



# **WTSC - PIRE - NHTSA Roadside Survey of Driver Drug & Alcohol Use**

**Darrin Grondel  
WTSC Director**

**AAMVA Region IV Conference  
June 4, 2015**

# WA PIRE Roadside Survey

- Recreational marijuana approved 2012 – medical was legalized in 1998
  - How will legalized recreational marijuana affect impaired driving in WA?
- The value of the PIRE Survey Offer
- Marijuana is addictive
  - #1 reason teens seek treatment
  - More addictive for young people
  - Higher THC in today's marijuana
    - 3% THC in 1973
    - 20% to 30% THC in pot sold in stores today

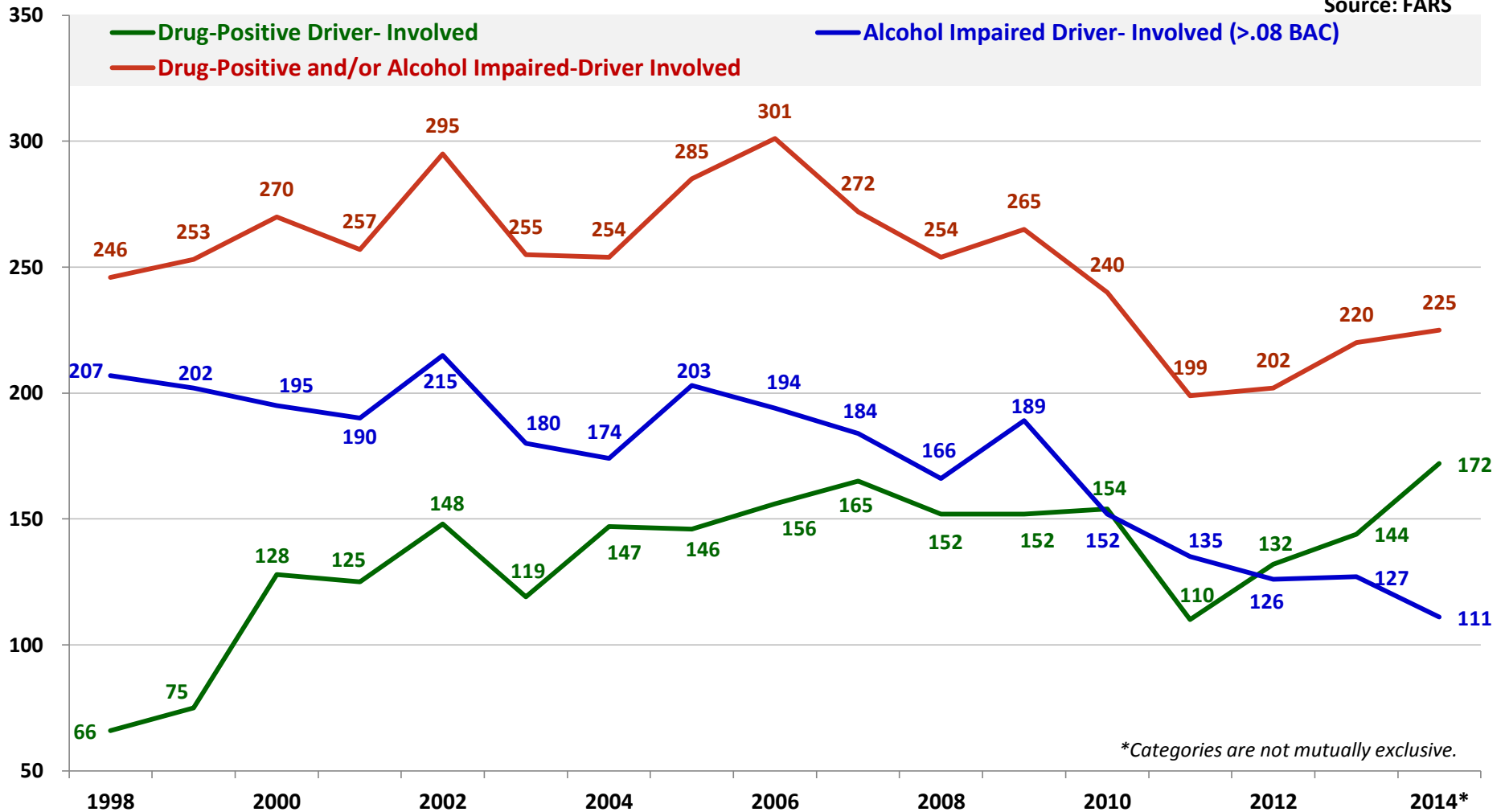


# Impaired Driving in WA

## Washington Drug/Alcohol-Involved Driving Deaths, 1998-2014\*

By Year and Substance Involvement, \*2014 figures based on preliminary data

Source: FARS



\*Categories are not mutually exclusive.

**Definitions** IDI: At least one driver (in the crash) had either a BAC of .08 or above, or a positive test for drugs; DDI: At least one driver had either a positive BAC test or was reported by police as 'Had Been Drinking'; AIDI: At least one driver had a BAC of .08 or above.

# Is WA Roadside Survey Feasible?

- Law enforcement response to survey
- Governor's Office
- ACLU
- **The Plan:**
  - Public outreach
  - Role of enforcement
  - WTSC on point



# June, 2014 Data Collection

- Six counties, 5 locations in each
- 926 drivers eligible
- 97% (917) breath tests
- 96% (902) saliva
- 74% (711) blood

**Male drivers age 20 – 34  
over-represented:**

- \* 21% population
- \* 45% survey sample



2015  
**region IV**  
**conference**



Park City, UT | June 1-4



2015  
**region IV**  
**conference**



Park City, UT | June 1-4

# Public Information Strategy:

- Educational video posted on WTSC website
- Aggressive earned media outreach
- Give the reporters an opportunity to experience the survey
- Reporters can't photograph people going through the survey
- Presentations for stakeholders
  - WASPC
  - WSP
  - ACLU



## New roadside drug, alcohol survey could include you



by JAKE WHITTENBERG / KING 5 News

Big | Email | Follow @jakewhittenberg

KING5.com

Posted on June 5, 2014 at 9:06 AM

Updated Thursday, Jun 5 at 9:06 AM

## \$19 Car Insurance - New

at 20-11 Sun in the quotelele.com/WA

Get a free Quote by Serv. 25-7545 (This link for)



... (unreadable text) ...  
 ... (unreadable text) ...  
 ... (unreadable text) ...  
 ... (unreadable text) ...  
 ... (unreadable text) ...





**“Have you ever, even once, used marijuana?”**

69% -- yes	T= 615	
31% -- no	T= 273	T= 888 respondents



Those who said they used marijuana in the last year were also asked: **“Have you used marijuana within two hours of driving?”**

44% -- yes	T= 97	
56% -- no	T = 123	T =220 respondents





The drivers who said they'd used marijuana within two hours of driving were also asked: **when you used marijuana and drove, how do you think it affected your driving?**

	Percentage of drivers:	Total number:	
Did not make any difference in my driving:	62%	60	
Made me a better driver:	25%	24	T = 84 (87%)
I don't know:	10%	10	
Made my driving worse:	3%	3	



Among the drivers surveyed, 877 answered the question:  
**“How likely do you think it is that marijuana impairs a person’s ability to drive safely if used within two hours of driving?”**

	Percentage:	Number of Respondents:	T= 877
Very likely	47%	409	
Likely	19%	162	
Somewhat likely	22%	197	T= 768 (88%)
Not at all likely	12%	109	





881 Survey respondents answered the question: **“How likely do you think it is that a person could be arrested for impaired driving after using marijuana within two hours of driving?”**

	Percentage:	Number of Respondents:	T= 881
Very likely	41%	360	
Likely	23%	204	
Somewhat likely	25%	219	T= 783 (89%)
Not at all likely	11%	98	

**For more information:**

**Darrin Grondel, Director**  
**360-753-6197**  
**[dgrondel@wtsc.wa.gov](mailto:dgrondel@wtsc.wa.gov)**

**Jonna VanDyk, Program Manager**  
**[jvandyk@wtsc.wa.gov](mailto:jvandyk@wtsc.wa.gov) 360-725-9885**

**Also:**  
**[www.wtsc.wa.gov](http://www.wtsc.wa.gov) and [www.pire.org](http://www.pire.org)**