

**STOP
DWI** New
York

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Alcohol Impaired Driving

Blood Alcohol Content -

(BAC) Measures the
number of grams of
ethanol in every
100 milliliters of blood.

What affects Blood Alcohol Content?

Blood alcohol is affected by the amount of alcohol ingested, the time it takes to drink the alcohol, gender, weight, amount of food eaten, overall health, fatigue and genetics.

How is Blood Alcohol Content Measured?

Blood alcohol can be measured through chemical analysis of a person's blood, breath, urine or saliva.

How much can a person drink before becoming impaired?

There is no easy answer, any amount of alcohol will, to some degree, affect a person's ability to drive.

No excuses!

"I feel fine to drive."

"I had one drink at lunch time."

"I can handle my alcohol."

It only takes one standard drink to begin impairment.

Level of Blood Alcohol Content and how it affects driving tasks:

- .02 -.03 Reduced reaction time and divided attention. Drowsiness. Decline in visual functions
- .04-.05 Clouded judgment, impairment of the sensory motor skills, increased risk taking. Difficulty steering. Reduced response to emergency driving situations.
- .06-.07 Impaired tracking difficulties, impaired vision and hearing. Difficulty detecting danger, inability to focus, and perception impaired.
- .08-.10 Information processing deficit, risky decision making, problems with speed control, poor/slowed coordination.
- .10-.12 Reduction in concentration attention and perception. Reduced ability to maintain lane position and brake correctly.
- .13-.15 Unable to function behind the wheel. Gross motor impairment and lack of physical control in vehicle. Blurred vision and auditory information processing capability. Judgment and perception are severely impaired.
- .16+ Feeling dazed/confused or otherwise disoriented. All mental, physical and sensory functions are severely impaired.



Provisions of New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law

Article 31 Section §1192

Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

What are the Alcohol-Related Laws in New York State?

Zero Tolerance (under the age of 21)

Section §1192.a

BAC .02 and above

Driving While Ability Impaired

Section §1192.1

BAC .05-.079

Driving While Intoxicated

Section §1192.2 or §1192.3

BAC .08 or higher

Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated

Section §1192.2-a

BAC .18 or higher

Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with Child in Car

Section §1192.2-a(b)

Commercial Motor Vehicles

Section §1192.5 or §1192.6

BAC .04 or higher

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What is a standardized drink?

12 ounces of beer
4-5 ounces of wine
1 ½ ounces of liquor

or
or
= BAC .02

How long does it take for the body to process one standardized drink?

It can take roughly 1- 2 hours before one standardized drink can be fully metabolized in the body.

Is there a faster way to sober up?

No. Cold showers, coffee, food, fresh air, or exercise have no effect on getting sober. Your body still has to metabolize the alcohol.

Are there products other than drinking alcohol that will register a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC)?

Some products such as cough syrups, mouthwash, breath sprays, non-alcoholic beer and tinctures contain alcohol. Most will register on breathalyzers, but will not last very long unless consumed.



www.stopdwi.org

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