

THC-IMPAIRED DRIVING

IS NOT THE SAME AS DRUNK DRIVING

AND TREATING IT LIKE IT IS COSTS LIVES

Marijuana commercialization has outpaced science, enforcement, and public safety.
Families are paying the price.

The Core Truth

Alcohol and THC affect the brain differently. Tools that work for drunk driving do not work for marijuana-impaired driving. Detecting THC is not the same as proving impairment.

Until this reality is addressed, roads will remain unsafe.

What THC Does to Driving

- THC impairs:
- Reaction time
- Coordination and motor control
- Divided attention
- Judgment and situational awareness

In 2020:

- **12.6 million people drove under the influence of drugs**
- **11.7 million reported cannabis use**

Risk Is Real — Even If It's Different Than Alcohol

Based on Colorado data:

- THC-only impaired drivers are ~14× more likely to crash than sober drivers
- Alcohol-impaired drivers are ~30× more likely to crash

 Fourteen times the risk is still extraordinarily dangerous.

Polydrug Use Is Deadliest

- Polydrug-impaired drivers: up to 45× higher crash risk
- ~80% of THC-positive DUI cases also involve alcohol or other drugs

Crash Data Shows a Deadly Trend

- Cannabis-involved crash deaths have more than doubled since 2000
 - THC + alcohol combinations have surged
 - Many fatal THC levels far exceed state limits
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Detection ≠ Impairment

There is no valid THC equivalent to a blood-alcohol limit.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

“The poor correlation of THC level in the blood or oral fluid with impairment precludes using THC levels as an indicator of driver impairment.”

Why this matters:

- Occasional users may be impaired after THC is no longer measurable
- Chronic users may test positive long after impairment has passed

Today's Marijuana Is Different

- THC potency is far higher than in past decades
- Edibles and concentrates cause delayed and prolonged impairment
- Mixing THC with alcohol dramatically increases crash risk

Meanwhile, industry messaging promotes marijuana as “safe” and “harmless.”

Real Families. Permanent Loss.

Behind every statistic is a life lost:

- **Amanda Hill** (CO, age 24) — killed by a THC and cocaine-impaired driver
- **Mason McClenathan** (CO, age 16) — killed by a THC-impaired

Safety must be built first — not retrofitted.

Protect Families First

Until reliable THC impairment assessment exists:

- Expanding marijuana commercialization is irresponsible
- Public education is a life-saving necessity

This is not politics. It is public safety.

Advocating for science-based policy and families harmed by marijuana-impaired driving.



DUIDVictimvoices.org



EveryBrainMatters.org



SafeHealthyTexas.org