

# Data Brief

## Drug Testing Fatally Injured Drivers

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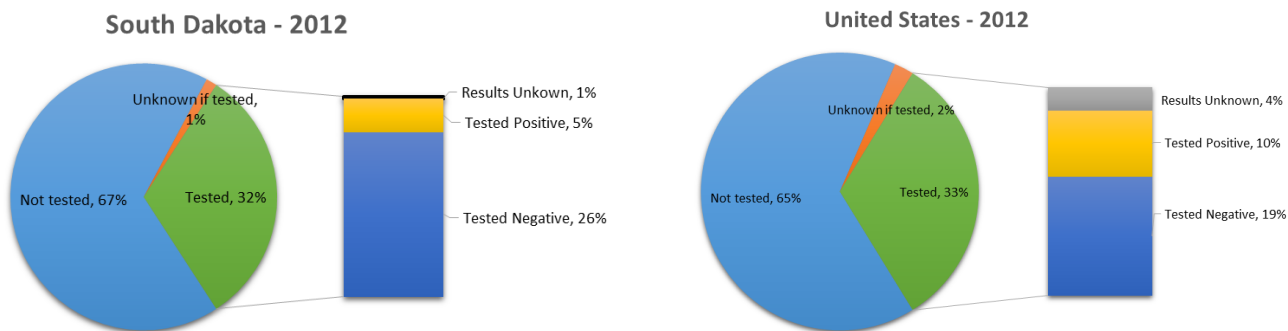
The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports the number of fatally injured drivers testing positive for drugs or alcohol each year. In 2012, there were 40 fatally injured drivers in South Dakota with a BAC of 0.08 or above. This number has remained fairly steady over the past five years, as have the number of fatally injured drivers in South Dakota testing positive for cannabinoids, sedatives, stimulants, and narcotics.

Number of Fatally Injured Drivers Testing Positive for Drugs or Alcohol

Drug	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Alcohol (0.08 or more)	48	56	33	30	40
Cannabinoid	8	5	0	3	10
Sedatives	1	0	0	1	1
Stimulants	0	2	0	3	2
Narcotics	0	0	0	1	0
Other Drug	1	0	6	1	3

When comparing the percentage of fatally injured drivers tested for drugs, both the state of South Dakota and the United States report similar percentages for those not tested (67% in SD and 65% in the US) and those tested (32% in SD and 33% in the US) for 2012. The percentage of drivers testing negative however, was higher in South Dakota (26%) than in the United States (19%). The percentage of drivers testing positive in South Dakota (5%) was half the percentage of drivers testing positive in the United States (10%).

Percentage of Fatally Injured Drivers Tested for Drugs:  
South Dakota and the United States



Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), 2012 data.

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