

Impaired Driving Initiatives

Media backgrounder – October 2016

Law changes effective Jan. 1, 2017*

Zero tolerance for alcohol and drugs



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|--------------------|---|
| New law | Zero tolerance for alcohol or drugs for drivers 21 and under and for all new drivers** (60-day licence suspension on 1st offence still applies) |
| Current law | Zero tolerance for drivers under the age of 19 and all new drivers** (60-day licence suspension on 1st offence) |

Vehicle seizures for .04-.08 blood alcohol content (BAC) offences

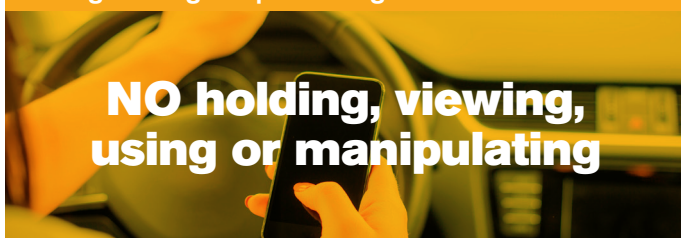


| | |
|--------------------|---|
| New law | 3-day vehicle seizure for experienced drivers with .04-.08 BAC on a first offence |
| Current law | No vehicle seizure for experienced drivers with .04-.08 BAC on a first offence |

Ignition interlock duration

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|--------------------|--|----------------|---|
| Current law | .08 BAC and above, impaired or refuse breath sample 1st offence – 1 year 2nd offence – 2 years 3rd and subsequent offences – 5 years | New law | .08 - .159 BAC or impaired 1st offence – 1 year 2nd offence – 3 years 3rd and subsequent offences – 10 years |
| | Over .16 BAC or refuse breath sample 1st offence – 2 years 2nd offence – 5 years 3rd and subsequent offences – 10 years | | |
| | New drivers** and drivers under 19 – Zero BAC 3rd offence – voluntary ignition interlock for 365 days, after 90-day suspension | | New drivers** and drivers 21 and under – Zero BAC 3rd offence – mandatory ignition interlock for 365 days, after 365-day suspension |

Strengthening cellphone legislation



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|--------------------|---|
| New law | Drivers prohibited from holding, viewing, using or manipulating a cellphone while driving |
| Current law | Drivers prohibited from using a cellphone while driving |

**New drivers include any driver in the Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) or Motorcycle GDL program, regardless of age

*Pending legislative approval

Impaired driving statistics*

Why the new laws are being strengthened for .04-.08 BAC offences

On average, **44% of traffic fatalities** in Saskatchewan are alcohol related. In 2015, **impaired driving-related collisions claimed 53 lives and resulted in 578 injuries.**

Drivers over .08 BAC, as well as those between .04-.08 BAC, contribute to this picture.

Statistics specific to .04-.08 BAC offences

39% of all alcohol-related collisions in Saskatchewan in 2015 **involved drinking drivers with BAC levels lower than .08.**

In 2015, **drinking drivers with BAC levels between .04-.08** were involved in collisions that **killed three people.**

In the same year, **drinking drivers with BAC levels between .04-.08** were involved in collisions that **injured 155 people.**

According to the Coroner's office, in 2015 **10 out of 40 drinking drivers killed** in collisions had **BAC levels lower than .08.**

Why the new laws include drivers 21 and under

Drivers 21 and under are involved in significantly more alcohol-related collisions compared to drivers under 19.

| Age | Number of Licensed Drivers | Percentage of Licensed Drivers | % of Total Impaired Driving Convictions | Fatal Crashes Involving Drinking Drivers | % of Total Crashes Involving Alcohol |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Under 19 | 63,366 | 7.9% | 4% | 2 | 4% |
| 21 and under | 114,397 | 14.3% | 14% | 10 | 20% |

Enforcement initiatives

Automated licence plate readers (ALPRs)



ALPRs use infra-red technology to scan licence plates and alert police when the plate is linked to a stolen or unregistered vehicle, a suspended driver, or a person wanted by police.

Watch a video about ALPRs at sgi.sk.ca/alpr

Check stops



for law enforcement to **increase** check stops targeting **impaired driving**

*2015 numbers are preliminary and could change as investigations are ongoing and SGI receives additional police and Coroner reports. These figures reflect information that is known to SGI as of Oct. 11, 2016.

Awareness initiatives

Multi-media advertising campaigns are underway and will continue into 2017 and beyond.

Know the consequences

**DRIVING IMPAIRED?
KNOW THE LAW**

.04 BLOOD ALCOHOL CONTENT =

- **1st OFFENCE:** 9-day licence suspension
- **2nd OFFENCE:** 21-day licence suspension + 7 day vehicle seizure
- **3rd OFFENCE:** Mandatory ignition interlock installed on vehicle
- Financial penalties from **\$340 – \$8,770**

FOR NEW DRIVERS

- Zero drug/alcohol tolerance for drivers under 19 & new drivers; penalties apply if any amount in driver's system

Always plan a safe ride home. **SGI** More info at sgi.sk.ca

SGI's "Know the consequences" campaign outlines the current impaired driving laws in Saskatchewan.

View the ads at sgi.sk.ca/consequences

People shouldn't disappear

SGI's "People shouldn't disappear" campaign illustrates the human consequences of impaired driving.

View the ad at sgi.sk.ca/disappear