

Over the Limit. Under Arrest FACT SHEET

From the Wisconsin DOT, Division of State Patrol,
Bureau of Transportation Safety



Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest. crackdown—Aug. 20 to Sept. 6

- To save lives and prevent injuries, law enforcement officers from all over Wisconsin and throughout the nation will be patrolling in greater numbers and for longer hours from Aug. 20 to Sept. 6, 2010 to arrest impaired drivers and get them off the road.
- Saturation patrols and other types of high visibility enforcement have proved to be an effective deterrent to impaired driving, especially when combined with an effective media campaign like **Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest.**
- The goal is not to arrest more drunken drivers. The goal is to deter drunken driving, so that we can reach our ultimate goal of zero preventable traffic deaths.

Impaired driving is prevalent and deadly:

- Wisconsin has the highest rate of drunken driving in the nation. More than 26 percent of Wisconsin adults who were surveyed admitted that they had driven under the influence of alcohol in the previous year, according to a nationwide [study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released in 2008](#). [U.S. DHHS Survey on Drug Use and Health is available online at: <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k8/stateDUI/stateDUI.cfm>]
- There were approximately 45,000 convictions for drunken driving last year in Wisconsin.
- Last year, alcohol-related crashes killed 238 people in Wisconsin and injured 3,793.

New state law increases penalties for drunken driving

- A new state law took effect on July 1, 2010, that significantly strengthens deterrents and increases penalties for drunken driving.
- The new law substantially increases jail time for various OWI convictions. For specific details visit, <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/enforce/owi.htm>

- The new law requires the installation of ignition interlock devices on all vehicles owned by or registered to drunken drivers who
 - Are convicted of first-offense OWI if their blood/breath alcohol was .15 or higher.
 - Are convicted of a second or subsequent OWI offense.
 - Refused a chemical test to measure their alcohol level at the time of arrest.

Important advice:

- Choose a sober designated driver before you start drinking.
- If you're feeling buzzed, you likely are over the 0.08 BAC limit and should not drive.
- Rather than risk an arrest, take mass transit, a taxicab or ask a sober friend to drive you home.
- Save a life- don't let your friends drive drunk.
- Some taverns and restaurants have programs to provide patrons with a safe ride home. Visit www.tlw.org/ and click on Safe Ride.
- Report impaired drivers to law enforcement.

Online resources:

- Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest Law Enforcement Action Kit:
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/media/index.htm>
- Zero In Wisconsin traffic safety campaign, including TV and radio commercials
<http://zeroinwisconsin.gov>
- Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest logos and artwork
<http://www.stopimpaireddriving.org/planners/crackdown2010/index.cfm>
- Wisconsin drunken driving facts and statistics
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/drunksdriving/index.htm>
- UW Madison Law School Resource Center on Impaired Driving
<http://www.law.wisc.edu/rcid>