

Holiday Celebrations and Trauma Centers-St. Patrick's Day

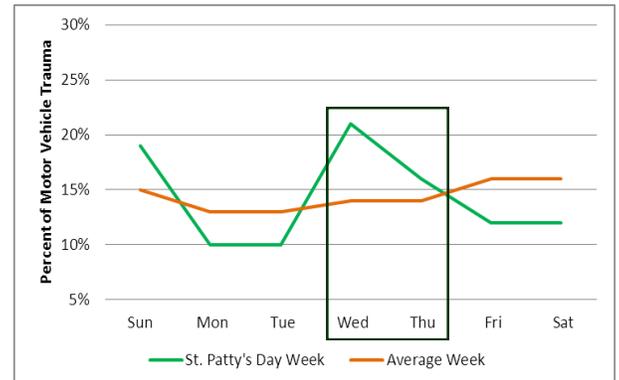


Holiday time can be a busy time for trauma centers. As a continuation of our holiday series we compared the holiday week of March to the rest of the year.

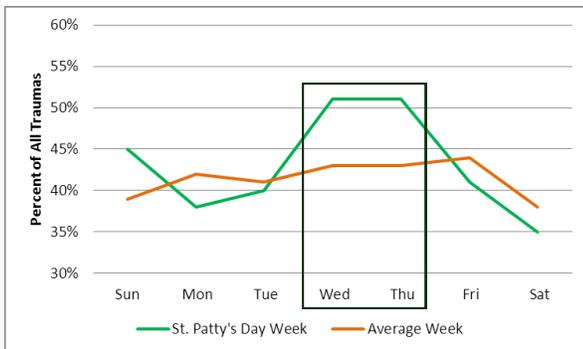
So, go ahead and celebrate! Just remember– if you drink, don't drive!



Graph 1 shows that there were more motor vehicle traumas on the day before St. Patrick's Day (21%) versus a typical Wednesday (14%) (Graph 1)*. 🍀



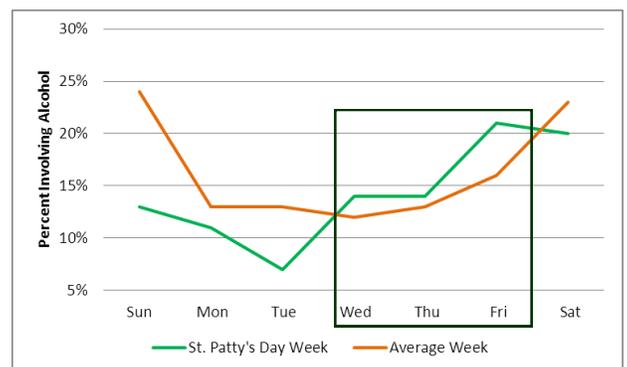
Graph 1: Distribution of motor vehicle trauma



Graph 2: Percent of motor vehicle trauma involving alcohol

Graph 2 shows that motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol are higher than normal on days surrounding St. Patrick's Day. As seen, 14% of motor vehicle traumas on March 16th & 17th involved alcohol. Typically, traumas in a normal week are 12% and 13%. On a St. Patrick's Day Friday 21% of traumas involve alcohol versus a typical prevalence of 16%.*

Motor vehicle traumas accounted for 51% of the trauma hospital visits on the 16th & 17th of 2011. Normally, we see 43% on a typical Wednesday or Thursday.* 🍀



Graph 3: Percent of all traumas that are motor vehicle accidents

*Arizona State Trauma Registry. (2011).