Alcohol-impaired motor vehicle deaths during holiday periods

Average traffic deaths per day in the United States during each holiday period, 2007-2011. Holiday periods typically are 3 to 4 days, as defined by NHTSA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Traffic Deaths Per Day</th>
<th>Alcohol-Impaired Deaths</th>
<th>Total Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Year's</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tips**
- Even if you’re “just a little buzzed,” don’t drive.
- Designate a driver or take a cab.
- Don’t feel embarrassed to refuse a ride from an impaired driver— even if it’s a friend or spouse.

**If you’re the designated driver:**
- Buckle up.
- Drive defensively.
- Minimize distractions—put away the cell phone.

More

Holiday period with the highest average percentage of alcohol-impaired traffic deaths: New Year’s at 42%

Holiday period with the overall greatest number of motor vehicle-related fatalities: Thanksgiving, with an average of 444 deaths for the entire holiday period. (The Thanksgiving holiday period always spans four days.)


- Deaths: Tabulations of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Fatality Analysis Reporting System data

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