

# Part IV – Alcohol & Drugs

Alcohol and/or drug related traffic collisions are responsible for a large portion of reported traffic collisions each year. The percentage of collisions that involve alcohol or drugs increases as the severity of injuries increases. On the following pages collision statistics are presented which are based on contributing factors in the collision, as determined by the investigating officers. **Collisions listed in this section ARE NOT comparable to any statistics published prior to 2002.**

The data presented here is a summary of ALL CONTRIBUTING FACTORS indicated as alcohol on the TR-310. These include the primary contributing factor and up to four other contributing factors for a collision.

In South Carolina, it is inferred that you are under the influence when your Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) reaches a level of 0.10 (during 2002). At this level, you are seven times more likely to have a traffic collision than if your BAC is zero. If your BAC reaches 0.15 percent, your chances of having a traffic collision are 25 times greater. Some of the common effects of alcohol at various BAC levels are as follows:

<u>BAC Level</u>	<u>Common Effects</u>
0.03	Mild alteration of feelings. Level of impairment is not generally too serious.
0.05	Feeling of relaxation, sedation and/or euphoria. Increased difficulty in performing motor skills. Driving ability and judgement impaired.
0.10	Physical and mental impairment affecting perception and performance. Deterioration in motor coordination. Hearing and speech impaired. Uncoordinated behavior. Legally inferred to be under the influence in South Carolina.
0.15	Serious impairment of physical and mental functioning. Irresponsible behavior. Distorted perception and judgement. Difficulty standing, walking and talking.
0.40	Coma results. The person can not be awakened.
0.60	Death from alcohol overdose or accidental choking. Absorption of alcohol continues at same rate while oxidation slows because the high BAC causes anesthetization of the heart and lungs. Death occurs when the respiratory and circulatory systems cease to function.

### 2002 F.A.R.S. (Fatality Analysis Reporting System)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, through its FARS program, determines the highest blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level among all drivers or pedestrians involved in each fatal traffic collision in the United States. For crashes with no test results available estimates are computed. For 2002, 505 victims were involved in crashes where the BAC was 0; 64 between 0.01 and 0.07; and for 487 victims, at least one driver or pedestrian involved had a BAC of 0.08 or greater.

**TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH A CONTRIBUTING\*\*\*  
FACTOR OF DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE (DUI)\*\***

COUNTY	COLLISION TYPE				PERSONS	
	Fatal	Injury	PDO*	Total	Killed	Injured
Abbeville	3	15	10	28	3	30
Aiken	13	79	47	139	16	140
Allendale	0	2	2	4	0	2
Anderson	12	105	87	204	16	164
Bamberg	1	11	2	14	1	14
Barnwell	2	6	6	14	2	9
Beaufort	9	60	55	124	10	116
Berkeley	19	87	55	161	22	149
Calhoun	3	10	7	20	3	15
Charleston	21	158	148	327	22	260
Cherokee	4	43	29	76	4	54
Chester	5	20	24	49	5	30
Chesterfield	7	34	28	69	7	61
Clarendon	3	15	24	42	4	27
Colleton	7	39	14	60	9	52
Darlington	14	58	58	130	14	93
Dillon	3	17	15	35	3	24
Dorchester	6	36	58	100	11	61
Edgefield	1	16	8	25	1	26
Fairfield	6	27	9	42	7	50
Florence	21	99	64	184	24	164
Georgetown	8	31	25	64	9	47
Greenville	26	177	212	415	27	268
Greenwood	8	50	31	89	9	79
Hampton	0	5	11	16	0	7
Horry	26	163	157	346	28	267
Jasper	1	17	27	45	1	36
Kershaw	7	39	31	77	8	59
Lancaster	10	43	51	104	10	60
Laurens	10	53	50	113	11	83
Lee	1	15	14	30	1	25
Lexington	19	144	98	261	21	216
McCormick	1	2	1	4	1	7
Marion	4	18	7	29	4	33
Marlboro	3	19	10	32	3	34
Newberry	2	34	30	66	2	42
Oconee	5	38	29	72	5	53
Orangeburg	14	41	54	109	16	77
Pickens	9	50	36	95	9	82
Richland	21	184	134	339	23	282
Saluda	3	12	14	29	3	18
Spartanburg	26	185	154	365	27	286
Sumter	10	64	41	115	12	96
Union	1	21	16	38	1	30
Williamsburg	5	44	21	70	6	68
York	7	95	99	201	7	136
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>2,481</b>	<b>2,103</b>	<b>4,971</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>3,932</b>

\*Property Damage Only

\*\*This chart is not comparable to any published statistics from 2001 and prior years

\*\*\*Each collision may have up to five contributing factors listed on the TR-310 report form.

**AGE AND SEX OF DRIVERS IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR OF DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE (DUI)\*\*\* @**

TOTAL COLLISIONS			
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<=15	3	1	4
15	9	4	13
16	29	10	39
17	78	29	107
18	129	51	180
19	130	48	178
20	190	51	241
21	201	60	261
22	192	58	250
23	173	60	233
24	176	27	203
25 to 29	651	201	852
30 to 34	622	236	858
35 to 39	623	237	860
40 to 44	592	247	839
45 to 49	467	173	640
50 to 54	317	107	424
55 to 59	215	74	289
60 to 64	120	30	150
65 to 69	69	17	86
70 & Older	82	27	109
UNKNOWN	-	-	390
<b>TOTALS**</b>	<b>5,068</b>	<b>1,748</b>	<b>7,206</b>

FATAL COLLISIONS			
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<=15	0	0	0
15	1	0	1
16	4	0	4
17	4	1	5
18	13	3	16
19	13	3	16
20	12	5	17
21	14	4	18
22	11	2	13
23	11	2	13
24	13	1	14
25 to 29	49	9	58
30 to 34	59	8	67
35 to 39	38	10	48
40 to 44	37	7	44
45 to 49	35	11	46
50 to 54	19	4	23
55 to 59	12	5	17
60 to 64	8	3	11
65 to 69	3	1	4
70 & Older	11	7	18
UNKNOWN	-	-	6
<b>TOTALS**</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>459</b>

INJURY COLLISIONS			
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<=15	2	0	2
15	5	4	9
16	17	4	21
17	44	15	59
18	60	31	91
19	60	24	84
20	93	22	115
21	94	32	126
22	87	28	115
23	86	38	124
24	82	11	93
25 to 29	320	108	428
30 to 34	304	137	441
35 to 39	333	143	476
40 to 44	289	129	418
45 to 49	237	90	327
50 to 54	161	52	213
55 to 59	98	42	140
60 to 64	54	18	72
65 to 69	31	9	40
70 & Older	27	8	35
UNKNOWN	-	-	153
<b>TOTALS**</b>	<b>2,484</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>3,582</b>

PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY COLLISIONS			
AGE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
<=15	1	1	2
15	3	0	3
16	8	6	14
17	30	13	43
18	56	17	73
19	57	21	78
20	85	24	109
21	93	24	117
22	94	28	122
23	76	20	96
24	81	15	96
25 to 29	282	84	366
30 to 34	259	91	350
35 to 39	252	84	336
40 to 44	266	111	377
45 to 49	195	72	267
50 to 54	137	51	188
55 to 59	105	27	132
60 to 64	58	9	67
65 to 69	35	7	42
70 & Older	44	12	56
UNKNOWN	-	-	231
<b>TOTALS**</b>	<b>2,217</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>3,165</b>

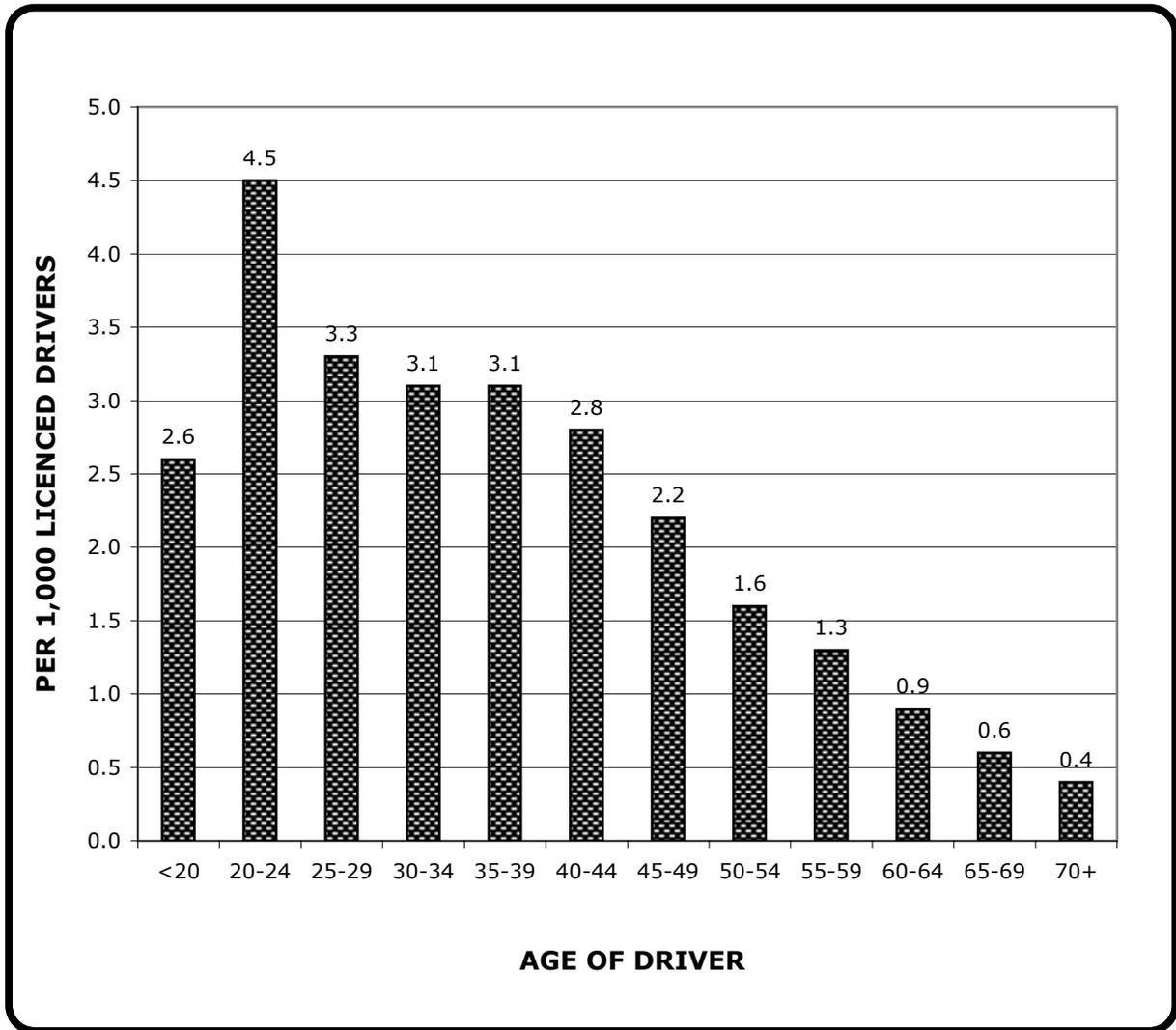
\*Includes drivers whose age and sex were not recorded on the report, hit and run collisions for which driver information was not available and also includes parked cars with no driver.

\*\*Adding male, female and unknown sex totals will equal the total for all drivers.

\*\*\* These figures only represent drivers of units defined as a motor vehicle.

@ This chart is not comparable to any published statistics from 2001 and prior years.

**DRIVERS INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC COLLISIONS WITH A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR OF DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE (DUI) PER 1,000 LICENCED DRIVERS\***



\* This chart is not comparable to any published statistics from 2001 and prior years.

