### *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*: Cocktails-to-Go

## Fact Sheet

Cocktails-to-go and alcohol delivery directly to residences is now legal in many states. While access to alcohol may have changed for some, the laws behind drinking and driving remain the same. The U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) wants to remind drivers that it is always dangerous and illegal to drink and drive. Tragically, 13,384 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes in 2021. To help save lives and change this terrible statistic, NHTSA is teaming up with local officials to remind drivers that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*. If you are transporting alcohol, know the laws in your state. To be safe, always store alcohol in the trunk or the back seat, be sure it is unopened, and remember that it is never okay to drink alcohol when driving. Know the facts and help NHTSA spread the message about the importance of sober driving.

**Know the Facts**

* If your state, county, or municipality now allows alcoholic drinks to be carried out of a restaurant, transport them in a leak-proof container in the trunk or back seat of your vehicle, leaving stickers and seals in place. No straws should be placed in the containers. Never drink alcohol while driving.
* In 2021, there were 13,384 fatalities in alcohol-impaired motor vehicle traffic crashes, accounting for 31% of all traffic fatalities in the United States that year.
* Fatalities in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes increased by 14% (11,718 to 13,384 fatalities) from 2020 to 2021 and increased by 31% (10,196 to 13,384 fatalities) from 2019 to 2021.
* Nationally, it is illegal to drive with a BAC of .08 g/dL or higher, except in Utah, where the limit is .05 g/dL.
* Although it’s illegal to drive when impaired by alcohol, in 2021 one person was killed every 39 minutes in a drunk-driving crash on our nation’s roads.
* The rate of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2021 was 2.8 times higher at night than during the day.
* Males are more likely than females to be driving drunk when involved in fatal crashes. In 2021, 22% of males were drunk, compared to 17% of females.
* **[State/City drunk-driving statistics, if available.]**

**The Cost of Drunk Driving**

* The financial impacts from impaired-driving crashes are devastating: Crashes in which alcohol was the cause resulted in $57 billion in economic costs.
* Drinking and driving is a risk no one should take; doing so can cause injury or death to the driver, passengers, and others on the road. The consequences of drunk driving could be life-altering.

For more information about the *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving* campaign, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving](https://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving).