

Jackson State University

Interdisciplinary Alcohol & Drugs Studies Center

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The  
Consequences  
of Alcohol  
Impaired  
Driving  
for Young  
Drivers

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Funded by the Mississippi Office of Highway Safety

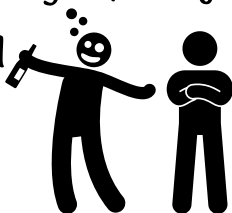
# What is Impaired Driving?

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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



## Did you know?

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- Car crashes are a leading cause of death for teens and young adults.
- Young drivers aged 16 to 20 years old are already 10 times more likely to die in a car accident due to their lack of experience.
  - When alcohol is added to the equation, they become 17 times more likely to die in a car crash.
- Every day, about 37 people in the United States die in drunk-driving crashes — that's one person every 39 minutes.

# Everyone 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!



**buzzed**  
driving is  
**drunk**  
driving

## The Effects of Blood Alcohol Concentration

### BAC Level

### Predictable effects on Driving

.02

Decline in visual functions. decline in ability to perform two tasks at the same time

.05

Reduced coordination, reduced ability to track moving objects, difficulty steering, reduced response to emergency driving situations

.08

Concentration, short-term memory loss, speed control, reduced information processing capability (e.g., signal detection, visual search), impaired perception

.10

Reduced ability to maintain lane position and brake appropriately

.15

Substantial impairment in vehicle control, attention to driving task, and in necessary visual and auditory information processing

[the legal limit in all 50 states for drivers 21+]

# Impaired Driving Prevention Tips After Alcohol Consumption

- Ride with a sober friend.
- Call for an Uber, Lyft, or Cab.
- Call a parent, sibling, grandparent, or someone you trust to take you home.
- Do not allow your friend to drive while impaired! Take and/or hide their keys.
- Never ride in a vehicle with an impaired driver, No matter who it is!
- Offer to be the designated driver if you have not consumed any alcohol.

## Schedule a Presentation with the Youth Alcohol Prevention Program

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