

**STOP  
DWI** New  
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# Alcohol Impaired Driving

## Blood Alcohol Content -

(BAC) Measures the  
number of grams of  
ethanol in every  
100 milliliters of blood.

## **What affects Blood Alcohol Content?**

Blood alcohol is affected by the amount of alcohol ingested, the time it takes to drink the alcohol, gender, weight, amount of food eaten, overall health, fatigue and genetics.

## **How is Blood Alcohol Content Measured?**

Blood alcohol can be measured through chemical analysis of a person's blood, breath, urine or saliva.

## **How much can a person drink before becoming impaired?**

There is no easy answer, any amount of alcohol will, to some degree, affect a person's ability to drive.

## **No excuses!**

"I feel fine to drive."

"I had one drink at lunch time."

"I can handle my alcohol."

It only takes one standard drink to begin impairment.

# Level of Blood Alcohol Content and how it affects driving tasks:

- .02 -.03 Reduced reaction time and divided attention. Drowsiness. Decline in visual functions
- .04-.05 Clouded judgment, impairment of the sensory motor skills, increased risk taking. Difficulty steering. Reduced response to emergency driving situations.
- .06-.07 Impaired tracking difficulties, impaired vision and hearing. Difficulty detecting danger, inability to focus, and perception impaired.
- .08-.10 Information processing deficit, risky decision making, problems with speed control, poor/slowed coordination.
- .10-.12 Reduction in concentration attention and perception. Reduced ability to maintain lane position and brake correctly.
- .13-.15 Unable to function behind the wheel. Gross motor impairment and lack of physical control in vehicle. Blurred vision and auditory information processing capability. Judgment and perception are severely impaired.
- .16+ Feeling dazed/confused or otherwise disoriented. All mental, physical and sensory functions are severely impaired.



# Provisions of New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law

## Article 31 Section §1192

Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

## What are the Alcohol-Related Laws in New York State?

### Zero Tolerance (under the age of 21)

Section §1192.a

BAC .02 and above

### Driving While Ability Impaired

Section §1192.1

BAC .05-.079

### Driving While Intoxicated

Section §1192.2 or §1192.3

BAC .08 or higher

### Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated

Section §1192.2-a

BAC .18 or higher

### Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated with Child in Car

Section §1192.2-a(b)

### Commercial Motor Vehicles

Section §1192.5 or §1192.6

BAC .04 or higher

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## What is a standardized drink?

12 ounces of beer  
4-5 ounces of wine  
1 ½ ounces of liquor

or  
or  
= BAC .02

## How long does it take for the body to process one standardized drink?

It can take roughly 1- 2 hours before one standardized drink can be fully metabolized in the body.

## Is there a faster way to sober up?

No. Cold showers, coffee, food, fresh air, or exercise have no effect on getting sober. Your body still has to metabolize the alcohol.

## Are there products other than drinking alcohol that will register a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC)?

Some products such as cough syrups, mouthwash, breath sprays, non-alcoholic beer and tinctures contain alcohol. Most will register on breathalyzers, but will not last very long unless consumed.



[www.stopdwi.org](http://www.stopdwi.org)

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