Impaired Driving Fact Sheet – Toole County

Impaired means "Alcohol/Drug-Related": Any crash where at least one driver involved in the crash is determined to have had a BAC of 0.01g/dL or higher OR if police indicate on the crash report that there is evidence of alcohol and/or drugs present. This does not necessarily mean that the driver was tested for alcohol and/or drugs.

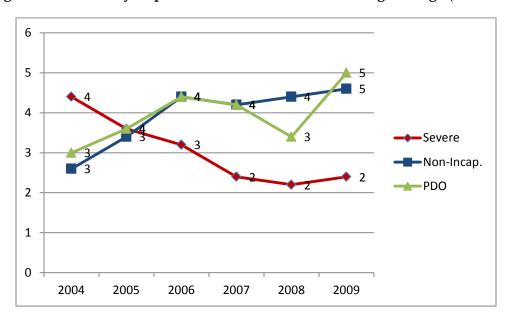


Fig.1 -- Toole County Impaired Crashes - Five Year Rolling Average (2004-2009)

NOTE: Five year rolling average is the average of data for the five years ending with the year shown. E.g. for 2004 the data is an average of 2000-2004.

Fig. 2 -- Impaired Crashes (2000-2009)

	Toole County	Shelby
	Total	Total
Severe Crashes (Fatal + Incapacitating)	34	6
Non-Incapacitating Crashes & Other Injuries	36	7
Property Damage Only (PDO) Crashes	40	16
	110	29

Fig. 3 -- Impaired Crashes by Roadway Type (2000-2009)

Severity	INTERSTATE	US Highway	State Highway	County Road	Local Street	TOTAL CRASHES
Fatal		3	4			7
Incapacitating	3	12	3	6	3	27
Other Injury	2	6		1	2	11
Property Damage	5	12	4	6	13	40
TOTAL CRASHES	10	33	11	13	18	85

Fig. 4 -- Toole County Impaired Crashes by Day of Week (2000-2009)

	NON-SEVERE	PROPERTY DAMAGE	INCAPACITATING	FATAL	TOTAL CRASHES
Saturday	12	7	10	3	32
Sunday	7	8	5	1	21
Monday	4	4	2	0	10
Tuesday	5	4	4	1	14
Wednesday	3	5	2	0	10
Thursday	3	6	1	1	11
Friday	4	6	3	1	14
TOTAL CRASHES	38	40	27	7	112

Fig. 5 -- Toole County Impaired Crashes by Time of Day (2000-2009)

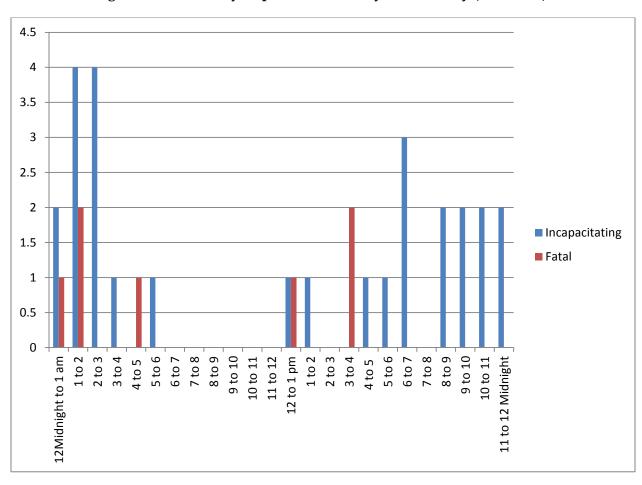


Fig. 6 -- Impaired Crashes by Driver Gender -Toole County (2000-2009)

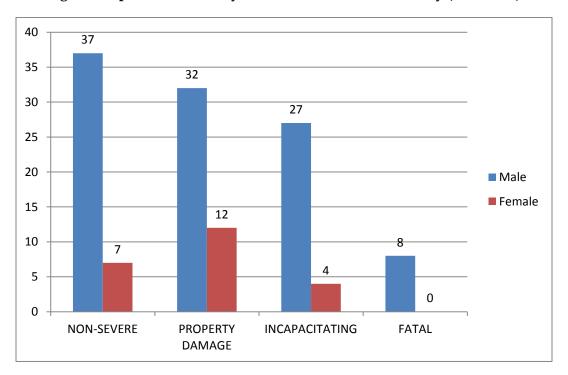


Fig. 7 -- Impaired Crashes by Driver Age -- Toole County (2000-2009)

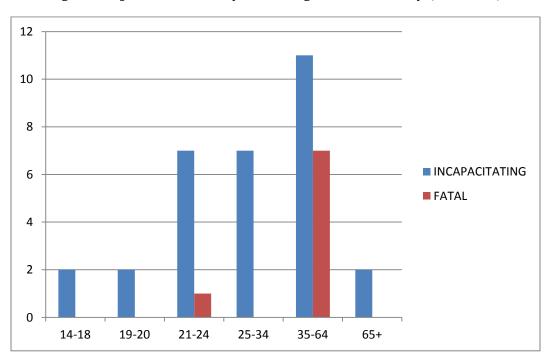


Fig. 8 -- Impaired Crashes -Seat Belt Use - Toole County (2000-2009)

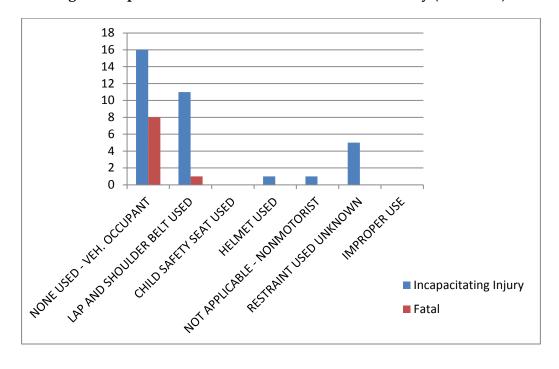
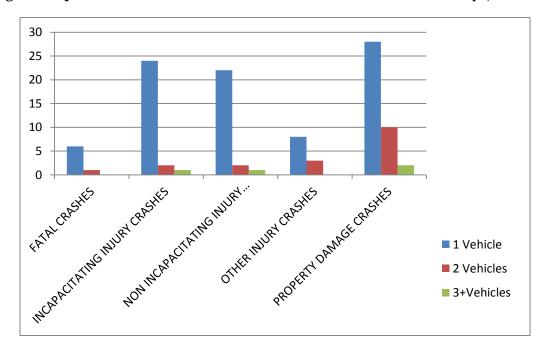


Fig. 9 -- Impaired Crashes - Number of Vehicles Involved -Toole County (2000-2009)



Impaired Driving Strategies

Saturation Patrols. A saturation patrol (dedicated DUI patrol) consists of extra law enforcement officers patrolling a specific area for a set time to detect and arrest impaired drivers. Toole Co. Sheriff's Department previously participated in STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) but does not currently due to resource limitations.

Court Monitoring. In court monitoring programs, citizens observe, track, and report on DUI court or administrative hearing activities. Court monitoring provides data on how many cases are dismissed or pled down to lesser offenses, how many result in convictions, what sanctions are imposed, and how these results compare across different judges and different courts.

DUI Court. A dedicated DUI court provides a systematic and coordinated approach to prosecuting, sentencing, monitoring, and treating DUI offenders. Communities in Montana which currently have DUI courts include Kalispell, Billings, and the 7th Judicial District (Dawson, McCone, Prairie, Richland and Wibaux Counties).

Alcohol Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Alcohol screening is a quick assessment that estimates the level and severity of alcohol use and also identifies the appropriate level of treatment. Brief interventions are short, one-time encounters with people who may be at risk of alcohol-related injuries or other health problems which focus on the awareness of the problem and motivation toward behavior change. Brief interventions take advantage of a "teachable moment" when a patient can be shown that alcohol use can have serious health consequences.

Mass Media Campaign. A mass media campaign consists of intensive communications and outreach activities regarding alcohol-impaired driving that use radio, television, print, and other mass media, both paid and/or earned. Effective campaigns identify a specific audience and communications goal and develop messages and delivery methods that are appropriate to, and effective for, the audience and goal.

Responsible Alcohol Sales & Service (RASS). Responsible alcohol service covers a range of alcohol sales policies and practices that prevent or discourage restaurant and bar patrons from drinking to excess or from driving while impaired by alcohol. Server training programs teach servers how to recognize the signs of intoxication and how to prevent intoxicated patrons from further drinking and from driving. Management policies and programs include limits on cheap drinks and other promotions, support for designated driver programs, strong commitment to server training, and strong support for servers who refuse alcohol to intoxicated patrons. RASS programs must be coordinated with compliance checks to have a measured and maximum effectiveness.

Alternative Transportation. Alternative transportation is provided to people to enable them to get to and from places where they drink without having to drive. May be provided for a fee or by volunteers. The Toole Co. Tavern Association has indicated that bartenders now informally call taxis for patrons who have been drinking and are unable to drive.

Designated Drivers. Designated drivers are individuals who agree not to drink so they can drive their friends who have been drinking. Formal designated driver programs in drinking establishments provide incentives such as free soft drinks for people who agree to be designated drivers. Usually designated driver arrangements are informal.

Zero-Tolerance Law Enforcement of Underage Drinking. Zero-tolerance laws set a maximum BAC of .02 or less for drivers under 21. Violators have their driver's licenses suspended or revoked. Montana presently has this law in effect.

Minimum Drinking Age Law Enforcement. Enforcement can take several forms:

- Actions directed at alcohol vendors: compliance checks to verify that vendors will not sell to youth.
- Actions directed at youth: "use-and-lose" laws that confiscate the driver's license of an underage drinker, "Cops in Shops" directed at underage alcohol purchasers, law enforcement "party patrols" using party dispersal techniques, and penalties for using false identification.
- Actions directed at adults: beer keg registration laws, enforcement of laws prohibiting purchasing alcohol for youth, and programs to limit parties where parents provide alcohol to youth.

Social Host Ordinance. Social host ordinances hold adults and other property owners accountable for the cost of law enforcement's repeated response to underage drinking parties regardless of whether the party violates nuisance laws. The ordinances can be a powerful tool for local law enforcement. They may also help parents to say "no" when their teenagers want to have their friends over for a few beers.

Bar Patrols. Law enforcement and probation and parole officers look for convicted DUI offenders who have been ordered not to consume alcohol or frequent taverns as part of their sentencing. Officers can also look for and cite instances of over-service.

Youth Programs. These programs seek to motivate youth not to drink, not to drink and drive, and not to ride with a driver who has been drinking. The D.A.R.E. program is no longer provided in Toole Co. due to lack of staff and resources.

School Education Programs. Elementary and secondary schools often include education on alcohol, impaired driving, and traffic safety as regular topics in health and driver education courses. Red Ribbon Week is held in Toole Co. at end of October to encourage avoidance of alcohol and drugs.

DUI Task Force. DUI task forces are multi-faceted coalitions that invite participation from a cross-section of community representatives in order to maximize their reach and effectiveness. Initial funding comes from driver license reinstatement fees. The task forces operate at the county level to reduce and prevent impaired driving, and may engage in a variety of activities at the county level. There is no DUI Task Force in Toole Co.

Law Enforcement Training. Improve detection of impaired driving and subsequent handling of offender and documentation of evidence. Montana currently has a Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor who provides training to law enforcement and prosecutors to enhance the consistent identification, arrest, prosecution and sentencing of traffic safety violations, particularly DUI. The Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor also disseminates information on current case law and other timely information related to DUI.

Law Enforcement Equipment. In-car video cameras and lapel video recorders allow law enforcement to document an interaction with an impaired driver. The visual evidence is compelling to jurors. Also, DUI arrests are often witnessed only by the defendant and the officer; this equipment provides documentation when the facts of the case are contested. A preliminary breath test device is a small handheld alcohol sensor used to estimate or measure a driver's BAC. Law enforcement officers use PBTs in the field to help establish evidence for a DUI arrest. A passive alcohol sensor is a device to detect alcohol presence in the air.

Alcohol Policies for Community Events. Limitation on open containers during fairs, rodeos, etc. by using "beer gardens" to contain alcohol service. Also helps keep minors out. Other policies of value include requiring RASS training for all servers to reduce liability and prevent over service from occurring.

Distracted/Inattentive Driving Fact Sheet – Toole County

Distracted/Inattentive Crash: Any crash with at least one driver-related contributing circumstance being inattentive driving, cell phone use or fell asleep, fainted, etc.

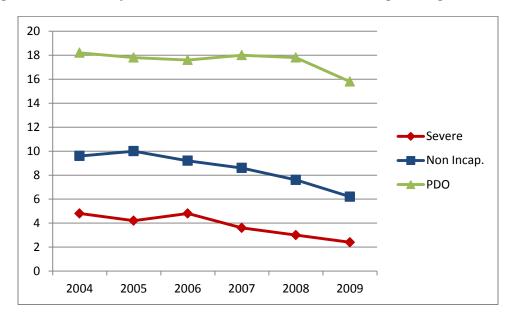


Fig.1 -- Toole County Inattentive Crashes - Five Year Rolling Average (2004-2009)

NOTE: Five year rolling average is the average of data for the five years ending with the year shown. E.g. for 2004 the data is an average of 2000-2004.

Toole County
TotalShelby
TotalSevere Crashes (Fatal +Incapacitating)364Non-Incapacitating Crashes & Other Injuries7919Property Damage Only (PDO) Crashes17097285120

Fig. 2 - Inattentive Crashes (2000-2009)

Fig. 3 - Toole County Inattentive Crashes by Roadway Type (2000-2009)

Severity	INTERSTATE	US Highway	State Highway	County Road	Local Street	TOTAL CRASHES
Fatal	2	5	2			9
Incapacitating	8	13	3	3		27
Other Injury	22	26	12	10	9	79
Property Damage						
TOTAL CRASHES	67	88	28	27	75	285

Fig. 4 -- Toole County Inattentive Run-Off-the-Road Crashes (2000-2009)

Fatal Crashes	4
Incapacitating Injury Crashes	19
Non Incapacitating Injury Crashes	52
Property Damage Only Crashes	56
Total Crashes	131

Fig. 5 -- Toole County Inattentive Crashes by Day of Week (2000-2009)

	NON-SEVERE	PROPERTY DAMAGE	INCAPACITATING	FATAL	TOTAL CRASHES
Saturday	15	24	4	2	45
Sunday	9	22	5	0	36
Monday	8	26	2	0	36
Tuesday	9	16	3	1	29
Wednesday	8	26	6	3	43
Thursday	13	32	5	2	52
Friday	17	24	2	1	44
TOTAL CRASHES	79	170	27	9	285

Fig. 6 - Toole County Inattentive Crashes by Time of Day (2000-2009)

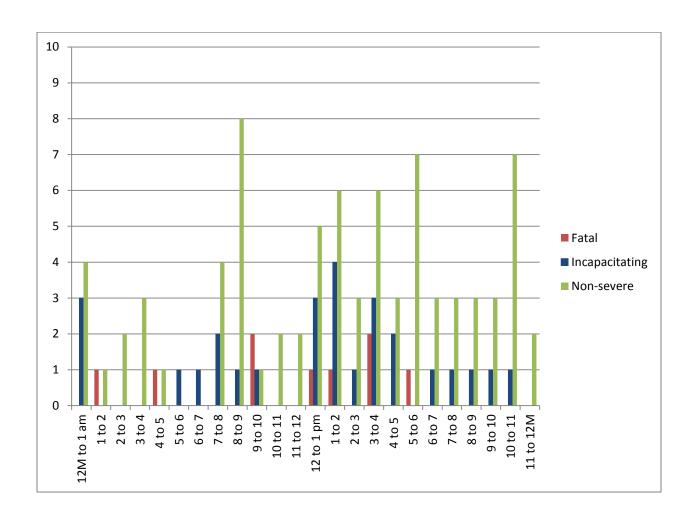


Fig. 7 -- Inattentive Crashes by Driver Gender -Toole County (2000-2009)

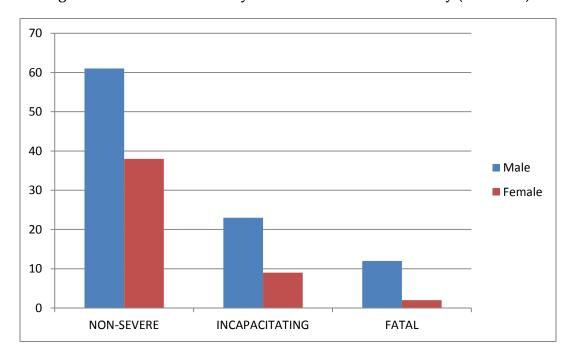


Fig. 8 - Toole County Inattentive Crashes by Driver Age (2000-2009)

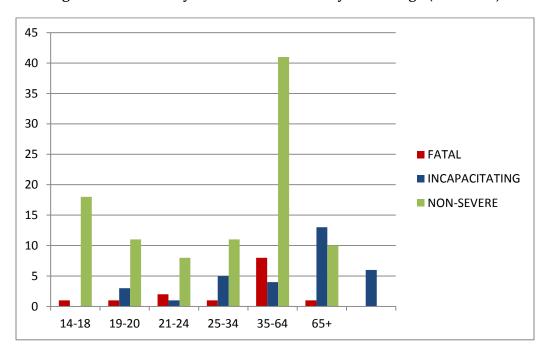


Fig. 9 - Inattentive Crashes -Seat Belt Use - Toole County (2000-2009)

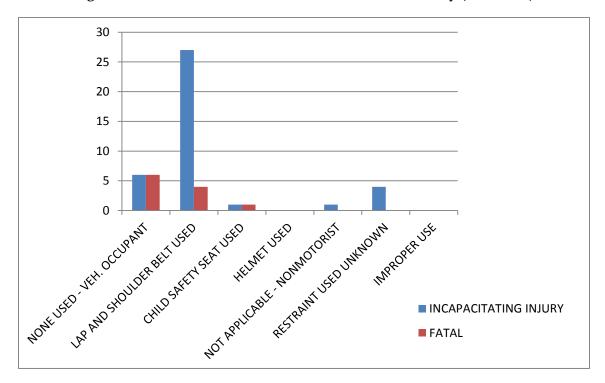
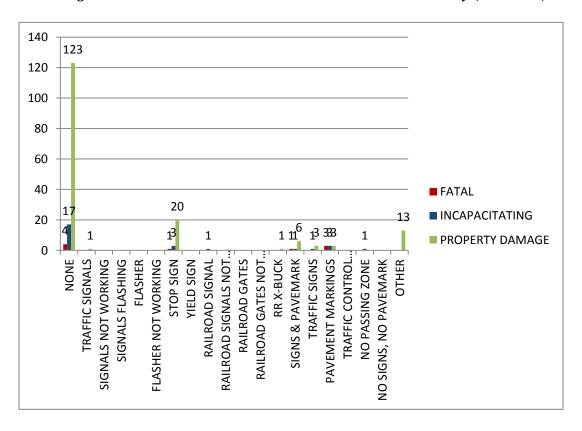


Fig. 10 - Inattentive Crashes - Traffic Control -Toole County (2000-2009)



Potential Inattentive Driving Strategies

Laws Prohibiting Use of Handheld Electronic Devices. Drivers are four times more likely to be involved in a serious crash when using a cell phone. The risk of being involved in a crash while using a handheld or hands-free cell phone is comparable to the risk of driving with a blood alcohol concentration at or above the legal limit of .08 g/dL. Hands-free phones, however, offer no safety advantage over handheld phones. The City of Billings and other cities in Montana have recently passed ordinances restricting Use of Electronic Communications Devices While Operating a Motor Vehicle.

Education and Outreach. There is strong public support for education and outreach to reduce distracted driving. However, distractions come in many forms. Distractions outside the car are not under the driver's control. Many distractions inside the car also cannot be controlled easily (conversations, children), or are intentional (listening to the radio or CD player, GPS, cell phones, eating). They may in fact be useful, to keep drivers alert on a long trip. To have any chance, stand-alone educational campaigns must be carefully pre-tested, communicate health information not previously known, and be long-term. Outreach efforts may target specific demographic groups, e.g.

- Drivers in their teens and early 20s
- General population
- Older Drivers (age 65+)
- Programs may be targeted to male or female if the data shows a prevalence of crashes among one gender

Employer Programs. Communications about inattentive or fatigued driving may be disseminated through employers, particularly for shift workers; through company safety officers, newsletters, and insurance providers. Employers may set policies prohibiting phone use or other distractions while driving on the job or in a company-owned vehicle.

Safe Stops and Rest Areas. Rest areas provide opportunities for motorists, particularly truck drivers, to safely stop, stretch, take a nap, etc. Rest areas provide a safe and convenient alternative to unsafe parking along roadsides and may reduce drowsy and distracted driving. As a result, they may also reduce incidents of run-off-the-road crashes. Rest areas are typically provided on Interstate highways but other opportunities may exist on state or county roads in Toole Co. or public truck stops. Appropriate siting, security, services, and maintenance should be considered.