



**GENERAL
AUDIENCE**

An Alcohol and Pedestrian Safety Message



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

*For more information, contact
the Department of Transporta-
tion in your state or write:*

**U.S. Department of
Transportation
Office of Alcohol and State
Programs
National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration
Washington, D.C. 20590**

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GENERAL AUDIENCE

THE RISK

Drinking and driving has been a subject of major concern in recent years. But **walking after drinking** also can be a major safety concern. Many pedestrian injuries and fatalities are a result of a pedestrian who had been drinking alcohol and then stepped in the path of a moving automobile.

Alcohol use is a major factor in pedestrian injuries and fatalities. **Each day more than 40 pedestrians are injured and nine more are killed** in alcohol-related traffic incidents.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE TO REDUCE THE RISK

YOU CAN take action to ensure the safety of yourself and others.

Limit the amount of alcohol you consume, especially if you plan to walk or drive.

Plan ahead. Don't kid yourself about your ability to get home safely.

When you take medication, ask your physician or pharmacist if it can be safely combined with alcohol.

Listen to your body. Learn how much alcohol you can safely tolerate.

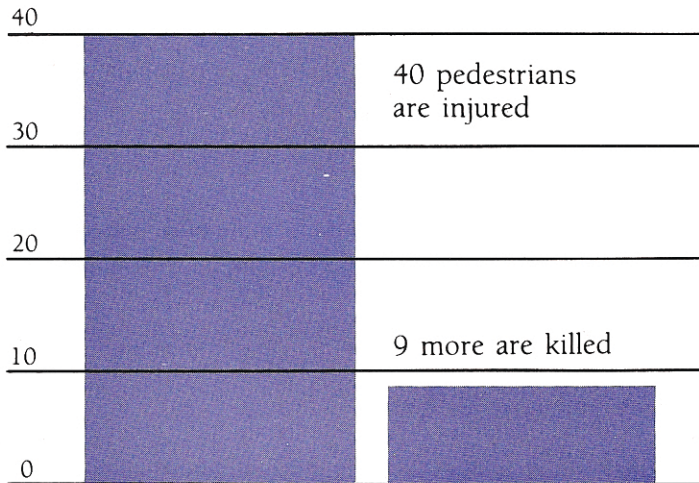
Use extra caution at intersections. Watch for vehicles turning from the other direction.

Be patient when attempting to cross a busy roadway. Wait for a break in traffic rather than hurrying across at an unsafe time.

When walking or jogging at night, wear white or light colored clothing that can be



Daily Alcohol-Related Traffic Incidents



seen easily by drivers. For added protection, apply retroreflective materials to clothing and carry a flashlight. Remember, just because you can see the vehicle does not mean that the driver can see you.

Use crosswalks and start walking on the "walk signal."

If driving, be alert to the possibility of pedestrians walking out into traffic, especially in urban areas.

Work actively in your community to heighten public awareness about pedestrian safety. Work with authorities to construct additional

walkways, increase the "walk" signal length, improve lighting, and remove architectural barriers such as curbs and steps which impede travel.

Encourage hosts and other party planners to limit the consumption of alcohol by offering non-alcoholic "mocktails" and by emphasizing food and activities as the focus of the party.

If you know someone who has been drinking and is planning to walk, offer to drive or escort them, even if it is just a short distance.