

Unlicensed to Kill: Research Update

Unlicensed drivers still involved in one of every five fatal crashes

March 5, 2008

Objective

To quantify the number and percentage of drivers involved in fatal crashes who have an invalid license or no license, updating the statistics reported in previous AAA Foundation studies.

Background

Previous research has found that unlicensed drivers and drivers whose licenses have been suspended or revoked are significantly more likely to be involved in fatal crashes than are validly-licensed drivers.¹ AAA Foundation study *Unlicensed to Kill* (2000) reported that 13.8 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes between the years of 1993 and 1997 had no driver's license, an invalid license, or was of unknown license status.² Furthermore, the study found that fully one in five fatal crashes occurring between years 1993 and 1997 involved at least one such unlicensed or improperly licensed driver. In 2003, AAA Foundation report *Unlicensed to Kill: The Sequel* found that as of 1999, these statistics remained virtually unchanged.³ The purpose of the research reported here was to update these statistics using the most recent data available.

Methodology

The AAA Foundation analyzed data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) database from years 2001 through 2005. FARS is a census of all motor vehicle traffic crashes involving a motor vehicle in transport occurring on a public roadway that result in the death of a person within 30 days of the crash. FARS provides detailed information on all such crashes, and all vehicles and people involved. This study presents analysis of the driver license status of all drivers involved in fatal crashes from 2001 through 2005.

Findings

Nationwide, from 2001 through 2005, an average of 58,423 drivers were involved in 38,505 fatal motor vehicle traffic crashes that resulted in 42,886 deaths each year.

Overall, an average of 8,030 drivers who were definitely or possibly driving with an invalid license or no license (13.7 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes) were involved in 7,679 fatal crashes (19.9 percent of all fatal crashes), which resulted in the deaths of 8,801 people (20.5 percent of all deaths occurring in motor vehicle traffic crashes).

Of those 8,030 annual fatal-crash-involved drivers definitely or possibly driving with an invalid license or no license, 2,403 (29.9 percent) were driving with no known license, 3,499 (43.6 percent) were

driving with a suspended license or a revoked license, and 610 (7.6 percent) were driving with a cancelled, expired, or otherwise invalid license. Crashes involving these drivers resulted in an average of 7,243 annual deaths. The license status the remaining 1,519 drivers (18.9 percent) could not be determined. Of these drivers of unknown license status, 53.9 percent were hit-and-run drivers, who fled from the crash scene. Available data from hit-and-run drivers whose license status could be determined shows that 41.1 percent of these drivers were driving illegally with an invalid license or no license, compared to 11.0 percent of drivers who remained at the scenes of their crashes. Crashes involving drivers of unknown license status resulted in 1,558 annual deaths.

FARS also records the number of prior license suspensions and revocations that drivers had on their record in the three years preceding the crash; these were also analyzed. Each year, an average of 6,948 drivers involved in fatal crashes (11.9 percent) had one or more license suspensions or revocations on record in the three years prior to the crash, including 1,725 with three or more suspensions or revocations on record, and 100 drivers with ten or more suspensions or revocations.

These results are summarized in Tables 1 through 3, below.

Table 1. Fatal crashes and deaths by license status of drivers involved, 2001–2005, totals and annual averages.

	All Validly Licensed		Unlicensed / Invalid*		Unknown**		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown		Total
	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes
Average	30,827	80.1	6,302	16.4	1,376	3.6	7,679	19.9	38,505
Total	154,133		31,512		6,881		38,393		192,526
	Deaths		Deaths		Deaths		Deaths		Deaths
	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths
Average	34,085	79.5	7,243	16.9	1,558	3.6	8,801	20.5	42,886
Total	170,426		36,213		7,792		44,005		214,431

* *Unlicensed / Invalid* category includes all crashes that involved at least one driver known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed.

** *Unknown* category includes all crashes involving one or more drivers whose license status could not be determined, and no drivers known to be unlicensed or licensed invalidly. All crashes involving any drivers known to be unlicensed or licensed invalidly were reported in *Unlicensed / Invalid* category.

Table 2. Drivers involved in fatal crashes by driver license status at time of crash, 2001–2005, annual averages and totals.

	Valid		Unlicensed		Suspended / Revoked		Expired / Cancelled / Denied		Unknown		Total Unlicensed/Invalid/Unknown		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
Average	50,393	86.3	2,403	4.1	3,499	6.0	610	1.0	1,519	2.6	8,030	13.7	58,423
Total	251,964		12,013		17,493		3,051		7,594		40,151		292,115

Table 3. Drivers involved in fatal crashes by number of license suspensions or revocations in three years preceding crash, 2001–2005, annual averages and totals.

	None		One or More		Three or More		Ten or More		Unknown		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
Average	49,481	84.7	6,948	11.9	1,725	3.0	100	0.2	1,994	3.4	58,423
Total	247,407		34,740		8,626		500		9,968		292,115

Table 4 through Table 8, attached, provide detailed data on a state-by-state basis.

Conclusions

This Research Update demonstrates that more than a decade after AAA Foundation study *Unlicensed to Kill* first documented the magnitude of the problem of fatal crashes involving unlicensed drivers, the problem remains. Drivers with invalid licenses, no licenses, or unknown license status are still involved in one of every five fatal crashes, which amounts to nearly 7,700 fatal crashes annually in which one or more drivers is definitely or possibly driving without a valid license.

Key Points

- ✓ Nearly 7,700 fatal crashes every year—*one of every five fatal crashes*—involve a driver who is definitely or possibly driving with an invalid license or no license.
- ✓ Over 8,000 drivers involved in fatal crashes annually—*nearly one of every seven drivers involved in fatal crashes*—have an invalid license, no license, or unknown license status (possibly invalid or unlicensed).
- ✓ Nearly 7,000 drivers involved in fatal crashes every year (11.9 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes) have had their license suspended or revoked at least once in the preceding three years, including over 1,700 who have had their licenses suspended or revoked three or more times, and about 100 whose licenses have been suspended or revoked ten or more times.

References

1. DeYoung, D. J., R. C. Peck, and C. J. Helander. 1997. Estimating the exposure and fatal crash rates of suspended/revoked and unlicensed drivers in California. *Accident Analysis and Prevention*. 29(1): 17–23.
2. Griffin, L. I. III and S. DeLaZerda. 2000. *Unlicensed to Kill*. Washington, DC: AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Available online at www.aaafoundation.org/reports.
3. Scopatz, R. A., C. E. Hatch, B. H. DeLucia, and K. A. Tays. 2003. *Unlicensed to Kill: The Sequel*. Washington, DC: AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. Available online at www.aaafoundation.org/reports.

Table 4. Fatal crashes by state and license status of drivers involved, 2001–2005

	All Validly Licensed		Unlicensed / Invalid*		Unknown**		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown***		Total
	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes
Alabama	3,709	77.5	984	20.6	93	1.9	1,077	22.5	4,786
Alaska	297	73.0	103	25.3	7	1.7	110	27.0	407
Arizona	3,235	65.7	1,092	22.2	596	12.1	1,688	34.3	4,923
Arkansas	2,299	80.5	493	17.3	65	2.3	558	19.5	2,857
California	13,183	71.2	4,239	22.9	1,082	5.8	5,321	28.8	18,504
Colorado	2,226	73.1	671	22.0	147	4.8	818	26.9	3,044
Connecticut	1,184	84.0	201	14.3	25	1.8	226	16.0	1,410
Delaware	469	77.4	123	20.3	14	2.3	137	22.6	606
Dist of Columbia	161	64.7	55	22.1	33	13.3	88	35.3	249
Florida	12,026	82.9	1,843	12.7	632	4.4	2,475	17.1	14,501
Georgia	5,962	81.2	1,130	15.4	249	3.4	1,379	18.8	7,341
Hawaii	517	83.5	81	13.1	21	3.4	102	16.5	619
Idaho	976	81.4	175	14.6	48	4.0	223	18.6	1,199
Illinois	5,105	80.9	919	14.6	288	4.6	1,207	19.1	6,312
Indiana	3,262	81.5	648	16.2	94	2.3	742	18.5	4,004
Iowa	1,628	86.1	224	11.8	39	2.1	263	13.9	1,891
Kansas	1,703	82.3	342	16.5	25	1.2	367	17.7	2,070
Kentucky	3,579	86.1	542	13.0	35	0.8	577	13.9	4,156
Louisiana	3,166	75.4	923	22.0	111	2.6	1,034	24.6	4,200
Maine	792	90.9	67	7.7	12	1.4	79	9.1	871
Maryland	2,542	86.1	315	10.7	94	3.2	409	13.9	2,951
Massachusetts	1,903	87.4	219	10.1	55	2.5	274	12.6	2,177
Michigan	4,638	82.3	712	12.6	286	5.1	998	17.7	5,636
Minnesota	2,394	88.6	279	10.3	28	1.0	307	11.4	2,701
Mississippi	3,592	92.5	280	7.2	13	0.3	293	7.5	3,885
Missouri	4,386	83.2	783	14.8	104	2.0	887	16.8	5,273
Montana	891	80.6	208	18.8	6	0.5	214	19.4	1,105
Nebraska	1,057	87.3	139	11.5	15	1.2	154	12.7	1,211
Nevada	1,365	80.8	247	14.6	77	4.6	324	19.2	1,689
New Hampshire	608	90.6	59	8.8	4	0.6	63	9.4	671
New Jersey	2,783	81.4	468	13.7	166	4.9	634	18.6	3,417
New Mexico	1,538	75.4	414	20.3	87	4.3	501	24.6	2,039
New York	5,768	83.3	766	11.1	390	5.6	1,156	16.7	6,924

Table 4. Fatal crashes by state and license status of drivers involved, 2001–2005

	All Validly Licensed		Unlicensed / Invalid*		Unknown**		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown***		Total
	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes	%	Crashes
North Carolina	5,376	76.6	1,477	21.0	165	2.4	1,642	23.4	7,018
North Dakota	379	79.8	84	17.7	12	2.5	96	20.2	475
Ohio	4,818	79.1	1,075	17.6	200	3.3	1,275	20.9	6,093
Oklahoma	2,608	81.6	503	15.7	86	2.7	589	18.4	3,197
Oregon	1,695	81.6	329	15.8	52	2.5	381	18.4	2,076
Pennsylvania	5,912	82.9	989	13.9	231	3.2	1,220	17.1	7,132
Rhode Island	351	85.0	55	13.3	7	1.7	62	15.0	413
South Carolina	3,936	83.0	712	15.0	95	2.0	807	17.0	4,743
South Dakota	646	79.8	149	18.4	15	1.9	164	20.2	810
Tennessee	4,436	78.8	1,104	19.6	87	1.5	1,191	21.2	5,627
Texas	12,791	77.8	3,038	18.5	604	3.7	3,642	22.2	16,433
Utah	1,072	83.2	183	14.2	34	2.6	217	16.8	1,289
Vermont	312	84.8	47	12.8	9	2.4	56	15.2	368
Virginia	3,547	83.3	526	12.3	187	4.4	713	16.7	4,260
Washington	2,238	80.4	485	17.4	59	2.1	544	19.6	2,782
West Virginia	1,537	83.4	287	15.6	20	1.1	307	16.6	1,844
Wisconsin	2,907	80.7	641	17.8	53	1.5	694	19.3	3,601
Wyoming	628	85.3	84	11.4	24	3.3	108	14.7	736
United States	154,133	80.1	31,512	16.4	6,881	3.6	38,393	19.9	192,526

* *Unlicensed / Invalid* category includes all crashes that involved at least one driver known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed.

** *Unknown* category includes crashes that involved one or more drivers of unknown license status, and no drivers known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed. 3,777 crashes in the unknown category (54.89%) were hit-and-run crashes, in which at least one driver left the scene of the crash. Of drivers with known license status, hit-and-run drivers were significantly more likely to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed than non hit-and-run drivers (41.42% vs. 11.01%).

*** *Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown* category includes all crashes that involved at least one driver who was not known to have a valid license.

Table 5. Total crash deaths, by state and license status of drivers involved, 2001–2005

	All Validly Licensed		Unlicensed / Invalid*		Unknown**		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown***		Total
	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths
Alabama	4,100	76.9	1,126	21.1	109	2.0	1,235	23.1	5,335
Alaska	328	72.9	112	24.9	10	2.2	122	27.1	450
Arizona	3,630	64.5	1,293	23.0	708	12.6	2,001	35.5	5,631
Arkansas	2,608	80.3	562	17.3	78	2.4	640	19.7	3,248
California	14,563	70.3	4,955	23.9	1,203	5.8	6,158	29.7	20,721
Colorado	2,459	72.3	767	22.6	173	5.1	940	27.7	3,399
Connecticut	1,270	83.9	216	14.3	27	1.8	243	16.1	1,513
Delaware	523	78.2	131	19.6	15	2.2	146	21.8	669
Dist of Columbia	175	64.1	62	22.7	36	13.2	98	35.9	273
Florida	13,260	82.5	2,126	13.2	693	4.3	2,819	17.5	16,079
Georgia	6,553	80.5	1,299	16.0	285	3.5	1,584	19.5	8,137
Hawaii	554	82.2	97	14.4	23	3.4	120	17.8	674
Idaho	1,099	81.3	197	14.6	55	4.1	252	18.7	1,351
Illinois	5,642	80.5	1,047	14.9	317	4.5	1,364	19.5	7,006
Indiana	3,582	81.1	731	16.5	106	2.4	837	18.9	4,419
Iowa	1,812	85.0	261	12.2	59	2.8	320	15.0	2,132
Kansas	1,941	82.4	388	16.5	28	1.2	416	17.6	2,357
Kentucky	3,977	85.8	621	13.4	39	0.8	660	14.2	4,637
Louisiana	3,536	75.4	1,029	21.9	124	2.6	1,153	24.6	4,689
Maine	879	89.9	84	8.6	15	1.5	99	10.1	978
Maryland	2,769	85.8	360	11.2	98	3.0	458	14.2	3,227
Massachusetts	2,025	87.5	233	10.1	57	2.5	290	12.5	2,315
Michigan	5,068	82.1	798	12.9	310	5.0	1,108	17.9	6,176
Minnesota	2,658	88.4	312	10.4	36	1.2	348	11.6	3,006
Mississippi	4,044	92.5	315	7.2	13	0.3	328	7.5	4,372
Missouri	4,903	82.8	906	15.3	116	2.0	1,022	17.2	5,925
Montana	995	80.2	238	19.2	8	0.6	246	19.8	1,241
Nebraska	1,193	86.7	165	12.0	18	1.3	183	13.3	1,376
Nevada	1,521	80.7	275	14.6	89	4.7	364	19.3	1,885
New Hampshire	662	90.3	67	9.1	4	0.5	71	9.7	733
New Jersey	3,005	80.8	525	14.1	189	5.1	714	19.2	3,719
New Mexico	1,757	74.4	499	21.1	105	4.4	604	25.6	2,361
New York	6,211	82.6	880	11.7	425	5.7	1,305	17.4	7,516

Table 5. Total crash deaths, by state and license status of drivers involved, 2001–2005

	All Validly Licensed		Unlicensed / Invalid*		Unknown**		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown***		Total
	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths	%	Deaths
North Carolina	5,918	76.1	1,680	21.6	181	2.3	1,861	23.9	7,779
North Dakota	425	80.2	91	17.2	14	2.6	105	19.8	530
Ohio	5,240	78.5	1,214	18.2	223	3.3	1,437	21.5	6,677
Oklahoma	2,984	81.3	587	16.0	98	2.7	685	18.7	3,669
Oregon	1,912	80.4	400	16.8	67	2.8	467	19.6	2,379
Pennsylvania	6,466	82.6	1,097	14.0	266	3.4	1,363	17.4	7,829
Rhode Island	368	83.8	64	14.6	7	1.6	71	16.2	439
South Carolina	4,299	82.3	820	15.7	103	2.0	923	17.7	5,222
South Dakota	731	78.0	187	20.0	19	2.0	206	22.0	937
Tennessee	4,872	78.2	1,264	20.3	94	1.5	1,358	21.8	6,230
Texas	14,363	77.2	3,549	19.1	703	3.8	4,252	22.8	18,615
Utah	1,245	82.7	215	14.3	46	3.1	261	17.3	1,506
Vermont	345	84.1	54	13.2	11	2.7	65	15.9	410
Virginia	3,856	82.7	601	12.9	204	4.4	805	17.3	4,661
Washington	2,492	79.8	563	18.0	68	2.2	631	20.2	3,123
West Virginia	1,665	83.5	307	15.4	21	1.1	328	16.5	1,993
Wisconsin	3,223	80.2	730	18.2	68	1.7	798	19.8	4,021
Wyoming	720	83.6	113	13.1	28	3.3	141	16.4	861
United States	170,426	79.5	36,213	16.9	7,792	3.6	44,005	20.5	214,431

* *Unlicensed / Invalid* category includes all crashes that involved at least one driver known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed.

** *Unknown* category includes crashes that involved one or more drivers of unknown license status, and no drivers known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed. 3,777 crashes in the unknown category (54.89%) were hit-and-run crashes, in which at least one driver left the scene of the crash. Of drivers with known license status, hit-and-run drivers were significantly more likely to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed than non hit-and-run drivers (41.42% vs. 11.01%).

*** *Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown* category includes all crashes that involved at least one driver who was not known to have a valid license.

Table 6. Drivers involved in fatal crashes, by state of crash and license status, 2001–2005 (Detailed)

	Valid		Unlicensed		Suspended / Revoked		Expired / Cancelled / Denied		Unknown*		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
Alabama	6,071	84.5	323	4.5	642	8.9	47	0.7	98	1.4	7,181
Alaska	498	81.6	31	5.1	59	9.7	14	2.3	8	1.3	610
Arizona	5,683	75.6	694	9.2	415	5.5	61	0.8	668	8.9	7,521
Arkansas	3,670	86.4	126	3.0	327	7.7	52	1.2	75	1.8	4,250
California	22,318	79.9	1,802	6.5	1,964	7.0	646	2.3	1,200	4.3	27,930
Colorado	3,773	81.5	223	4.8	318	6.9	154	3.3	164	3.5	4,632
Connecticut	1,829	88.6	105	5.1	93	4.5	8	0.4	30	1.5	2,065
Delaware	832	85.6	43	4.4	76	7.8	7	0.7	14	1.4	972
Dist of Columbia	286	75.1	24	6.3	28	7.3	5	1.3	38	10.0	381
Florida	20,116	88.6	719	3.2	1,047	4.6	126	0.6	691	3.0	22,699
Georgia	10,222	87.6	519	4.4	570	4.9	77	0.7	281	2.4	11,669
Hawaii	777	88.0	37	4.2	25	2.8	23	2.6	21	2.4	883
Idaho	1,479	86.7	76	4.5	68	4.0	32	1.9	50	2.9	1,705
Illinois	8,448	86.8	442	4.5	400	4.1	122	1.3	321	3.3	9,733
Indiana	5,562	87.7	136	2.1	466	7.3	73	1.2	107	1.7	6,344
Iowa	2,638	90.7	83	2.9	136	4.7	10	0.3	41	1.4	2,908
Kansas	2,779	88.2	69	2.2	250	7.9	28	0.9	26	0.8	3,152
Kentucky	5,706	90.6	183	2.9	334	5.3	37	0.6	39	0.6	6,299
Louisiana	5,310	83.1	199	3.1	649	10.2	112	1.8	118	1.8	6,388
Maine	1,217	93.8	7	0.5	60	4.6	0	0.0	14	1.1	1,298
Maryland	4,255	91.1	130	2.8	176	3.8	13	0.3	97	2.1	4,671
Massachusetts	2,796	90.9	51	1.7	144	4.7	25	0.8	59	1.9	3,075
Michigan	7,898	88.2	246	2.7	403	4.5	90	1.0	314	3.5	8,951
Minnesota	3,823	92.5	64	1.5	175	4.2	43	1.0	30	0.7	4,135
Mississippi	5,238	94.6	226	4.1	51	0.9	8	0.1	13	0.2	5,536
Missouri	6,983	88.4	214	2.7	531	6.7	59	0.7	113	1.4	7,900
Montana	1,232	84.8	73	5.0	115	7.9	26	1.8	6	0.4	1,452
Nebraska	1,716	91.8	50	2.7	68	3.6	21	1.1	15	0.8	1,870
Nevada	2,227	86.9	120	4.7	110	4.3	25	1.0	81	3.2	2,563
New Hampshire	942	93.6	15	1.5	35	3.5	10	1.0	4	0.4	1,006
New Jersey	4,602	87.2	139	2.6	345	6.5	8	0.2	185	3.5	5,279
New Mexico	2,329	81.7	191	6.7	211	7.4	27	0.9	94	3.3	2,852
New York	8,847	88.1	238	2.4	509	5.1	26	0.3	417	4.2	10,037

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	Valid		Unlicensed		Suspended / Revoked		Expired / Cancelled / Denied		Unknown*		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
North Carolina	9,012	84.2	413	3.9	1,007	9.4	99	0.9	172	1.6	10,703
North Dakota	565	85.2	33	5.0	46	6.9	7	1.1	12	1.8	663
Ohio	8,203	85.9	97	1.0	870	9.1	139	1.5	235	2.5	9,544
Oklahoma	4,260	87.4	188	3.9	277	5.7	53	1.1	96	2.0	4,874
Oregon	2,700	87.5	101	3.3	206	6.7	24	0.8	55	1.8	3,086
Pennsylvania	9,644	88.2	229	2.1	738	6.8	54	0.5	265	2.4	10,930
Rhode Island	537	89.2	17	2.8	35	5.8	6	1.0	7	1.2	602
South Carolina	6,049	87.9	261	3.8	459	6.7	8	0.1	104	1.5	6,881
South Dakota	940	84.3	74	6.6	70	6.3	15	1.3	16	1.4	1,115
Tennessee	7,185	85.4	348	4.1	750	8.9	42	0.5	93	1.1	8,418
Texas	21,500	84.8	1,958	7.7	792	3.1	428	1.7	675	2.7	25,353
Utah	1,676	88.4	89	4.7	69	3.6	28	1.5	34	1.8	1,896
Vermont	496	89.7	7	1.3	39	7.1	1	0.2	10	1.8	553
Virginia	5,542	87.9	157	2.5	366	5.8	18	0.3	222	3.5	6,305
Washington	3,564	86.4	141	3.4	327	7.9	30	0.7	62	1.5	4,124
West Virginia	2,380	88.5	61	2.3	199	7.4	28	1.0	21	0.8	2,689
Wisconsin	4,710	86.8	224	4.1	391	7.2	41	0.8	58	1.1	5,424
Wyoming	899	89.2	17	1.7	52	5.2	15	1.5	25	2.5	1,008
United States	251,964	86.3	12,013	4.1	17,493	6.0	3,051	1.0	7,594	2.6	292,115

* 4,089 drivers who were of unknown license status (53.85%) were hit-and-run drivers who fled the scene of the crash. Of drivers with known license status, hit-and-run drivers were significantly more likely to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed than non hit-and-run drivers (41.42% vs. 11.01%).

Table 7. Drivers involved in fatal crashes, by state of crash and license status, 2001–2005 (Summary)

	Valid License		Unlicensed / Invalid		Unknown*		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown**		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
Alabama	6,071	84.5	1,012	14.1	98	1.4	1,110	15.5	7,181
Alaska	498	81.6	104	17.0	8	1.3	112	18.4	610
Arizona	5,683	75.6	1,170	15.6	668	8.9	1,838	24.4	7,521
Arkansas	3,670	86.4	505	11.9	75	1.8	580	13.6	4,250
California	22,318	79.9	4,412	15.8	1,200	4.3	5,612	20.1	27,930
Colorado	3,773	81.5	695	15.0	164	3.5	859	18.5	4,632
Connecticut	1,829	88.6	206	10.0	30	1.5	236	11.4	2,065
Delaware	832	85.6	126	13.0	14	1.4	140	14.4	972
Dist of Columbia	286	75.1	57	15.0	38	10.0	95	24.9	381
Florida	20,116	88.6	1,892	8.3	691	3.0	2,583	11.4	22,699
Georgia	10,222	87.6	1,166	10.0	281	2.4	1,447	12.4	11,669
Hawaii	777	88.0	85	9.6	21	2.4	106	12.0	883
Idaho	1,479	86.7	176	10.3	50	2.9	226	13.3	1,705
Illinois	8,448	86.8	964	9.9	321	3.3	1,285	13.2	9,733
Indiana	5,562	87.7	675	10.6	107	1.7	782	12.3	6,344
Iowa	2,638	90.7	229	7.9	41	1.4	270	9.3	2,908
Kansas	2,779	88.2	347	11.0	26	0.8	373	11.8	3,152
Kentucky	5,706	90.6	554	8.8	39	0.6	593	9.4	6,299
Louisiana	5,310	83.1	960	15.0	118	1.8	1,078	16.9	6,388
Maine	1,217	93.8	67	5.2	14	1.1	81	6.2	1,298
Maryland	4,255	91.1	319	6.8	97	2.1	416	8.9	4,671
Massachusetts	2,796	90.9	220	7.2	59	1.9	279	9.1	3,075
Michigan	7,898	88.2	739	8.3	314	3.5	1,053	11.8	8,951
Minnesota	3,823	92.5	282	6.8	30	0.7	312	7.5	4,135
Mississippi	5,238	94.6	285	5.1	13	0.2	298	5.4	5,536
Missouri	6,983	88.4	804	10.2	113	1.4	917	11.6	7,900
Montana	1,232	84.8	214	14.7	6	0.4	220	15.2	1,452
Nebraska	1,716	91.8	139	7.4	15	0.8	154	8.2	1,870
Nevada	2,227	86.9	255	9.9	81	3.2	336	13.1	2,563
New Hampshire	942	93.6	60	6.0	4	0.4	64	6.4	1,006
New Jersey	4,602	87.2	492	9.3	185	3.5	677	12.8	5,279
New Mexico	2,329	81.7	429	15.0	94	3.3	523	18.3	2,852
New York	8,847	88.1	773	7.7	417	4.2	1,190	11.9	10,037

Table 7. Drivers involved in fatal crashes, by state of crash and license status, 2001–2005 (Summary)

	Valid License		Unlicensed / Invalid		Unknown*		Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown**		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
North Carolina	9,012	84.2	1,519	14.2	172	1.6	1,691	15.8	10,703
North Dakota	565	85.2	86	13.0	12	1.8	98	14.8	663
Ohio	8,203	85.9	1,106	11.6	235	2.5	1,341	14.1	9,544
Oklahoma	4,260	87.4	518	10.6	96	2.0	614	12.6	4,874
Oregon	2,700	87.5	331	10.7	55	1.8	386	12.5	3,086
Pennsylvania	9,644	88.2	1,021	9.3	265	2.4	1,286	11.8	10,930
Rhode Island	537	89.2	58	9.6	7	1.2	65	10.8	602
South Carolina	6,049	87.9	728	10.6	104	1.5	832	12.1	6,881
South Dakota	940	84.3	159	14.3	16	1.4	175	15.7	1,115
Tennessee	7,185	85.4	1,140	13.5	93	1.1	1,233	14.6	8,418
Texas	21,500	84.8	3,178	12.5	675	2.7	3,853	15.2	25,353
Utah	1,676	88.4	186	9.8	34	1.8	220	11.6	1,896
Vermont	496	89.7	47	8.5	10	1.8	57	10.3	553
Virginia	5,542	87.9	541	8.6	222	3.5	763	12.1	6,305
Washington	3,564	86.4	498	12.1	62	1.5	560	13.6	4,124
West Virginia	2,380	88.5	288	10.7	21	0.8	309	11.5	2,689
Wisconsin	4,710	86.8	656	12.1	58	1.1	714	13.2	5,424
Wyoming	899	89.2	84	8.3	25	2.5	109	10.8	1,008
United States	251,964	86.3	32,557	11.1	7,594	2.6	40,151	13.7	292,115

* 4,089 drivers who were of unknown license status (53.85%) were hit-and-run drivers who fled the scene of the crash. Of drivers with known license status, hit-and-run drivers were significantly more likely to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed than non hit-and-run drivers (41.42% vs. 11.01%).

** *Total Unlicensed / Invalid / Unknown* category includes drivers known to be unlicensed or invalidly licensed, and also drivers of unknown license status (i.e., drivers not known to have a valid license).

Table 8. Drivers involved in fatal crashes, by state and number of license suspensions or revocations in 3 years preceding crash, 2001–2005

	None		1 or More		3 or More		Unknown		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
Alabama	5,942	82.7	945	13.2	237	3.3	294	4.1	7,181
Alaska	534	87.5	59	9.7	6	1.0	17	2.8	610
Arizona	5,751	76.5	1,048	13.9	356	4.7	722	9.6	7,521
Arkansas	3,591	84.5	581	13.7	336	7.9	78	1.8	4,250
California	23,600	84.5	3,088	11.1	583	2.1	1,242	4.4	27,930
Colorado	3,856	83.2	604	13.0	126	2.7	172	3.7	4,632
Connecticut	1,760	85.2	238	11.5	64	3.1	67	3.2	2,065
Delaware	783	80.6	121	12.4	31	3.2	68	7.0	972
Dist of Columbia	268	70.3	28	7.3	1	0.3	85	22.3	381
Florida	19,749	87.0	2,218	9.8	358	1.6	732	3.2	22,699
Georgia	10,156	87.0	1,230	10.5	162	1.4	283	2.4	11,669
Hawaii	774	87.7	60	6.8	9	1.0	49	5.5	883
Idaho	1,380	80.9	246	14.4	62	3.6	79	4.6	1,705
Illinois	8,532	87.7	805	8.3	78	0.8	396	4.1	9,733
Indiana	5,330	84.0	870	13.7	276	4.4	144	2.3	6,344
Iowa	2,523	86.8	344	11.8	78	2.7	41	1.4	2,908
Kansas	2,995	95.0	110	3.5	17	0.5	47	1.5	3,152
Kentucky	5,446	86.5	633	10.0	91	1.4	220	3.5	6,299
Louisiana	5,125	80.2	1,073	16.8	148	2.3	190	3.0	6,388
Maine	1,065	82.0	212	16.3	31	2.4	21	1.6	1,298
Maryland	4,217	90.3	325	7.0	60	1.3	129	2.8	4,671
Massachusetts	2,465	80.2	476	15.5	101	3.3	134	4.4	3,075
Michigan	7,196	80.4	1,435	16.0	568	6.3	320	3.6	8,951
Minnesota	3,544	85.7	539	13.0	143	3.5	52	1.3	4,135
Mississippi	4,998	90.3	278	5.0	7	0.1	260	4.7	5,536
Missouri	6,857	86.8	911	11.5	210	2.7	132	1.7	7,900
Montana	1,296	89.3	50	3.4	8	0.6	106	7.3	1,452
Nebraska	1,715	91.7	138	7.4	11	0.6	17	0.9	1,870
Nevada	2,158	84.2	298	11.6	104	4.1	107	4.2	2,563
New Hampshire	930	92.4	54	5.4	8	0.8	22	2.2	1,006
New Jersey	4,241	80.3	787	14.9	349	6.6	251	4.8	5,279
New Mexico	2,537	89.0	187	6.6	57	2.0	128	4.5	2,852
New York	7,949	79.2	1,650	16.4	653	6.5	438	4.4	10,037

Table 8. Drivers involved in fatal crashes, by state and number of license suspensions or revocations in 3 years preceding crash, 2001–2005

	None		1 or More		3 or More		Unknown		Total
	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers	%	Drivers
North Carolina	8,866	82.8	1,664	15.5	498	4.7	173	1.6	10,703
North Dakota	543	81.9	105	15.8	33	5.0	15	2.3	663
Ohio	7,623	79.9	1,670	17.5	469	4.9	251	2.6	9,544
Oklahoma	4,178	85.7	595	12.2	129	2.6	101	2.1	4,874
Oregon	2,509	81.3	520	16.9	217	7.0	57	1.8	3,086
Pennsylvania	9,318	85.3	1,336	12.2	408	3.7	276	2.5	10,930
Rhode Island	495	82.2	100	16.6	33	5.5	7	1.2	602
South Carolina	5,709	83.0	858	12.5	156	2.3	314	4.6	6,881
South Dakota	932	83.6	136	12.2	41	3.7	47	4.2	1,115
Tennessee	7,550	89.7	766	9.1	126	1.5	102	1.2	8,418
Texas	21,942	86.5	2,471	9.7	468	1.8	940	3.7	25,353
Utah	1,619	85.4	127	6.7	19	1.0	150	7.9	1,896
Vermont	452	81.7	83	15.0	25	4.5	18	3.3	553
Virginia	5,098	80.9	944	15.0	313	5.0	263	4.2	6,305
Washington	3,411	82.7	644	15.6	213	5.2	69	1.7	4,124
West Virginia	2,332	86.7	335	12.5	67	2.5	22	0.8	2,689
Wisconsin	4,713	86.9	641	11.8	69	1.3	70	1.3	5,424
Wyoming	854	84.7	104	10.3	13	1.3	50	5.0	1,008
United States	247,407	84.7	34,740	11.9	8,626	3.0	9,968	3.4	292,115