
DUI Numbers

- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that alcohol was involved in 31% of fatal crashes in 2012.
- The 10,322 fatalities in alcohol-related crashes during 2012 represent an average of one alcohol-related fatality every 51 minutes.
- In South Carolina for the year 2012, 348 people were killed in alcohol-impaired driving crashes.
- Nationally of the 1,168 traffic deaths among children ages 0 to 14 years in 2012, 239 (20%) involved an alcohol-impaired driver.
- In fatal crashes in 2012 the highest percentage of drivers with a BAC level of .08 or higher was for drivers ages 21 to 24 (32%), followed by ages 25 to 34 (29%) and 35-44 (25%)
- DUI can be charged at .05 BAC and higher if you are impaired by alcohol while operating a motor vehicle.



A Goal We Can All Live With



Brochure by:

Greer Police Department Traffic Team

Contact Us

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Driving Under the Influence Facts



Information provided by Centers for Disease Control, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and SC Department of Public Safety

The Components of BAC

- BAC stands for Blood Alcohol Content and is usually represented as a two digit decimal number. This number is actually the percentage of your blood that is alcohol.
- Every person is affected by alcohol to differing degrees by many factors not under our immediate control. Genetics, age, gender, weight, muscle tone, drinking history, and metabolism all play a major role in how your body processes alcohol.
- Two of the biggest factors that are in your control are time and absorption rate.
- The more time you give your body to process what you consume before you consume more the less your BAC will be.
- Absorption is when alcohol moves from your stomach and small intestine into your blood. Drinking on an empty stomach will cause your body to absorb more alcohol much faster than if a meal consumed before drinking with a high protein meal being the best for slowing absorption.

Charts are estimates based on averages.

ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT CHART FEMALES

APPROXIMATE BLOOD ALCOHOL PERCENTAGE										
Drinks *	BODY WEIGHT IN POUNDS									EFFECT ON PERSON
	90	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240	
0	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	ONLY SAFE DRIVING LIMIT
1	.05	.05	.04	.03	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	IMPAIRMENT BEGINS
2	.10	.09	.08	.07	.06	.05	.05	.04	.04	DRIVING SKILLS SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED
3	.15	.14	.11	.11	.09	.08	.07	.06	.06	LEGALLY INTOXICATED
4	.20	.18	.15	.13	.11	.10	.09	.08	.08	
5	.25	.23	.19	.16	.14	.13	.11	.10	.09	
6	.30	.27	.23	.19	.17	.15	.14	.12	.11	
7	.35	.32	.27	.23	.20	.18	.16	.14	.13	CRIMINAL PENALTIES IN ALL STATES **
8	.40	.36	.30	.26	.23	.20	.18	.17	.15	
9	.45	.41	.34	.29	.26	.23	.20	.19	.17	
10	.50	.45	.38	.32	.28	.25	.23	.21	.19	

ALCOHOL IMPAIRMENT CHART MALES

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Drinks *	BODY WEIGHT IN POUNDS									EFFECT ON PERSON
	100	120	140	160	180	200	220	240		
0	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	ONLY SAFE DRIVING LIMIT	
1	.04	.03	.03	.02	.02	.02	.02	.02	IMPAIRMENT BEGINS	
2	.08	.06	.05	.05	.04	.04	.03	.03	DRIVING SKILLS SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTED	
3	.11	.09	.08	.07	.06	.06	.05	.05	LEGALLY INTOXICATED	
4	.15	.12	.11	.09	.08	.08	.07	.06		
5	.19	.16	.13	.12	.11	.09	.09	.08		
6	.23	.19	.16	.14	.13	.11	.10	.09		
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8	.30	.25	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14	.13		
9	.34	.28	.24	.21	.19	.17	.15	.14		
10	.38	.31	.27	.23	.21	.19	.17	.16		

Subtract .01% for each 40 minutes of drinking.

What does BAC really mean?

Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) Levels

.15% About 7 beers		- Serious difficulty controlling the car and focusing on driving
.10% About 5 beers		- Markedly slow reaction time - Difficulty staying in lane and braking when needed
.08% About 4 beers		- Trouble controlling speed - Difficulty processing information and reasoning
.05% About 3 beers		- Reduced coordination and ability to track moving objects - Difficulty steering
.02% About 2 beers		- Loss of judgment - Trouble doing two tasks at the same time

What is a Drink?

These are the standard amounts of alcohol in standard drinks. Keep in mind a heavy hand at the bar can make 1 mixed drink into 2 standard drinks with ease. Wine (7%) and beer (5%) can be found with higher than normal alcohol concentrations which can make them count as more than one standard drink



as well.