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The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
RESEARCH INITIATIVE

MILES TO GO:
A National Teen Driver Safety Report

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Latest Research on Teen Driving
Lifesavers Conference

Objectives

- To introduce initial benchmarks in teen driving safety to guide future efforts
 - Reaction and feedback
- Dialogue on utility of benchmarks to guide our work
 - Research
 - Program development

Introduction

- Many stakeholders in teen driving safety
 - Broad range of activities
 - Product development
 - Education and training
 - Public policy
 - Behavior change research
- Limited resources competing with other priorities
- Should have metrics to guide our efforts

Current indicators to guide us

HealthyPeople.gov

- Reduce deaths per 100,000 population by 10%
- Reduce deaths per 100 million VMT by 10%
- Reduce nonfatal MVC injuries by 10%
- Increase seat belt use for drivers and right front passengers by 10%
- No specific indicators for teen drivers and passengers



Goal

- Develop a succinct list of teen driving safety indicators that would serve as benchmarks
 - To prioritize/ direct resources and efforts
 - To measure future progress
- Core indicators with some flexibility over time
- Regularly updated



Development of teen driving safety indicators

- Review of existing government and academic sources of data, published reports and peer-reviewed literature.
- Focused on 2008 data
 - Most recent year available
 - Good starting point given increase in activities
- Criteria used to select indicators
 - Credible source of data focused on teens and/or crashes
 - Regularly updated
 - Published in peer-reviewed literature or government report



Development of teen driving safety indicators

- Key definition: "a teen behind the wheel" (BTW)
 - Age 15- 19 years
 - Driving a passenger vehicle
- Does not imply fault
- May differ from other definitions of "teen driver-related crashes"



Sources of data

- Fatality Analysis Reporting System (NHTSA)
- National Automotive Sampling System (NHTSA)
- National Household Travel Survey (US DOT)
- Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (CDC)
- Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (CDC)
- US Census
- Federal Highway Administration Highway Statistics



The magnitude of the problem

Millions of Teens, Millions of Miles

| AGE (YEARS) | POPULATION | NUMBER OF LICENSED DRIVERS | AVERAGE ANNUAL MILEAGE PER DRIVER |
|-------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15 | 4,199,941 | 334,168 | N/A |
| 16 | 4,272,369 | 1,328,511 | 1,720 |
| 17 | 4,343,810 | 2,172,041 | 4,353 |
| 18 | 4,425,810 | 2,894,449 | 6,908 |
| 19 | 4,272,428 | 3,224,766 | 8,050 |
| TOTAL | 21,514,358 | 9,953,935 | 5,905 |

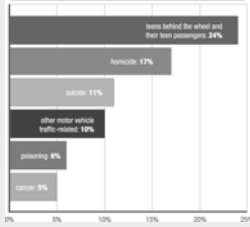
- In 2008, 15-19 yr olds comprised:
- 7% of US population
 - 5% of licensed drivers



The magnitude of the problem

- 1 in 4 deaths of 15-19 year olds is as a driver or passenger of a teen behind the wheel

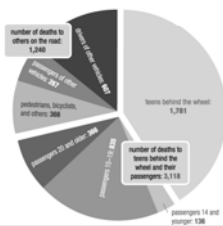
Leading Causes of Death for 15 to 19-Year-Olds United States, 2007



When teens are behind the wheel

- 72% of deaths are to driver and their passengers
- 63% of passenger deaths are to peers
- Nearly 3 of 10 deaths are outside the teen's car

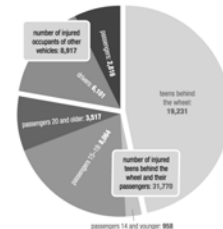
Too Many Deaths:
Crash fatalities with teens behind the wheel (2008)
Total number of deaths: 4,358
Total number of fatal crashes: 4,026



When teens are behind the wheel

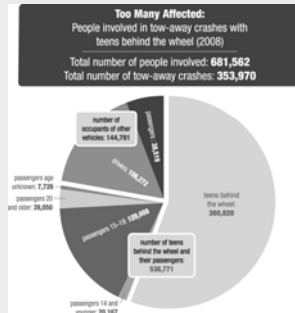
- AIS 2 + injuries
 - Brain and spinal cord
 - Internal organs
 - Fractures
- Drivers account for 47% of injured persons
- 22% of injured persons are outside teen's car

Too Many Injured:
People injured in low-away crashes with teens behind the wheel (2008)
Total number of injured persons: 40,687
Total number of low-away crashes with an injury: 31,243



When teens are behind the wheel

- 79% of those involved were in teen's vehicle
- For every death of a teen BTW
 - > 10 additional teens are injured
 - >200 additional teens are involved



Key teen driving behaviors

- 4 behaviors identified
 - Speeding
 - Alcohol use
 - Seat belt use
 - Distracted driving
- Examined
 - Overall teens
 - Teens killed when BTW



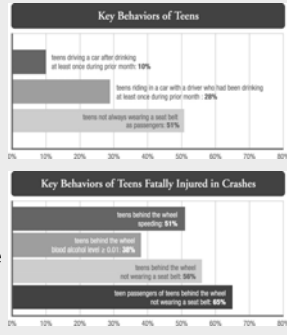
Key teen driving behaviors

- > 50% of deaths to teens BTW were speeding
- 1 in 10 teens reports drinking and driving
- Nearly 4 in 10 of deaths to teens BTW have BAC \geq 0.01



Key teen driving behaviors

- Only 1/2 of teens report using seat belt as passenger
- Majority of teens who die as drivers or passengers were unrestrained.
- 16% of teen drivers in fatal crashes were distracted



RESOURCES FOR YOU TO USE WWW.TEENDRIVERSOURCE.ORG



Questions for Discussion

- Utility of these indicators?
- Others that should be considered?
- Suggested methods of disseminating them?