

Traffic Safety Facts

Research Note

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Total and Alcohol-Related Fatality Rates by State, 2002-2003

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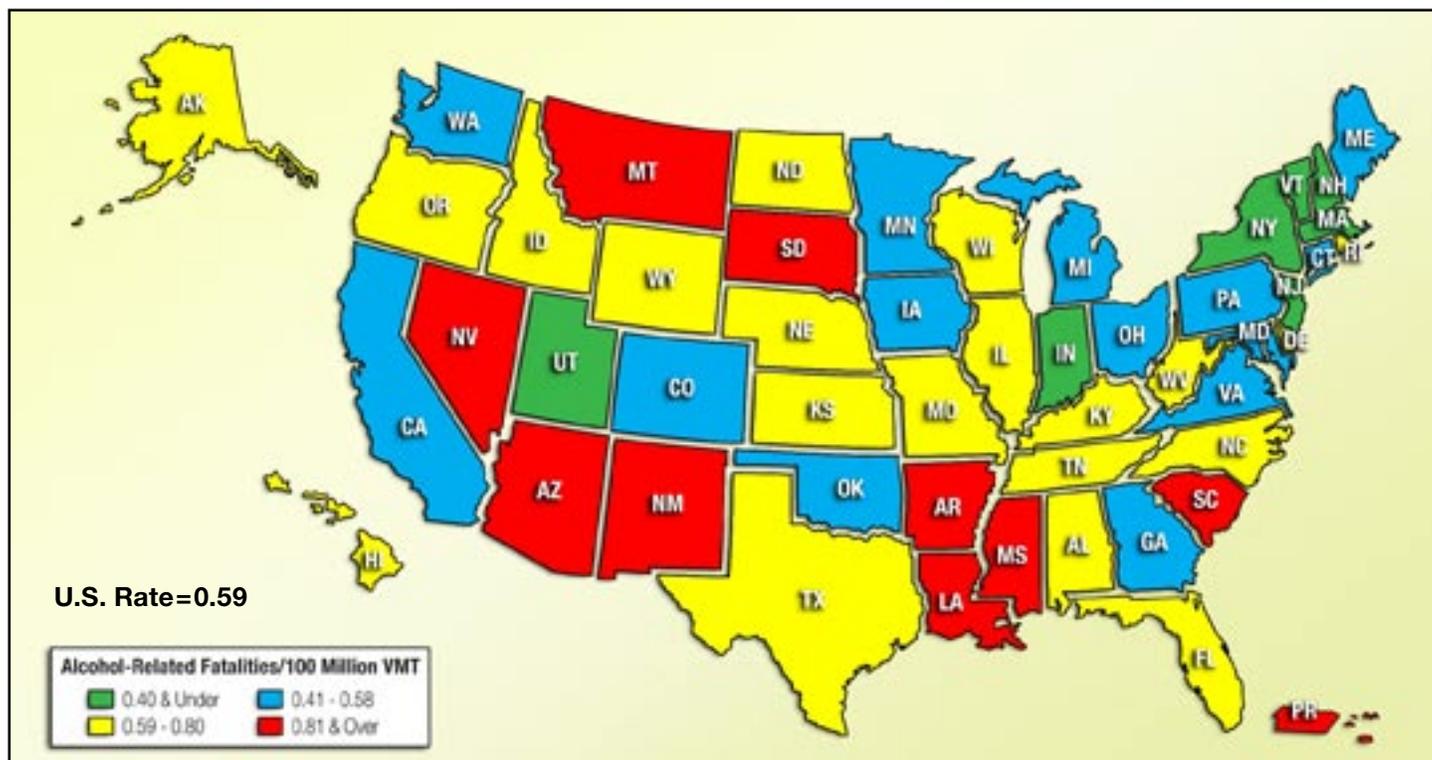
Introduction

This Research Note presents updated statistics on the number of fatalities and alcohol-related fatalities by state as well as the rate per Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT). In 2003, the total and alcohol-related fatality rates declined to 1.48 and 0.59, respectively, as compared to 1.51 and 0.61, respectively, in 2002.

The data used in this report uses the 2002 Final and 2003 Annual Report File (ARF) of NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Annual VMT data by state is released by the FHWA. The number of alcohol-related fatalities are generated using BAC values reported to FARS and imputed BAC values when they are not reported. Figure 1 depicts the number of

alcohol-related fatalities per 100 Million VMT for each state in 2003. The states are color coded as to whether their rates are at or above (yellow, red) the national rate of 0.59 or below (blue, green). Table 1 (overleaf) depicts the statistics for 2002 and 2003. In 2003, the alcohol-related fatality rate declined from 2002 in a total of thirty-one states and Puerto Rico.

Figure 1
Alcohol-Related Fatalities per 100 Million VMT by State, 2003



Source: National Center for Statistics and Analysis, 2003 FARS Annual Report

Table 1

Total and Alcohol-Related Fatalities and Fatality Rate/100 Million VMT, 2002-2003

State	2002				2003			
	Total		Alcohol-Related		Total		Alcohol-Related	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Alabama	1,038	1.80	410	0.71	1,001	1.71	415	0.71
Alaska	89	1.82	37	0.76	95	1.92	35	0.71
Arizona	1,132	2.18	489	0.94	1,120	2.08	470	0.87
Arkansas	640	2.13	241	0.80	627	2.05	254	0.83
California	4,088	1.27	1,628	0.51	4,215	1.30	1,626	0.50
Colorado	743	1.71	314	0.72	632	1.46	246	0.57
Connecticut	325	1.04	144	0.46	294	0.94	131	0.42
Delaware	124	1.40	50	0.56	142	1.57	60	0.66
Dist of Columbia	47	1.33	24	0.68	67	1.61	34	0.82
Florida	3,136	1.76	1,279	0.72	3,169	1.71	1,274	0.69
Georgia	1,524	1.41	533	0.49	1,603	1.47	488	0.45
Hawaii	119	1.34	47	0.53	135	1.45	72	0.77
Idaho	264	1.86	91	0.64	293	2.05	107	0.75
Illinois	1,420	1.35	653	0.62	1,453	1.36	639	0.60
Indiana	792	1.09	262	0.36	834	1.15	262	0.36
Iowa	405	1.31	137	0.44	441	1.42	145	0.47
Kansas	507	1.78	227	0.80	471	1.64	206	0.72
Kentucky	915	1.95	302	0.64	928	1.99	276	0.59
Louisiana	907	2.09	427	0.99	894	2.02	406	0.92
Maine	216	1.47	50	0.34	207	1.39	75	0.50
Maryland	661	1.23	276	0.51	649	1.19	281	0.51
Massachusetts	459	0.86	224	0.42	462	0.86	207	0.39
Michigan	1,277	1.28	494	0.49	1,283	1.27	481	0.48
Minnesota	657	1.20	256	0.47	657	1.19	267	0.48
Mississippi	885	2.43	335	0.92	871	2.32	320	0.85
Missouri	1,208	1.77	518	0.76	1,232	1.81	504	0.74
Montana	269	2.59	126	1.21	262	2.41	128	1.18
Nebraska	307	1.64	117	0.63	293	1.54	121	0.64
Nevada	381	2.12	165	0.92	368	1.91	182	0.94
New Hampshire	127	1.01	50	0.40	127	0.96	52	0.39
New Jersey	771	1.10	281	0.40	747	1.07	275	0.39
New Mexico	449	1.97	219	0.96	439	1.92	198	0.87
New York	1,530	1.15	482	0.36	1,491	1.10	529	0.39
North Carolina	1,576	1.70	592	0.64	1,531	1.63	554	0.59
North Dakota	97	1.32	49	0.67	105	1.41	52	0.70
Ohio	1,418	1.31	558	0.52	1,277	1.17	467	0.43
Oklahoma	739	1.62	251	0.55	668	1.46	255	0.56
Oregon	436	1.26	180	0.52	512	1.46	207	0.59
Pennsylvania	1,614	1.54	649	0.62	1,577	1.48	618	0.58
Rhode Island	84	1.03	46	0.56	104	1.24	57	0.68
South Carolina	1,053	2.23	549	1.16	968	2.01	488	1.01
South Dakota	180	2.12	92	1.08	203	2.38	98	1.15
Tennessee	1,177	1.73	485	0.71	1,193	1.73	447	0.65
Texas	3,823	1.73	1,810	0.82	3,675	1.64	1,709	0.76
Utah	328	1.34	71	0.29	309	1.29	46	0.19
Vermont	78	0.98	27	0.34	69	0.83	29	0.35
Virginia	914	1.18	379	0.49	943	1.23	364	0.47
Washington	658	1.20	299	0.55	600	1.09	259	0.47
West Virginia	439	2.19	179	0.89	394	1.96	148	0.74
Wisconsin	803	1.37	360	0.61	848	1.42	387	0.65
Wyoming	176	1.95	67	0.74	165	1.79	62	0.67
U.S.	43,005	1.51	17,524	0.61	42,643	1.48	17,013	0.59
Puerto Rico	518	2.86	241	1.33	493	2.64	233	1.25

Source: NCSA FARS 2002 (Final), 2003 (ARF) Files FHWA (Publication FHWA-PL-04-009).