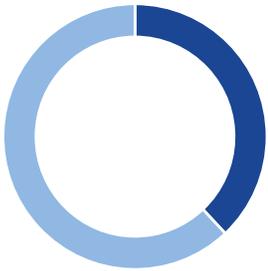


# Don't Drink and Drive This July 4th



The Fourth of July is synonymous with increased impaired driving crashes. Over the July 4th holiday from 2019 to 2023, 2,653 people, including 1,679 drivers died in motor vehicle crashes—and 38% of drivers killed were drunk.

In an effort to reduce drunk driving crashes this Independence Day, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is promoting its “**Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving**” campaign. Local law enforcement and communities nationwide are also responding with increased DUI enforcement campaigns over the holiday.

## Tips for Celebrating Safely and Avoiding Impaired Driving

Driving while under the influence is not only dangerous for the impaired driver; passengers, other motorists and pedestrians are put at serious risk, too. That’s why avoiding getting behind the wheel after drinking too much is important.

Here are some tips to keep in mind to stay safe this **Fourth of July**:

- Plan ahead for a sober ride home (e.g., choosing a designated driver or scheduling a ride-sharing or taxi service) if you plan to drink.
- Let someone who hasn’t been drinking take you home, even if you’ve had only one drink.
- Ensure plenty of nonalcoholic beverages are available if you’re hosting a Fourth of July gathering.
- Take away the keys of and arrange a safe way for a friend who has been drinking to get home.
- Pull over and call 911 if you see an impaired driver on the road.
- Always wear your seat belt.

## When in Doubt, Don’t Drive

Even a small amount of alcohol can affect your ability to drive safely. In 2023, 2,117 people died in alcohol-related crashes where a driver’s blood alcohol concentration (BAC) was **between 0.01% to 0.07%**—which is below the legal limit of **0.08%** in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

If you’re feeling any effects of alcohol—or you’re questioning whether you should drive home—don’t take the chance.

