PENALTY FOR DUI OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Think that you've got it bad in the U.S., try:

Australia: Your name is printed in the newspaper under the heading "Drunk And In Jail".

Bulgaria: If you get two DUI's they execute you.

Costa Rica: The police will remove the license plate from your car.

El Salvador: Your first offense is your last... they execute you by a firing squad.

England: One year in jail and the equivalent of a $250 fine.

Finland & Sweden: Jail for one year doing hard labor.

France: One yr in jail, loose your license for 3 yrs, and the equivalent for a $1,000 fine.

Malaya: You go to jail. If you are married, your spouse goes too.

Norway: Three weeks in jail at hard labor and you loose your license for a yr. Do it again and you get five yrs and loose your license for life.

Poland: Jail time and forced to attend political lectures.

Russia: Lose your drivers license for life.

South Africa: A ten yr prison sentence and the equivalent of a $10,000 fine.

Turkey: You are taken twenty miles from town and forced to walk back.

1775-1990
1,186,654
Americans Died
in
All in the U.S. Wars

Revolutionary War 4,435
War of 1812 2,760
Mexican War 13,200
Civil War 629,332
Spanish Am. War 2,446
World War I 116,562
World War II 407,428
Korea 54,246
Viet Nam 58,261

1900-1990
2,818,401
AMERICANS DIED
IN
U.S. HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS

RELATED TO
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
Costs for one DWI Wreck

A drunk driver crashed into David Cox and his wife in 2002 in Denton County, Texas. David died from his injuries and his wife still has not completely recovered from her injuries. There is no price we can place on David’s life or the pain and suffering his wife continues to endure. We cannot place a price on the grief and sorrow of David’s family.

Responders to the Wreck: $15,211

Law Enforcement Officers, canine unit, ambulances, fire trucks, CareFlite helicopters, and tow trucks

Medical care: $835,206 (These costs are ongoing and will increase)

Hospitals, acute care, rehabilitation, and assisted living facilities

Justice System: $21,140

Judge, bailiff, court reporter, court coordinator, prosecutors, investigator, intern, court appointed defense attorney, court interpreter and jurors. Total does not include costs for expert witnesses, officer testimony, etc.

Other: $38,352 (the cost of incarcerating the drunk driver will continue to increase)

Funeral, 2 destroyed vehicles, victim advocates, cost for incarcerating the drunk driver

Total financial cost: $909,909 and increasing

DWI, We truly cannot afford it

This estimate was prepared by Linda Jeffries, MADD North Texas with assistance from Denton County, Denton County Attorney’s Office, CareFlite, DPS, Denton Police Dept., Denton County Sheriff’s Office, EI’s Wrecker, Aker’s Wrecker, Aubrey Fire &EMS and the family of David Cox.

Distributed by MADD Brazos Valley Victim Services

Mission: To stop drunk driving, support victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking.
NHTSA
Fact Sheet
Alcohol Poisoning:

In 1984 a federal law required all states to set 21 as the legal age for purchase or public possession of alcoholic beverages. States that did not comply would lose a portion of their federal highway construction funding. The federal law was tied to highway construction funding because of the overwhelming evidence that lower drinking ages result in significantly higher motor vehicle fatalities involving young drivers. Since that time, many traffic safety organizations, including Remote Intoxicated Drivers (RID), have taken a leadership role in supporting efforts to increase compliance with the drinking age laws. Increasing awareness about alcohol poisoning can play a key role in the prevention of underage drinking.

Knowing the Facts Can Save Lives:

Until the 1990's, deaths due to alcohol poisoning were largely ignored by the media. Families who lost a child to AOD (alcohol overdose) suffered in silence. College campuses, where a great many of the deaths occurred, sought to avoid adverse publicity. Death certificates said “cardiac arrest” or “asphyxiation.” Medical examiners sometimes chose to tell a grieving family, “it was a freak accident,” rather than “Your son/daughter drank him/herself to death.”

In 1994, a federal law was passed requiring colleges to publish all student deaths. Finally, these tragic AOD stories were in all the newspapers and on national television; stories like the one about a 16-year-old cheerleader in Illinois who died after drinking a bottle of schnapps on a friends dare.

Remove Intoxicated Drivers (RID) began working on the problem of (AOD) in 1992. Based on discussions with victims’ families and county medical examiners, RID estimates as many as 4,000 deaths occur each year from alcohol overdosing: drinking too much alcohol too fast. Families learn, in the most difficult way, that alcohol can be a lethal drug.

Teenagers are particularly vulnerable to AOD. Of the first eight cases of RID discovered, half were 16 years or younger. At least half were first-time drinkers and had never been drunk before. Five were put to bed by friends or their own parents to “sleep it off,” only to be found dead in the morning. Their friends or parents didn’t know that if a person drinks too much alcohol quickly before falling asleep, alcohol will shut down breathing and heart function and kill a person within a few hours.

Until now, the lack of public information about AOD has been a national failure. The
following information literally saves lives. It could save a friend or maybe even you.

As a Result, the following can happen:

-Victim chokes on own vomit
-Breathing slows, becomes irregular, then stops
-Heart beats irregularly or stops
-Hypothermia (low body temperature) leads to cardiac arrest
-Hypoglycemia (too little blood sugar) leads to seizures

Even if the victim lives, AOD can lead to irreversible brain damage. Rapid binge drinking (which often happens on a bet or dare) is especially dangerous because the victim can ingest a fatal dose before becoming unconscious.

Critical sings of alcohol poisoning:

-Mention confusion, stupor, coma, or person cannot be roused
-No response to pinching the skin
-Vomiting while sleeping
-Seizures
-Slow breathing (less than 8 breaths per minute)
-Irregular breathing (10 seconds or more between breaths)
-Hypothermia (low body temperature), bluish skin color, paleness

Many people try different methods to reves the effects of alcohol to become sober. Most of these methods are myths and do not work.

Some Common Myths

-Drinking black coffee
-Taking a cold bath or shower
-Sleeping it off
-Walking it off

If you suspect that someone may have ingested a fatal dose of alcohol, help is required immediately:

-Call 911 or the emergency medical number
-Stay with the victim
-Keep the victim from choking on vomit
-Tell emergency medical technicians the symptoms and, if you know, how much alcohol the victim drank. Prompt action may save the life of a friend, or your own.
When Medical personnel arrive, they should:

- Protect the airway. This usually means inserting a tube into the trachea to protect it from the vomit. Turning the victim on his/her sides is not sufficient protection.
- Administer oxygen.
- Monitor breathing, and place victim on respirator if necessary.
- Monitor glucose and other levels in blood.
- Administer medication if convulsions are present.

Some conventional treatments do **not** work for AOD:

- Pumping the stomach
- Syrup or Ipecac to induce vomiting
- Activated charcoal
- Narcan (to reverse the effects of the central nervous system depressant)

Bystanders (friends, parents, strangers) have a responsibility:

- Know the danger signals (see “Critical Sings” sections)
- Do not wait for all symptoms to be present
- Be aware that a person who has passed out may die.
- If there is any suspicion of AOD, call 911 or the emergency number for help. Don’t try to guess the level of drunkenness.

What you can do - A call to action:

- Write letters to your local editor using this information the next time you notice a news story about and underage drinking incident or underage impaired driving crash.
- Encourage your school principal to present programs on alcohol awareness in health classes.
- Refuse to host underage drinking parties.
- Take part in the RID county survey of alcohol related deaths.

For more information about alcohol poisoning, write or fax questions to:
RID-USA, Inc.
P.O. Box 520
Schenectady, NY 12301
Fax: (518) 370-4917

**Distributed by MADD Brazos Valley Victim Services**

**NHTSA**
People Serving People

U.S. Department of Transportation

Dot HS 808 668
DID YOU KNOW?

- Frequent binge Drinkers were eight times more likely than non-binge drinkers to miss a class, fall behind in schoolwork, get hurt or injured, and damage property.

- Nearly one out of every five teenagers (16 percent) has experienced “black out” spells where they could not remember what happened the previous evening because of heavy drinking.

- More than 60 percent of college men and almost 50 percent of college women who are frequent binge drinkers report that they drink and drive.

- Binge drinking during highschool, especially among males, is strongly predictive of binge drinking in college.

- Binge drinking during college may be associated with mental health disorders such as compulsiveness, depression, or anxiety, or early deviant behavior.

- In a national study, 91 percent of women and 78 percent of men who are frequent binge drinkers considered themselves to be moderate or light drinkers.

Despite laws in every State that make it illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase or possess alcohol, young people report that alcohol is easy to obtain and that many high school and college students drink with one goal - to get drunk. Binge drinking is defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row for boys, and four or more in a row for girls.

PREVALENCE OF BINGE DRINKING

- Binge drinking, often beginning around age 13, tends to increase during adolescence, peaks in young adulthood (ages 18-22), then gradually decreases.

- Binge drinking during the past 30 days was reported by 8 percent of youth ages 12-17 and among 30 percent of those ages 18 - 20.

- Among persons under the legal drinking age (12-20), 15 percent were binge drinkers and 7 percent were heavy drinkers.

Highlights of SAMHSA’s 1998 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse include:

- About 10.4 million adolescent age 12 to 20 reported using alcohol. Of those, 5.1 million were binge drinkers and included 2.3 million heavy drinkers who binged at least five times a month.

- Nearly 9 percent of boys and 7 percent of girls age 12 to 17 reported binge drinking in the previous month.

- White non-Hispanic youth ages 12 to 17 reported the highest frequency of binge drinking (9 percent) as compared with 6 percent of Hispanic and 3 percent of black non-Hispanic youth.

- Binge Drinking among youth ages 12 to 17 appears to occur most frequently in the North Central region of the United States.

BINGE DRINKING ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

- According to a 1997 national study conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health, nearly half of all college students surveyed drank four or five drinks in one sitting.

- Students who live in a fraternity or sorority house are the heaviest drinkers - 86 percent of fraternity residents and 80 percent or sorority residents report binge drinking.
- In a recent study, 39 percent of college women binge drank within a 2-week period as compared with 50 percent of college men.

- Colleges with high binge drinking rates were also much more likely to attract students who were binge drinkers in high school.

- In one multi-campus survey, white non-Hispanic students reported the highest percentage of binge drinking in a 2-week period (43.8%), followed by Native American (40.6%), Hispanic (31.2%), Asian (22.7%), and black non-Hispanic (22.5%) students. This pattern of binge drinking differences among ethnic groups is also seen in high school students.

CONSEQUENCES OF BINGE DRINKING

Alcohol Poisoning - a severe and potentially fatal physical reaction to alcohol overdose - is the most serious consequence of binge drinking. When excessive amounts of alcohol are consumed, the brain is deprived of oxygen. The struggle to deal with an overdose of alcohol and lack of oxygen will eventually cause the brain to shut down the voluntary functions that regulate breathing and heart rate.

If a person is known to have consumed large quantities of alcohol in a short period of time, symptoms of alcohol poisoning include:

- vomiting
- unconsciousness
- cold, clammy, pale or blush skin
- slow or irregular breathing (less than 8 breaths a minute or 10 or more seconds between breaths).

SOURCES


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