Drinking alcohol and driving **significantly increases** the risk of a road traffic crash and its severity.

Above a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of 0.05 g/dl, a driver’s risk of a road traffic crash increases dramatically.

Drink-driving laws should be based on a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limit of no more than:

- **0.05 g/dl**
  - for non-commercial drivers

- **0.02 g/dl**
  - for young or novice drivers

Strict enforcement of the BAC limits can reduce the number of road deaths by **6-18%**

8 countries in the Americas follow the best-practice criteria for drink-driving laws

### Drink-driving laws by country

- **No drink-driving law** / Law not based on BAC
  - BAC > 0.08 g/dl
- BAC between 0.05 g/dl and 0.08 g/dl or BAC for young/novice drivers > 0.02 g/dl
- BAC ≤ 0.05 g/dl and BAC for young/novice drivers ≤ 0.02 g/dl
- **Data not available**

### Road Injury Surveillance Efforts in the Americas

- **16** countries test fatally injured drivers for alcohol
- **13** countries have data on alcohol-related traffic fatalities
- **6** countries test non-fatal injured drivers for alcohol

Status of Road Safety in the Region of the Americas 2019

www.paho.org/roadsafety

Prevention of alcohol-Related Injuries in the Americas: From Evidence to Police Action

www.paho.org/alcohol

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