Issue Brief – Alcohol Impaired Drivers
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Motor Vehicle Accidents caused by Alcohol Impaired Drivers

Injury resulting from a motor vehicle crash is the leading cause of death in the United States among those aged 1 to 34. In 2002, 17,416 of 40,035 traffic fatalities were alcohol related. (Burton et al., 2005) At that current rate of one and every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash sometime in their life. In 2010, there were nearly 11,000 alcohol impaired crash fatalities, or one third in the United States (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2011).

Our best hope to cut down on alcohol related car crashes is to stop risky drinking while low-enforcement increases the number of fatally checked points and strict enforcement at 0.08 g/dl. Blood alcohol concentration levels to decrease the publics from driving while impaired.

Nationwide Issue

Although rates of alcohol impaired driving has declined in the last few years (see figure 1), rates still remain really high nationally among young men, large drinkers, and those who do not wear a seat belt when accounted for 61% of all fatalities. Additionally, 50% of alcohol related driving fatalities were reported by persons who also reported binge drinking. (CDC, 2011)
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