

March 2012



SOUTHEASTERN ILLINOIS COUNSELING CENTERS, INC AND
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Prevent This

Operation Teen Safe Driving

In the Spring of 2007, Operation Teen Safe Driving was launched in rural Tazewell County after authorities noticed that automobile crashes took 15 teen lives in 15 consecutive months. In the 5 years since OTSD was implemented there have been no additional teen fatalities in Tazewell County.

After the success in Tazewell County, the Ford Motor Company Fund, the Governors Highway Safety Association, the IL Department of Transportation's Division of Traffic Safety and The Allstate Foundation took this lifesaving program statewide in 2008. The OTSD mission is to provide the initiative and resources required to challenge the creativity of IL teens to develop and implement community-based programs to reduce fatalities and injuries due to traffic crashes among their peers.

STAY ALIVE ~ JST DRV

The MISSION: To Save Lives!

The CAUSE:

Car crashes are the #1 killer of teens in the U.S., even more than alcohol, drugs, violence and suicide. The major reasons teens are killed or seriously injured in traffic crashes are:

- Not wearing their safety belt
- Impaired Driving
- Speeding
- Fatigue
- Distracted Driving
- Lack of Driving Experience



Test your driving skills knowledge
@ www.drivingskillsforlife.com.

Register and log-in

Watch video series & take quiz in
the Student "Academy".

Contact Information: Vaneta Andrews, Prevention Specialist
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Driving Under the Influence Statistics

2010 Illinois Youth Survey Statewide results

Table A. IYS 2010 Results by Grade

Question Wording	What % Represents	2010			
		6th grade	8th grade	10th grade	12th grade
During the past 12 months, how many times did you drive a car or other vehicle when you had been drinking alcohol?	1 or more times	N/A	N/A	6.2%	16.2%
During the past 12 months, how many times did you drive a car or other vehicle when you had been using marijuana or other illegal drugs?	1 or more times	N/A	N/A	8.5%	20.3%
During the past 12 months, how many times have you ridden in a car driven by an adult who had been drinking or using drugs?	1 or more times	22.4%	25.4%	26.7%	23.9%
During the past 12 months, how many times have you ridden in a car driven by a teenager who had been drinking or using drugs?	1 or more times	6.4%	12.0%	21.5%	31.8%

Keep the Drive Facts

- * In the U.S. 4,000 teens die every year in car crashes. That's an average of 11 a day.
- * In 2009, an estimated 1.6 million teens drive while reading or writing text messages.
- * Hands-free cell phones are no less dangerous while driving than hand-held cell phones because the conversation itself is the major distraction.
- * Drivers talking on cell phones may be as impaired as drivers with .08% blood alcohol level that defines drunken driving in most states.
- * 44% of driving teens say they drive more safely when they are solo than with friends in the car.
- * For each friend you add to your car, your crash risk doubles. With two or more passengers, the fatal crash risk is five times higher than driving alone.
- * Drowsiness is a significant problem and a drowsy driver is four times more likely to be in a crash.
- * Twice as many teen guys die in car wrecks than teen girls.
- * 56% of teens talk on their cell phones while driving, and 13% read or write text messages.
- * Two-thirds of teens who die in car wrecks are not buckled up.
- * Distracted Driving is anything that takes your mind or eyes off the road like texting a friend, eating behind the wheel, reaching for something in your car or changing the tunes.
- * Teens say texting is the number one driving distraction.

Newsletter resources: www.teensafedrivingillinois.org, www.allstatefoundation.org/keep-the-drive, 2010 IYS results