

Jackson State University

Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drugs Studies Center

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# Consequences of impaired driving for young drivers

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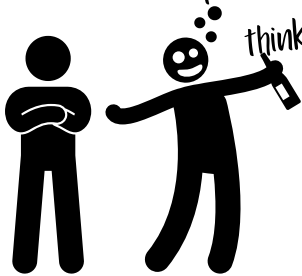
Funded by the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety

# What is Impaired Driving?

impaired driving is operating a motor vehicle (car, truck, motorcycles, 4-wheeler, etc.) while under the influence of any intoxicating substance/drug

*Alcohol is a drug*

Alcohol is a substance that reduces the function of the brain by impairing thinking, reasoning, and muscle coordination



buzzed  
driving is  
drunk  
driving

## Is Driving AFTER drinking Legal?

Yes. For drivers aged 21 or older with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) below 0.08%

[0.08% is the legal limit in all 50 states]

## What if you're under 21?

Anyone under 21 is subject to the ZERO TOLERANCE LAW

this law prohibits anyone under the age of 21 to drive after drinking any amount of alcohol!



# Statistics for young drivers.

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Car crashes are a leading cause of death for teens and young adults. Young drivers aged 15 to 20 years old are already 10x's more likely to die in a car accident due to their lack of experience. When alcohol is added to the equation, they become 17x's more likely to die in a car crash.

- About a quarter of all fatal crashes involve an underage drinking driver.
- Approximately 2,000 underage drinkers die each year behind the wheel
- In 2021, 27% of young drivers aged 15 to 20 years old who were killed in crashes had Blood Alcohol Concentration levels of .01% or higher.





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**Contact Us:**

601-979-2094

IADSC@JSUMS.EDU



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