This Factsheet summarizes traffic-related motor vehicle (MVT) trauma among adult occupants (18 years of age and older). Drug use is defined as being suspected or confirmed by the health care provider*. The Arizona State Trauma Registry received the presented data in the factsheet from designated trauma hospitals in 2011. This analysis likely underestimates the extent of drug use as data are derived from only trauma centers.

Graph 1 shows the distribution of drug use* in young MVT trauma patients. A majority (78.9%) were not suspected of having used drugs.

Graph 2 shows the distribution of injuries when drug use* was indicated. MVT-Other consists of injuries on all other vehicles that are not listed in the categories (e.g. ATV, off-road bikes).

Graph 3 shows that drug use* was most common in 15-17 year olds (10.4%).

Graph 4 shows that American Indian/Alaska Natives and African Americans had the highest drug use* in young MVT trauma patients.
Drug use is defined as being suspected or confirmed by the health care provider.*

Graph 5: Car restraint by drug use*

Graph 5 shows that drug use* reduces the likelihood that a car restraint will be used.

Graph 6: Median Hospital Charges

Graph 6 shows the drug use* in young MVT trauma patients significantly raises the cost of medical treatment.

The median difference in drug use* is $16,442 per case. Two trauma cases cost with no drug use cost less than treating one case of youth who has used drugs*.

GOHS is determined to provide the leadership and funding to help reduce the threat of DUI drivers on Arizona's roadway. In 2011, there were 265 alcohol-related fatalities in Arizona (32.12% of all traffic fatalities). The penalties for impaired driving in Arizona are severe and include: mandatory jail time, thousands of dollars in fines and court fees, driver license suspension, vehicle impoundment, and other costs. Check out AZ DUI Laws.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**


