Delaware Fatal Crashes Involving Alcohol Hover Above the National Norm

Since 2011, the percentage of fatal crashes that involve alcohol in Delaware has ranged between 30% and 45% which is consistently higher, albeit slightly, than the national average. In 2015, one in three of all fatal crashes statewide involved alcohol use by the driver (41 alcohol-related traffic fatalities out of 126 total crash related fatalities).¹ This is a striking statistic, especially given that these deaths are entirely preventable.

In Delaware, during the year 2013, 20% of young adults aged 18-25 reported that they drove under the influence of alcohol in the past year.² However, national statistics indicate that only a fraction of those who report driving under the influence of alcohol have been arrested.³ Driving after consuming alcohol can cause a myriad of consequences and unfortunately, the end result could be fatal.

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NSDUH Delaware data provided to DE PFS team. Data in the chart available via the FARS website. Funding for this project has been provided by the Department for Health and Social Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health - State of Delaware through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA, SP020704). DDATagrams may be copied without permission. Please cite SEOW as source. Additional DDATagrams are available at: www.udel.edu/delawaredata