

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 0.08 (as of July 2003). 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.

2003 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 2003, 480 victims were involved in crashes where the BAC was 0; 64 between 0.01 and 0.07; and for 423 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	5	17	7	29	5	24
Aiken	5	63	62	130	5	105
Allendale	1	3	6	10	1	3
Anderson	15	117	79	211	15	175
Bamberg	0	2	7	9	0	2
Barnwell	0	9	9	18	0	11
Beaufort	7	43	35	85	7	78
Berkeley	14	72	53	139	17	119
Calhoun	1	10	6	17	1	14
Charleston	12	142	165	319	13	220
Cherokee	2	49	44	95	2	61
Chester	3	13	16	32	3	19
Chesterfield	7	33	33	73	8	54
Clarendon	1	22	14	37	1	35
Colleton	7	30	18	55	7	50
Darlington	10	69	38	117	11	107
Dillon	3	24	14	41	3	36
Dorchester	7	34	36	77	8	51
Edgefield	1	8	4	13	1	11
Fairfield	3	13	6	22	5	26
Florence	8	81	79	168	8	117
Georgetown	6	36	20	62	7	49
Greenville	13	194	150	357	14	298
Greenwood	6	46	36	88	7	70
Hampton	1	3	7	11	1	4
Horry	25	152	162	339	27	248
Jasper	6	11	22	39	7	22
Kershaw	7	39	42	88	7	62
Lancaster	9	50	45	104	9	71
Laurens	5	52	43	100	5	78
Lee	2	15	8	25	2	21
Lexington	16	115	99	230	19	194
McCormick	1	7	4	12	1	12
Marion	4	23	12	39	5	40
Marlboro	2	21	12	35	2	33
Newberry	5	17	20	42	5	30
Oconee	6	43	15	64	8	64
Orangeburg	9	37	36	82	12	64
Pickens	9	33	36	78	9	48
Richland	18	188	173	379	20	285
Saluda	0	6	13	19	0	9
Spartanburg	19	147	98	264	19	229
Sumter	8	52	48	108	8	76
Union	0	20	14	34	0	25
Williamsburg	9	22	21	52	9	35
York	10	78	94	182	11	114
TOTAL	308	2,261	1,961	4,530	335	3,499

*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	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
<=15	0	0	0
15	4	9	13
16	15	31	46
17	43	78	121
18	35	117	152
19	40	131	171
20	44	162	206
21	64	190	254
22	44	207	251
23	51	181	232
24	30	183	213
25 to 29	183	661	844
30 to 34	194	572	766
35 to 39	195	479	674
40 to 44	180	528	708
45 to 49	160	409	569
50 to 54	105	295	400
55 to 59	54	229	283
60 to 64	39	121	160
65 to 69	20	46	66
70 & Older	24	55	79
UNKNOWN	-	-	341
TOTALS**	1,524	4,684	6,549

FATAL COLLISIONS			
AGE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
<=15	0	0	0
15	0	0	0
16	3	2	5
17	3	7	10
18	0	5	5
19	2	9	11
20	3	11	14
21	3	18	21
22	3	11	14
23	2	14	16
24	0	7	7
25 to 29	6	44	50
30 to 34	11	43	54
35 to 39	11	39	50
40 to 44	15	47	62
45 to 49	12	19	31
50 to 54	5	18	23
55 to 59	2	15	17
60 to 64	1	6	7
65 to 69	0	3	3
70 & Older	2	4	6
UNKNOWN	-	-	12
TOTALS**	84	322	418

INJURY COLLISIONS			
AGE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
<=15	0	0	0
15	3	3	6
16	9	15	24
17	17	40	57
18	18	64	82
19	20	56	76
20	24	83	107
21	34	104	138
22	15	103	118
23	22	83	105
24	11	94	105
25 to 29	100	309	409
30 to 34	107	298	405
35 to 39	108	245	353
40 to 44	84	264	348
45 to 49	74	193	267
50 to 54	60	156	216
55 to 59	33	103	136
60 to 64	22	51	73
65 to 69	10	23	33
70 & Older	9	25	34
UNKNOWN	-	-	133
TOTALS**	780	2,312	3,225

PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY COLLISIONS			
AGE	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
<=15	0	0	0
15	1	6	7
16	3	14	17
17	23	31	54
18	17	48	65
19	18	66	84
20	17	68	85
21	27	68	95
22	26	93	119
23	27	84	111
24	19	82	101
25 to 29	77	308	385
30 to 34	76	231	307
35 to 39	76	195	271
40 to 44	81	217	298
45 to 49	74	197	271
50 to 54	40	121	161
55 to 59	19	111	130
60 to 64	16	64	80
65 to 69	10	20	30
70 & Older	13	26	39
UNKNOWN	-	-	196
TOTALS**	660	2,050	2,906

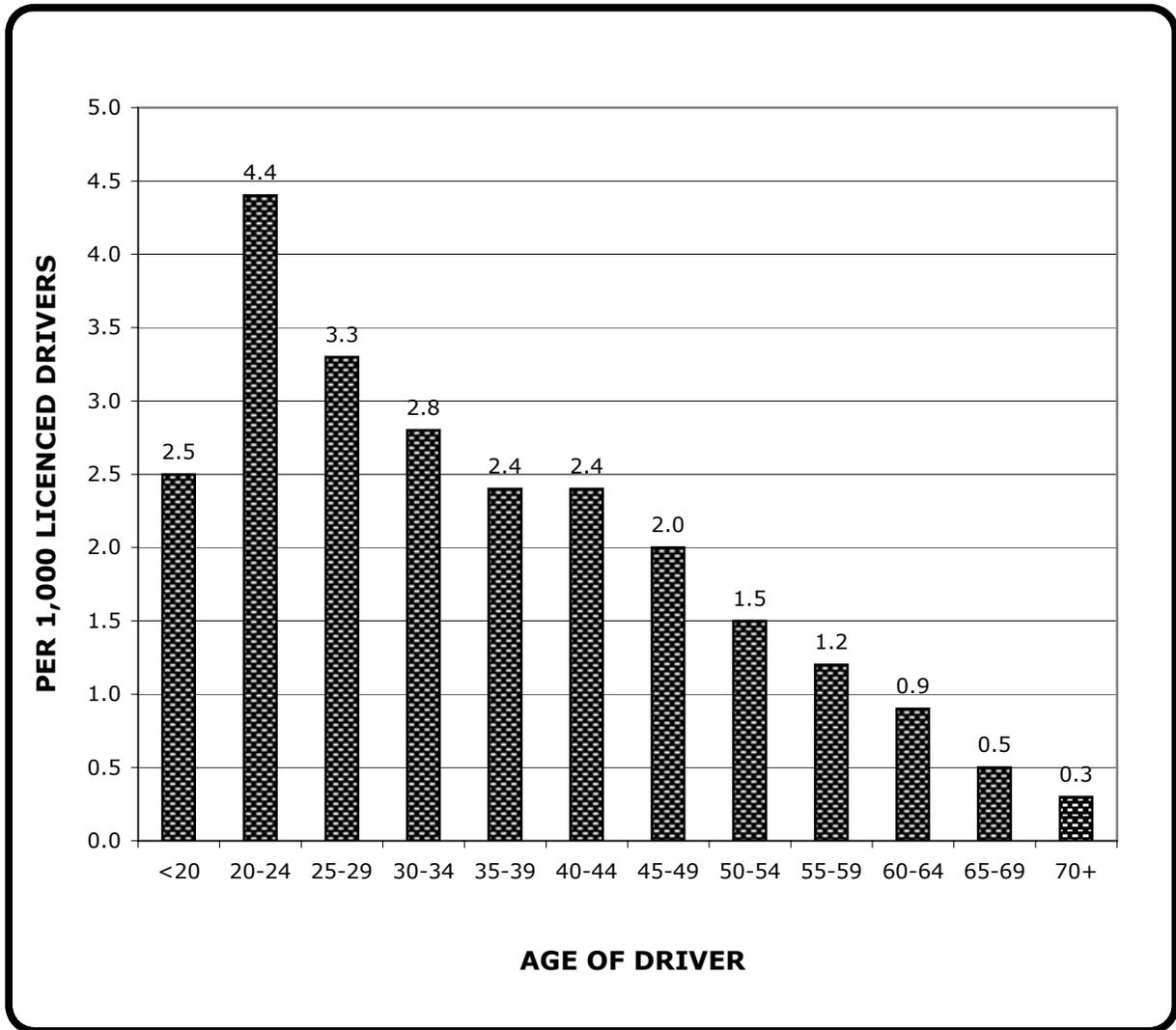
*Includes drivers whose age and sex were not recorded on the report, hit and run collisions for which driver information was not available and also includes parked cars with no driver.

**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.

