

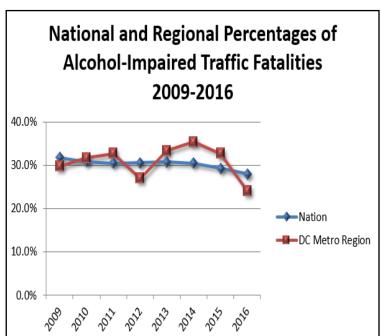
"We must do everything in our power to keep our roads safe and to prevent drunk drivers from getting behind the wheel." - Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe at the launch of Virginia's 2017 anti-drunk driving Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign

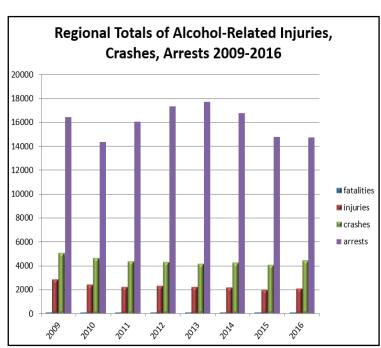
Annual Data Report on the Impact of Drunk Driving on Road Safety in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Region

December 2017

Prepared in partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

## A Look at Regional and National Figures







The metropolitan Washington Region has experienced a decrease in alcohol and/or drug-related fatalities and traffic arrests and an increase in alcohol and/or drug-related crashes and injuries.

Regional alcohol and/or drug-impaired traffic fatalities have decreased to 24.08% of total crash fatalities in the region in 2016, compared with 32.75% due to alcohol and/or drug impairment in 2015. Nationally, alcohol-impaired fatality rates stand at 28% in 2016.

Jurisdictions differ in collection and categorization methods for alcohol-impaired driving, therefore, some of the data in this report may include both alcohol and alcohol/drug-impaired driving numbers. These regional totals include U.S. National Park Service data.

## **How Safe Are Our Roads? 2017 Overview**

Findings in the 2017 report include:

**FATALITIES:** Local alcohol and/or drug-impaired traffic fatalities **decreased** by 21.33% between 2015 and 2016 (from 75 to 59 such fatalities).

**CRASHES:** Area traffic crashes attributed to alcohol and/or drugs **increased** by 8.63% between 2015 and 2016 (from 4,055 to 4,405 such crashes).\*

**INJURIES:** Regional alcohol and/or drug-related traffic injuries **increased** by 3.97% between 2015 and 2016 (from 1,963 to 2,041 such injuries).\*

**ARRESTS:** Local arrests for either driving under the influence (DUI) or driving while impaired (DWI) **decreased** by 2.72% between 2015 and 2016 (from 14,801 to 14,398 such arrests).

Of the Washington Metropolitan area's 245 total traffic fatalities for 2016, **59 or 24.08%** of these roadway deaths were due to drivers who were alcohol and/or drug-impaired (Blood Alcohol Content [BAC]= .08+).

National statistics (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, NHTSA) show that 28% of total U.S. vehicular fatalities in 2016 were reported as alcohol impaired (BAC= .08+).

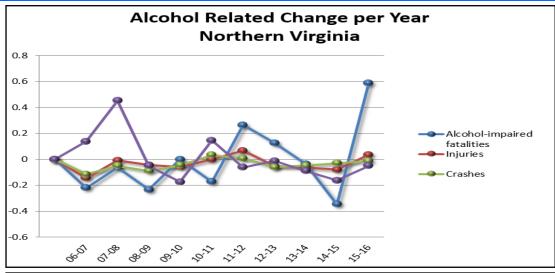
\* U.S. National Park Service data was not available for 2015 to compare to 2016. These numbers only include regional totals.

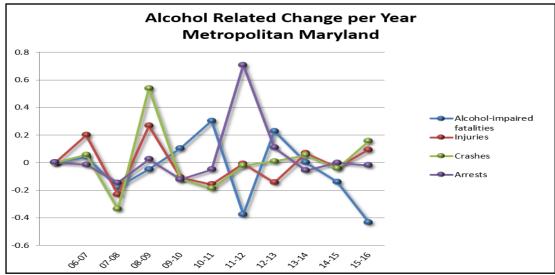
## **Background**

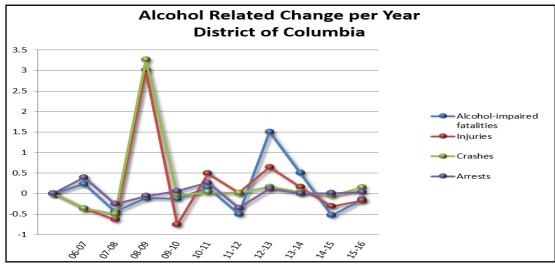
Data compiled in this report comes from national, state, and local sources including the U.S. Census Bureau, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. National Park Service (NPS), Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VA DMV), Maryland National Study Center for Trauma and Emergency Medical Systems (MD NSC), and local police departments of each jurisdiction.

Jurisdictional data in this report does not always include State Police data. The State Police in Maryland and Virginia are charged with enforcing traffic laws on state highways and interstate expressways; inclusion of this data would likely increase the number of incidents in all categories. It is possible that some jurisdictional data may include State Police figures because local police often respond to highway incidents when State Police are unavailable. In some jurisdictions, the data reported were provided by the state, and most likely include state police data.

## **Sub-Regional Trends**







<sup>\*</sup> Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC

## **Total Traffic Fatalities**

			Total T	raffic Fata	lities 2009	9-2016					
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016		
DISTRICT OF COLUM	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA										
Washington	29	24	27	15	29	26	26	28	7.69%		
MARYLAND	MARYLAND										
Montgomery County	39	47	40	37	41	40	47	42	-10.64%		
Prince George's County	98	92	105	83	87	98	95	78	-17.89%		
MD Regional Total	137	139	145	120	128	138	142	120	-15.49%		
VIRGINIA											
Arlington County	6	6	6	4	6	5	5	1	-80.00%		
Fairfax County	37	35	45	46	40	32	30	36	20.00%		
Loudoun County	13	12	11	17	13	12	11	12	9.09%		
Prince William County	16	23	15	19	19	23	11	30	172.73%		
City of Alexandria	1	2	3	4	3	0	4	4	0.00%		
City of Fairfax	2	0	1	5	2	0	0	4	400.00%		
City of Falls Church	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.00%		
City of Manassas	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.00%		
City of Manassas Park	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%		
Northern Virginia Total	79	80	82	96	83	73	61	87	42.62%		
DC Metro Regional Total	245	243	254	231	240	237	229	235	2.62%		
National Parks in Region	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	17	10	-41.18%		
Regional Total Adjusted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	243	N/A	246	245	-0.41%		
National	33,883	32,885	32,367	33,782	32,719	32,675	35,092	37,461	6.75%		

 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^{*}}$  Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

# **Alcohol-Impaired Traffic Fatalities**

Alcohol-Impaired Traffic Fatalities by Jurisdiction with BAC=.08+ 2009-2016										
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA										
Washington	11	7	8	4	10	15	7	6	-14.29%	
MARYLAND										
Montgomery County	11	13	20	10	12	11	10	4	-60.00%	
Prince George's County	28	30	36	25	31	32	27	17	-37.04%	
MD Regional Total	39	43	56	35	43	43	37	21	-43.24%	
VIRGINIA										
Arlington County	1	1	0	1	1	2	2	0	-100.00%	
Fairfax County	11	8	9	8	18	12	9	12	33.33%	
Loudoun County	4	3	4	5	4	6	2	4	100.00%	
Prince William County	5	11	3	10	4	5	2	9	350.00%	
City of Alexandria	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	1	-50.00%	
City of Fairfax	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	100.00%	
City of Falls Church	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.00%	
City of Manassas	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
City of Manassas Park	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%	
Northern Virginia Total	23	23	19	27	27	26	17	27	58.82%	
DC Metro Region Total	73	73	83	66	80	84	61	54	-11.48%	
National Parks in Region	1	4	0	3	1	4	14	5	-64.29%	
Regional Total Adjusted	74	77	83	69	81	88	75	59	-21.33%	
National	10,759	10,136	9,878	10,336	10,076	9,967	10,265	10,497	2.26%	

<sup>\*</sup> Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

# **Total Traffic Injuries**

	Total Traffic Injuries by Jurisdiction 2009-2016											
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA												
Washington	4,676	4,473	5,812	6,515	6,929	7,474	7,986	8,342	4.46%			
MARYLAND	MARYLAND											
Montgomery County	6,758	6,510	6,095	6,051	5,417	6,196	6,365	7,045	10.68%			
Prince George's County	6,786	6,084	6,422	6,411	6,532	6,549	6,746	7,715	14.36%			
MD Regional Total	13,544	12,594	12,517	12,462	11,949	12,745	13,111	14,760	12.58%			
VIRGINIA												
Arlington County	1,227	1,007	1,005	1,252	1,090	1,094	978	1,048	7.16%			
Fairfax County	7,590	7,600	7,767	8,185	7,608	7,649	7,677	7,564	-1.47%			
Loudoun County	1,681	1,764	1,869	1,837	1,917	2,123	2,143	2,289	6.81%			
Prince William County	2,614	2,741	2,826	2,763	3,030	2,915	2,747	2,785	1.38%			
City of Alexandria	816	614	601	609	681	757	731	721	-1.37%			
City of Fairfax	169	178	205	243	227	440	338	294	-13.02%			
City of Falls Church	264	193	183	232	132	241	160	133	-16.88%			
City of Manassas	327	328	447	612	560	646	626	773	23.48%			
City of Manassas Park	17	26	24	24	41	29	48	60	25.00%			
Northern Virginia Total	14,705	14,451	14,927	15,757	15,286	15,894	15,448	15,667	1.42%			
DC Metro Region Total	32,925	31,518	33,256	34,734	34,164	36,113	36,545	38,769	6.09%			
National Parks in Region	731	826	555	541	570	N/A	603	532	-11.77%			
Regional Total Adjusted	33,656	32,344	33,811	35,275	34,734	N/A	37,148	39,301	5.80%			

<sup>\*</sup> Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

# **Alcohol-Related Traffic Injuries**

	Alcoh	ol-related 1	Traffic Injui	ries by Juris	sdiction wi	th BAC=.01	.+ 2009-20	16	
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA									
Washington	385	92	137	139	228	263	180	149	-17.22%
MARYLAND									
Montgomery County	497	488	379	393	316	343	366	401	9.56%
Prince George's  County	741	617	551	530	474	501	451	492	9.09%
MD Regional Total	1,238	1,105	930	923	790	844	817	893	9.30%
VIRGINIA									
Arlington County	94	78	71	117	117	78	84	91	8.33%
Fairfax County	561	610	573	594	524	476	442	459	3.85%
Loudoun County	142	140	149	133	115	150	128	144	12.50%
Prince William County	260	203	216	203	223	204	182	182	0.00%
City of Alexandria	65	48	50	66	71	60	52	53	1.92%
City of Fairfax	13	6	15	14	17	26	25	12	-52.00%
City of Falls Church	11	3	6	16	6	4	10	11	10.00%
City of Manassas	35	25	29	43	49	47	41	38	-7.32%
City of Manassas Park	1	1	3	0	1	5	2	9	350.00%
Northern Virginia Total	1,182	1,114	1,112	1,186	1,123	1,050	966	999	3.42%
DC Metro Region Total	2,805	2,311	2,179	2,248	2,141	2,157	1,963	2,041	3.97%
National Parks in Region	38	62	41	51	51	N/A	N/A	33	N/A
Regional Total Adjusted	2,843	2,373	2,220	2,299	2,192	N/A	N/A	2,074	N/A

<sup>\*</sup> Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

# **Total Traffic Crashes**

	Total Traffic Crashes By Jurisdiction 2009-2016											
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA												
Washington	16,841	16,739	18,002	18,276	19,482	21,752	24,193	26,495	9.52%			
MARYLAND												
Montgomery County	12,311	11,536	11,093	10,562	10,825	12,279	13,006	14,160	8.87%			
Prince George's County	13,777	13,013	12818	12,049	12,580	13,355	14,758	17,185	16.45%			
MD Regional Total	26,088	24,549	23,911	22,611	23,405	25,634	27,764	31,345	12.90%			
VIRGINIA												
Arlington County	2,205	2,192	2,494	2,469	2,463	2,469	2,483	2,711	9.18%			
Fairfax County	14,233	13,726	14,580	14,500	13,675	13,680	14,024	13,781	-1.73%			
Loudoun County	3,501	3,798	4,066	4,164	4,186	4,281	4,824	4,921	2.01%			
Prince William County	5,148	4,984	5,221	5,265	5,671	5,856	5,660	5,564	-1.70%			
City of Alexandria	1,395	1,594	1,631	1,711	1,695	1,777	1,912	1,736	-9.21%			
City of Fairfax	678	655	650	648	615	700	561	565	0.71%			
City of Falls Church	249	190	180	154	83	165	169	144	-14.79%			
City of Manassas	547	590	594	610	567	568	595	633	6.39%			
City of Manassas Park	42	40	73	63	66	71	81	97	19.75%			
Northern Virginia Total	27,998	27,769	29,489	29,584	29,021	29,567	30,309	30,152	-0.52%			
DC Metro Region Total	54,086	52,318	53,400	70,471	71,908	76,953	82,266	87,992	6.96%			
National Parks in Region	2,874	2,762	2,811	2,644	1,281	4,164	4,621	4,049	-12.38%			
Regional Total Adjusted	56,960	55,080	56,211	73,115	73,189	81,117	86,887	92,041	5.93%			

# **Alcohol-Related Traffic Crashes**

	Alcohol-related Traffic Crashes By Jurisdiction with a BAC=.01+ 2009-2016										
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA											
Washington	562	542	558	564	657	682	647	746	15.30%		
MARYLAND											
Montgomery County	1,055	891	749	737	690	807	815	905	11.04%		
Prince George's County	1,398	1,271	1,006	980	1,041	1,017	933	1,116	19.61%		
MD Regional Total	2,453	2,162	1,755	1,717	1,731	1,824	1,748	2,021	15.62%		
VIRGINIA											
Arlington County	200	213	218	242	232	235	218	199	-8.72%		
Fairfax County	951	919	903	910	829	740	708	701	-0.99%		
Loudoun County	211	210	230	239	213	236	222	259	16.67%		
Prince William County	379	319	344	337	337	319	332	305	-8.13%		
City of Alexandria	99	102	110	97	111	99	99	94	-5.05%		
City of Fairfax	36	32	38	27	26	35	29	19	-34.48%		
City of Falls Church	11	6	10	12	4	9	8	12	50.00%		
City of Manassas	43	32	36	34	44	35	40	30	-25.00%		
City of Manassas Park	2	8	12	16	3	3	4	19	375.00%		
Northern Virginia Total	1,932	1,841	1,901	1,914	1,799	1,711	1,660	1,638	-1.33%		
DC Metro Region Total	4,947	4,545	4,214	4,195	4,095	4,217	4,055	4,405	8.63%		
National Parks in Region	88	92	101	94	51	N/A	N/A	33	N/A		
Regional Total Adjusted	5,035	4,637	4,315	4,289	4,146	N/A	N/A	4,438	N/A		

 $<sup>^{</sup>st}$  Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

## **Alcohol-Related Traffic Arrests**

	Total Alcohol Related Traffic Arrests by Jurisdiction 2009-2016											
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2015-2016			
DISTRICT OF COLU	IMBIA											
Washington	1,555	1,648	2,081	1,340	1,498	1,501	1,508	1,561	3.51%			
MARYLAND												
Montgomery County	2,903	2,647	2,247	3,892	3,983	3,723	3,973	4,101	3.22%			
Prince George's County	1,725	1,416	1,609	2,688	3,314	3,153	2,894	2,629	-9.16%			
MD Regional Total	4,628	4,063	3,856	6,580	7,297	6,876	6,867	6,730	-2.00%			
VIRGINIA												
Arlington County	693	609	789	963	850	874	742	692	-6.74%			
Fairfax County	4,057	3,407	3,887	3,343	3,628	3,116	2,387	2,457	2.93%			
Loudoun County	1,133	939	847	845	828	733	667	671	0.60%			
Prince William County	2,699	2,394	2,856	2,745	2,493	2,372	1,941	1,651	-14.94%			
City of Alexandria	501	348	412	360	378	372	349	324	-7.16%			
City of Fairfax	175	187	202	175	155	107	78	62	-20.51%			
City of Falls Church	90	72	121	113	110	103	78	55	-29.49%			
City of Manassas	171	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	138	124	-10.14%			
City of Manassas Park	124	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	46	71	54.35%			
Northern Virginia Total	9,643	7,956	9,114	8,544	8,442	7,677	6,426	6,107	-4.96%			
DC Metro Region Total	15,826	13,667	15,051	16,464	17,237	16,054	14,801	14,398	-2.72%			
National Parks in Region	593	689	1,027	877	487	740	N/A	359	N/A			
Regional Total Adjusted	16,419	14,356	16,078	17,341	17,724	16,794	N/A	14,757	N/A			

 $<sup>^{</sup>st}$  Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

# **Youth Data**

Alcoho	l-Relate	d Crashe	s, Injurie	s, and A	rrests fo	r Persons	s Under	· 21 Yea	rs of Age	By Regi	on, 2016	5
	Fatalities	Alcohol- Related Fatalities	Percentage of Alcohol- Related Fatalities	Crashes	Alcohol- Related Crashes	Percentage of Alcohol- Related Crashes	Injuries	Alcohol- Related Injuries	Percentage of Alcohol- Related Injuries	Arrests	Alcohol- Related Arrests	Percentage of Alcohol- Related Arrests
District of Columbi	a											
Washington	0	0	0.00%	3,102	13	0.42%	699	3	0.43%	292	27	9.25%
Maryland												
Montgomery County	7	0	0.00%	921	70	7.60%	1,149	39	3.39%	5,636	125	2.22%
Prince George's County	6	0	0.00%	1,436	51	3.55%	1,358	29	2.14%	5,752	76	1.32%
MD Regional Total	13	0	0.00%	2,357	121	5.13%	2,507	68	2.71%	11,388	201	1.77%
Virginia												
Arlington County	0	0	0.00%	259	10	3.86%	96	8	8.33%	1,251	22	1.76%
Fairfax County	3	1	33.33%	2,516	86	3.42%	971	55	5.66%	11,008	132	1.20%
Loudoun County	2	0	0.00%	1,033	28	2.71%	369	17	4.61%	2,688	37	1.38%
Prince William County	4	1	25.00%	1,275	45	3.53%	466	26	5.58%	6,656	108	1.62%
City of Alexandria	0	0	0.00%	202	8	3.96%	73	3	4.11%	879	11	1.25%
City of Fairfax	1	1	0.00%	123	3	2.44%	28	1	3.57%	730	7	0.96%
City of Falls Church	0	0	0.00%	30	4	13.33%	17	2	11.76%	140	3	2.14%
City of Manassas	0	0	0.00%	154	6	3.90%	137	7	5.11%	566	6	1.06%
City of Manassas Park	0	0	0.00%	28	2	3.90%	15	1	6.67%	416	7	1.68%
Northern Virginia Total	10	3	30.00%	5,620	192	3.42%	2,172	120	5.52%	24,334	333	1.37%
DC Metro Regional Total	23	3	13.04%	11,079	326	2.94%	5,378	191	3.55%	36,014	561	1.56%
National Parks in Region	0	0	0.00%	83	5	6.02%	48	3	6.25%	17	7	41.18%
Regional Total Adjusted	23	3	13.04%	11,162	331	2.97%	5,426	194	3.58%	36,031	568	1.58%

<sup>\*</sup> Data provided by MPD, VA DMV, MD NSC, NPS

### Methodology

Following is a listing of the agencies providing local jurisdictional data:

#### **District of Columbia:**

Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)

#### State of Maryland:

MD National Study Center for Trauma and Emergency Medical Systems (MD NSC) Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD)
Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD)

#### Virginia:

Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (VA DMV)
Arlington County Police Department
Fairfax County Police Department
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office
Prince William County Police Department
City of Alexandria Police Department
City of Fairfax Police Department
City of Fairfax Police Department
City of Falls Church Police Department

City of Manassas Police Department

City of Manassas Park Police Department

#### **Federal**

U.S. National Park Service (NPS)

#### **Definitions of Data-Related Terms**

NHTSA Alcohol-Impaired Driving Traffic Fatalities: Any fatality that occurs in motor vehicle traffic crash that involves at least one driver or a motorcycle rider (operator) with a BAC of .08 grams per deciliter or higher; This threshold does not consider the impairment status of non-occupants involved in fatal crashes, such as pedestrians or pedal cyclist.

WRAP Alcohol-Impaired Driving Traffic Fatalities: Any person who dies as result of a traffic crash involving alcohol with a BAC level .08 or higher.

WRAP Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatalities for Persons Under 21: Any person under the age of 21 year who has died as result of an alcohol-related traffic crash involving a driver with a BAC level .01 or higher. This includes drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians

Alcohol-Related Traffic Injuries: Where any driver, passenger, bicyclist or pedestrian is listed on the police report to be injured in an alcohol-related crash where the BAC = .01 or higher.

Alcohol-Related Traffic Injuries for Persons Under 21: Any person under the age of 21 who receives injuries because of an alcohol-related crash where the BAC = .01 or higher; this includes drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Alcohol-Related Traffic Crashes: The driver, passenger, bicyclist, or pedestrian is listed on the police report as drinking before the crash with a BAC = .01 or higher. At least one driver in the crash was reported to be under the influence of alcohol and/or other drugs.

Alcohol-Related Traffic Crashes for Persons Under 21: Any person under the age of 21 who was involved in a traffic crash involving a driver with a BAC = .01 or higher. This data includes drivers, passengers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

**Drunk Driving Arrests/Citation:** A general reference to those criminal cases that are called DUI, DWI, OUI, OWI or other acronyms that generally describe three types of cases:

- -The driver is sufficiently impaired by alcohol, drugs or a combination of the two, and cannot drive safely, and has a BAC level of .01 or higher;
- -The driver is a "Drunk Driver", as defined by the driver being above that state's legal limit of BAC .08;
- -A driver under the age of 21 is under the influence of alcohol at a BAC level of .02 or higher

**DWI/DUI Arrests:** A driver is listed on the police report as arrested for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol with a BAC level of .01 or higher.

**DWI/DUI Arrests for persons under 21:** Any person/driver under the age of 21 listed on the police report as arrested for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol with a BAC level of .01 or higher.

#### Data Analysis

The findings in this report are based on data collected from organizations and agencies from across the Washington Metro region. Data tables provide totals within the Washington Metro region as well as individual jurisdictions. Analysis focuses on changes in motor vehicle fatalities, injuries, crashes, and arrests. Results are reported as numbers and percentage of alcohol-related incidents to total numbers across time.

#### **Data Limitations**

It is important to note limitations that affected collection and analysis of this data, as they may limit comparability across jurisdictions and influence the level of reasonable analysis. Whenever possible, limitations are noted within the tables and figures.

It should be noted that the researchers constructing this report utilized data from the National Study Center for Trauma and EMS (NSC) at the University of Maryland, for data pertaining to crashes, injuries, and arrests. Regarding the alcohol-related crash and injury data, the variable identifies a driver or pedestrian under the influence of alcohol, drugs, both, or none. Within the NSC data reported, researchers analyzed drivers reported as under the influence of alcohol or both, to capture alcohol-related crashes and injuries. That variable is created using several others on the report (such as driver condition, BAC, etc.) so it does not specify only those with BAC 0.01+, and comparisons to previous year's data should be made with caution. In addition, because this report tracks just two jurisdictions in Maryland, regional totals could also be affected

Additionally, there is no standardization for data definitions, collection, or recording within the Washington Metro region. Each agency has its own system of data collection, coding, and management. In addition, the range and type of data collected may not be consistent across jurisdictions. The data reported and analyzed in this report reflect data as reported by contact agencies. Independent verification of data to ensure accuracy is not within the scope of this report.

Information on data collection and management systems and changes within jurisdictions was not solicited. In addition, changes in laws or judicial priorities may result in increased attention to specific data (e.g. blood alcohol level in driver fatalities related to stricter server laws). In some cases, this may result in missing data or data that appears inconsistent when examined against the same values for previous years. It is beyond the scope of this report to identify data methodology or priority changes for each jurisdiction.

Data on alcohol-related driver involvement in motor vehicle fatalities, injuries, crashes and arrests was requested for alcohol-related (BAC= .01+) only, however, due to differences between jurisdictions in reporting on impaired data, some cases may involve drug use.

The number of incidents, total and related to alcohol impairment, is very small for some jurisdictions. Due to the small numbers, jurisdictional analysis might easily misrepresent the problem. For example, an increase of one alcohol-related fatality would have little impact in a jurisdiction that saw 50 alcohol-related fatalities the previous year, but would appear to represent a significant change in a small jurisdiction with only one or two alcohol-related fatalities the previous year.

Data are reported and analyzed by absolute numbers only. At this time, information that would allow identification of comparable rates is unavailable. It is assumed that people involved in motor vehicle crashes and arrests may live within or outside the Washington Metro region. Collection of data on driver or passenger residence versus jurisdiction of accident is beyond the scope of this report. Calculating rates based on the Washington Metro region's population or number of licensed drivers would not accurately represent the problem since drivers may be from outside the jurisdiction.

Data on people under the age of 21 years is collected in an inconsistent manner among jurisdictions. Caution must be used in evaluation of this data due to varied definitions and missing data.

Each chart displays two regional total numbers. The first, "DC Regional Total" is the total of the District of Columbia, the Maryland Region, and the Northern Virginia Region. The second regional number, "Regional Total Adjusted" includes data from the United States Park Police. Because the Park Police information has only been recently collected, it is shown separately and the two regional totals are shown so that comparisons with previous years can be done.

#### Credits

How Safe Are Our Roads? Report was prepared for the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) by the Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG). COG works with WRAP and other partners to compile the data and develop the report.