, prepared by the Highway Safety Research Group for the LA Highway Safety Commission. Data reports are prepared annually, using traffic reports submitted by law enforcement. The 2011 report relies on traffic reports received prior to September 25, 2012. The alcohol-related fatal crashes and fatalities data are estimated using a data mining algorithm developed at Louisiana State University. The model was tested for past years and shows very reliable results with a standard error less than 1%. The 2011 LA Traffic Records Data Report, along with previous years' reports, can be found in its entirety at <http://datareports.lsu.edu>.



Scan this QR code to access the online repository of all Louisiana State Epidemiological and Outcomes Workgroup data for substance abuse prevention and mental health promotion.
<http://www.gov.state.la.us/lasocialindicators>

This data brief is brought to you by the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission and the Louisiana State Epidemiology Workgroup. To find data related to substance use and abuse, please visit the State Epidemiology Workgroup Online Data system at www.gov.state.la.us/lasocialindicators.

