# St. Patrick's Day Impaired Driving Campaign 2021 **Fact Sheet**

**St. Patrick’s Day A Cause for Concern**

* According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 280 people in the U.S. lost their lives in traffic crashes involving a drunk driver during St. Patrick’s Day weekend from 2015-2019.
* In 2019 alone, 57 people were killed in drunk driving crashes over the St. Patrick’s Day period.
* During the St. Patrick’s Day holiday reporting weekend in 2020 (March 13-18), 5 people were killed and 21 seriously injured on Washington roadways. One death and three of these injuries involved an impaired driver.

**Most of Us Chose Sober Options**

* Most of us in Washington (78 percent) don’t drive after drinking; still Washington experienced 231 deaths related to impaired driving in 2019 our state.
* It’s going to take all of us to drive that number toward zero. And that’s exactly what’s happening. Most Washingtonians (81 percent), when in a situation to intervene, take action to prevent someone from driving impaired.

**Using Alcohol and Cannabis Together Lead to Crashes**

* Driver impairment from more than one substance – usually alcohol and cannabis – is the most common factor in deadly crashes.
* More than half of the drivers in fatal crashes who tested positive for cannabis were also positive for alcohol.
* By 2016, the number of drivers testing positive for impairment from two or more substances became the most prevalent type of impaired driver.
* If you use marijuana after drinking alcohol, you increase your crash risk.

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