MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY

Motor vehicle-related injuries are a leading cause of death for people aged 1-54 in the United States. Worldwide, road traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 and 29. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is using science to better understand this problem and develop programs and policies that will change behavior to keep people safe on the road every day.

RESOURCES

CDC’s Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention’s (DUIP) mission is to ensure that people of all ages—from infants to older adults—have safe and healthy lives with specific attention to motor vehicle safety. In support of this objective, DUIP staff focus on reducing deaths and injuries from motor vehicle crashes by monitoring the problem to inform prevention, increasing occupant restraint use, reducing impaired driving, improving road safety for teens and Native Americans, and collaborating with global partners.

The Guide to Community Preventive Services (Community Guide) includes systematic reviews of interventions in the following areas:

- Reducing Alcohol-Impaired Driving
- Use of Child Safety Seats
- Use of Safety Belts
- Use of Motorcycle Helmets

WISQARS - http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/
CDC’s WISQARS™ (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System) is an interactive, online database that provides fatal and nonfatal injury, violent death, and cost of injury data. Researchers, the media, public health professionals, and the public can use WISQARS™ data to learn more about the public health and economic burden associated with unintentional and violence-related injury in the United States.

CDC’s WONDER - http://wonder.cdc.gov/
Wide-ranging Online Data for Epidemiologic Research -- an easy-to-use, menu-driven system that makes the information resources of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) available to public health professionals and the public at large. It provides access to a wide array of public health information.

CDC Vital Signs - http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/
The CDC Vital Signs monthly report was launched in 2010. It includes a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), a graphic fact sheet and website, a media release, and social media tools. Most of the materials are available in English and Spanish.
Vital Signs is released the first Tuesday of every month. Issues include colorectal and breast cancer screening, obesity, alcohol and tobacco use, HIV testing, prescription drug overdoses, motor vehicle safety, cardiovascular disease, teen pregnancy and healthcare-associated infections, foodborne disease and more.

MV PICCS - http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/calculator/
CDC offers a new interactive calculator, called the Motor Vehicle PICCS (Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States), pronounced “picks”. This tool helps state decision makers prioritize and select from a suite of 12 effective motor vehicle injury prevention interventions. MV PICCS is designed to calculate the expected number of injuries prevented and lives saved at the state level and the costs of implementation, while taking into account available resources.

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of injury and death in the U.S., and because many proven prevention strategies occur on the state-level, it can be helpful to see things broken down by state, including state fact sheets – Restraint use: http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/states/occupant_death_rate.html alcohol-impaired driving: http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/impaired_driving/states.html.

The Prevention Status Reports (PSRs) highlight—for all 50 states and the District of Columbia—the status of public health policies and practices designed to prevent or reduce 10 important public health problems. The PSRs highlight—for all 50 states and the District of Columbia—the status of four key policies that states can use to reduce motor vehicle crash injuries and deaths:

- Implementing primary enforcement seat belt laws
- Mandating the use of car seats and booster seats for motor vehicle passengers through at least age 8 years
- Using comprehensive graduated driver licensing systems
- Requiring the use of ignition interlock devices for those convicted of driving while intoxicated

Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices is a basic reference to assist State Highway Safety Offices (SHSOs) in selecting effective, evidence-based countermeasures for traffic safety problem areas.