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Issue

TRAUMA & HIGHWAY

focus

Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes and Drug Use



13,169

Trauma patients were involved in motor vehicle traffic crashes

14.6%

Were under the suspected influence of drugs

43

Trauma patient deaths from motor vehicle traffic crashes in Arizona while under the suspected influence of drugs

Table 1. Alcohol-Related Crash Impacts

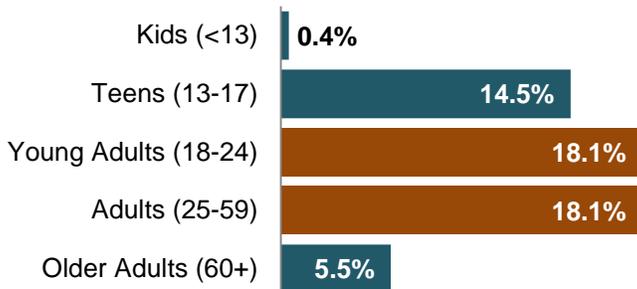
	Death	Major Trauma *	Hospital Length of Stay	Median Charges
Drug use confirmed/suspected	2.2%	18.9%	3 days	\$39,034
No drug use	2.5%	11.5%	3 days	\$22,950

*Major trauma is defined as having an Injury Severity Score greater than 15

Drugs and Trauma

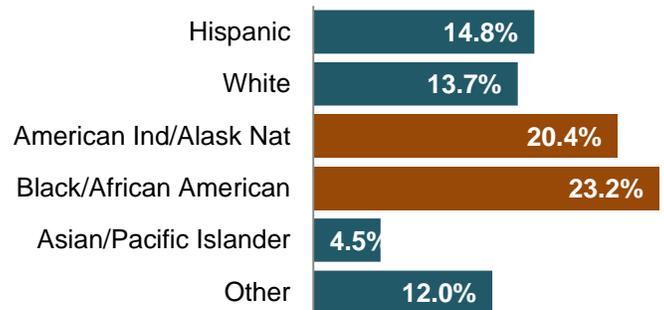
Motor vehicle traffic crashes involving drugs are associated with increased injury severity and higher median hospital charges (Table 1).

Drug Use by Age



Adults (25-59) and Young Adults (18-24) had the highest proportion of drug use when involved in motor vehicle crashes.

Drug Use by Race/Ethnicity



Black/African Americans and American Indians/Alaska Natives had the highest proportion of drug use when involved in motor vehicle crashes.

Fast Facts from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention

- "In 2014, over 1.1 million drivers in the U.S. were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics."
- About 16% of motor vehicle crashes in the U.S. involve drugs (legal or illegal).
- 13% of nighttime, weekend drivers in the U.S. are under the influence of marijuana.

Data source: Arizona State Trauma registry, 2014, Bureau of EMS and Trauma, Arizona Department of Health Services,



The Focal Point for
Highway Safety Issues in Arizona

1700 W. Washington St.
Executive Tower, Ste. 430
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Phone: 602-255-3216
Toll-Free: 1-877 355-3216