

Drugs and traffic safety in France

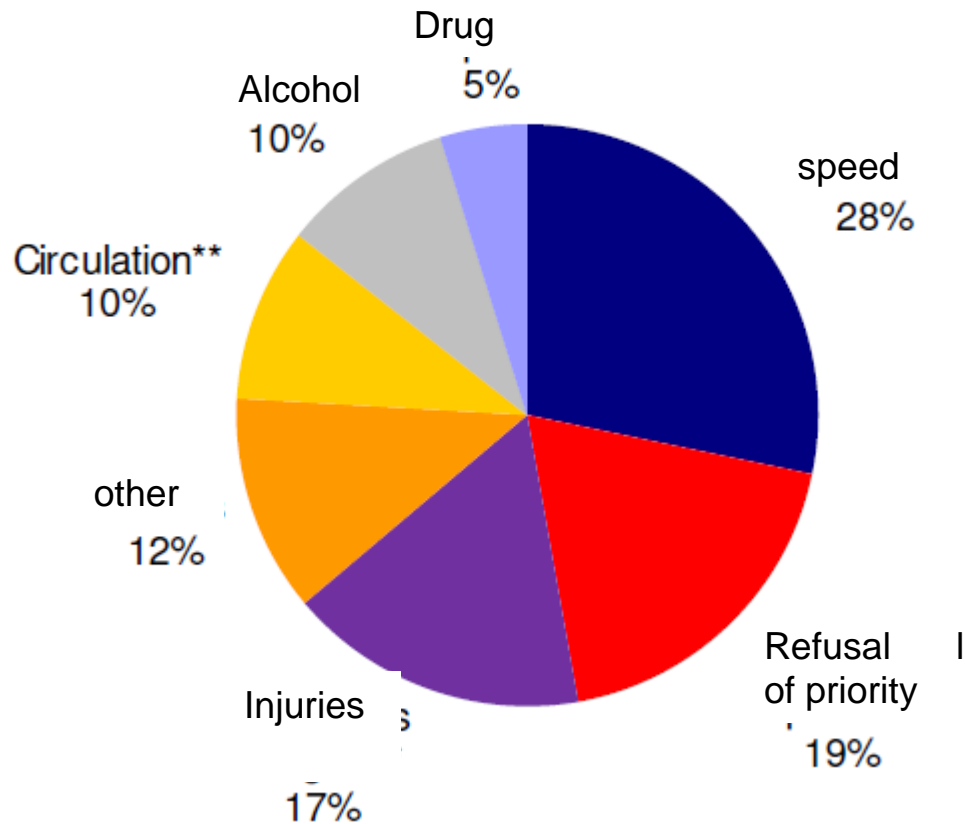
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Drug driving and other offences

DELITS	Offences	2016	2017	Évolution 2017/2016
Délit de fuite après un accident	Escape after accident	168 440	172 217	+2.2%
Alcoolémie	Alcohol offence	132 894	123 926	-6.7%
Permis de conduire	No driving licence	111 844	112 888	+0.9%
Assurance	Insurance	82 889	80 395	-3.0%
Stupéfiants	Illegal drugs	44 379	49 135	+10.7%
Refus et entraves	Rebellion	26 210	27 942	+6.6%
Plaques	Fake plates	22 846	21 326	-6.7%
Alcool et stupéfiants	Alcohol + drugs	5 691	6 263	+10.1%
Vitesse	Speed	106	95	-10.4%
Autres	Others	225	197	-12.4%
Total délits	Total	595 524	594 384	-0.2%

Offences



Familles	Nombre de délits			Évolution 2017/2010	Évolution 2017/2016	Part en 2010	Part en 2016	Part en 2017
	2010	2016	2017					
Escape after accident	138 515	168 440	172 217	+24.3%	+2.2%	25.1%	28.3%	29.0%
Alcohol offence	167 347	132 894	123 926	-25.9%	-6.7%	30.3%	22.3%	20.8%
No driving licence	101 092	111 844	112 888	+11.7%	+0.9%	18.3%	18.8%	19.0%
Insurance	79 734	82 889	80 395	+0.8%	-3.0%	14.4%	13.9%	13.5%
Illegal drugs	25 194	44 379	49 135	+95.0%	+10.7%	4.6%	7.5%	8.3%
Rebellion	22 581	26 210	27 942	+23.7%	+6.6%	4.1%	4.4%	4.7%
Fake plates	13 574	22 846	21 326	+57.1%	-6.7%	2.5%	3.8%	3.6%
Alcohol + drugs	4 002	5 691	6 263	+56.5%	+10.1%	0.7%	1.0%	1.1%
Speed		106	95		-10.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Others	239	225	197	-17.6%	-12.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	552 278	595 524	594 384	+7.6%	-0.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

1.1.3. Évolution 2008-2017

Proportion between different main types of offences

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Escape after accident	24.6%	25.1%	25.1%	23.7%	23.3%	23.8%	24.9%	26.9%	28.3%	29.0%
Alcohol	32.2%	30.5%	30.3%	30.0%	27.1%	25.6%	24.4%	22.4%	22.3%	20.8%
Driving licence	19.2%	19.1%	18.3%	18.5%	19.4%	19.5%	19.7%	19.3%	18.8%	19.0%
Insurance	14.9%	14.6%	14.4%	15.1%	14.8%	15.1%	15.7%	14.9%	13.9%	13.5%
drugs	2.4%	3.8%	4.6%	4.4%	5.3%	5.6%	5.7%	6.8%	7.5%	8.3%
Total	548 785	561 864	552 278	572 797	552 506	579 880	587 579	581 081	595 524	594 384

	Number of offences	Drug driving offences	Evolution Y/Y-1	% drug driving //total offences
2008	548 788	12 944	+41.5%	2.4%
2009	561 864	21 457	+65.8%	3.8%
2010	552 278	25 194	+17.4%	4.6%
2011	572 797	25 425	+0.9%	4.4%
2012	552 506	29 497	+16.0%	5.3%
2013	579 573	32 244	+9.3%	5.6%
2014	587 579	33 659	+4.4%	5.7%
2015	581 081	39 337	+16.9%	6.8%
2016	595 524	44 379	+12.8%	7.5%
2017	594 384	49 135	+10.7%	8.3%

Causes of fatal accidents	Causes identifiées dans un accident mortel	France métropolitaine
Speed	Vitesse	27%
Alcohol	Alcool	18%
Other causes	Autre cause	11%
Not known	Cause indéterminée	15%
Refusal of priority	Priorité	10%
Lack of attention	Inattention	10%
Illegal drugs	Stupéfiant	9%
Malaise	Malaise	7%
Dangerous overtaking	Dépassement dangereux	5%
Drowsiness	Somnolence / Fatigue	3%
Lane change	Changement de file	4%
Wrong way	Contresens	2%
Obstacle	Obstacle	1%
Vehicle defect	Facteurs liés au véhicule	0%
Phone	Téléphone	1%
Lack of safety distance	Non respect des distances de sécurité	1%
Total	Total	124%

Legal context

- **Different circumstances in the law: Detection mandatory, allowed, prevention.**
- **Mandatory detection** in case of fatal accident or accident with injuries.
- **Detection allowed but not mandatory** in case of:
 - Accident with only material damages
 - Violation of driving rules
 - Reasonable suspicion of drug use at wheel
- **Preventive detection, any driver or driving school teacher**

Procedure

- Four families of drugs researched with road side tests:
- cannabis, cocaine and crack, opiates, amphetamines (including also metamphétamine and ecstasy-MDMA).
- Detection in urine or saliva (directly by a police officer in saliva, with a nurse or a medical doctor in urines)
- Confirmation in saliva or blood if positive detection or impossible collection of a sample for detection.
- Prosecution if positive confirmation
- No prosecution if negative

Sanctions

- **Drug driving = Criminal offence : maximum 2 years of jail, 4500€ fine, 6 points (in 12) of the driving licence ([art L235-1 and following of the road code](#)).**
- **Additional justice sanctions:**
 - Suspension or cancellation of the driving licence
 - Sentence of « days–fine)
 - Sentence of work in general interest services
 - Educational training course related to traffic safety
 - Educational training course related to drug use
 - Prohibition of the use of certain types of vehicles
- **Administrative process:**
 - Medical examination by a certified medical commission, before regranting, and a second after one year (6 month if truck or buses drivers)

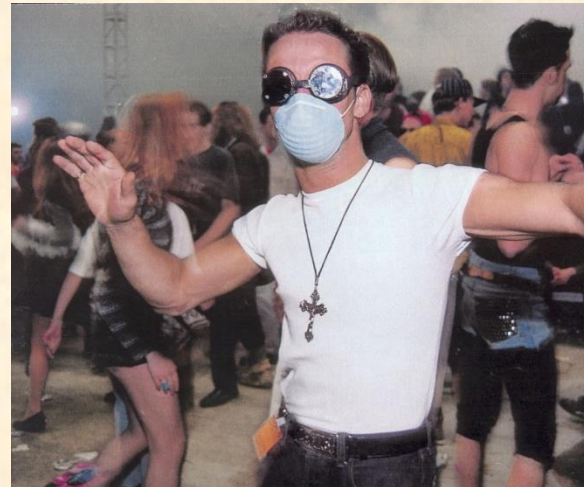
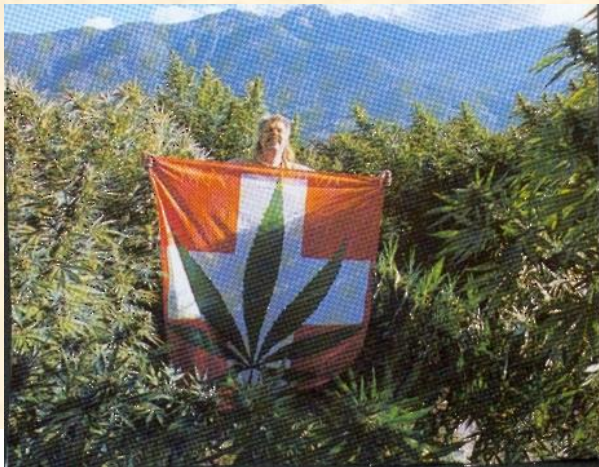
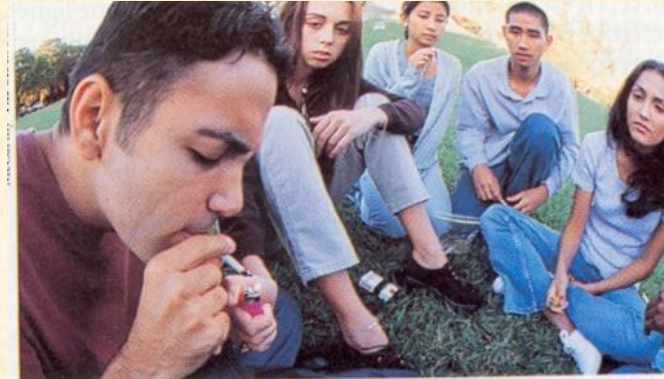
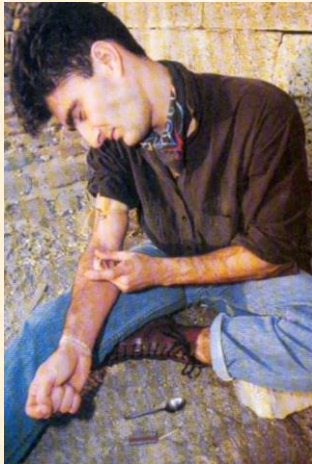
Drug driving: administrative management

- Unfit to drive in case of addiction or abuse with psychotropic substances, in case of chronic use without medical justification.
- Use of urine or hair tests
- Probation period 6 months to one year, which can be renewed during 2 years
- Then depending of the opinion of the medical commission.

Alcoholism / problem drinker



« Hard drugs »/ « recreational « soft » drugs



Drugs

- **European Council Resolution of 27 November 2003** on combating the impact of psychoactive substances use on road accidents
 - **Underlines** the importance of :
 - Promoting research on the influence of psychoactive substances over driving ability
 - Developing research to improve road side tests
 - Measures for rehabilitation of drivers
- **Follow-up of this Resolution:**
 - «Alcohol, drugs and medicines» working group
 - Research and DRUIS project

Working Group on drugs and driving

- **Recommendations**

- all member states of the EU should allow random roadside testing for drugs.

- warnings for combined use of alcohol and drugs

- all drivers of fatal or severe injury accidents should be tested for the presence of alcohol and drugs

- work further on the topic of medicines and driving

- **Update of Annex III of Directive 91/439/EEC**

- Annex III (minimum standards of physical and mental fitness to drive), §15:

- « ***Driving licences shall not be issued to or renewed for applicants or drivers who are dependent on psychoactive substances or who regularly abuse them*** »

Evaluation checklist of Clinical Signs of Impairment (CSI) through DRUID Project

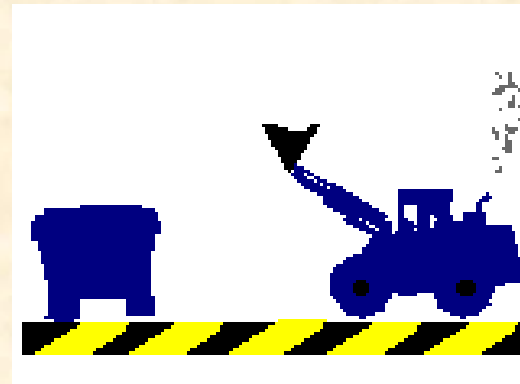
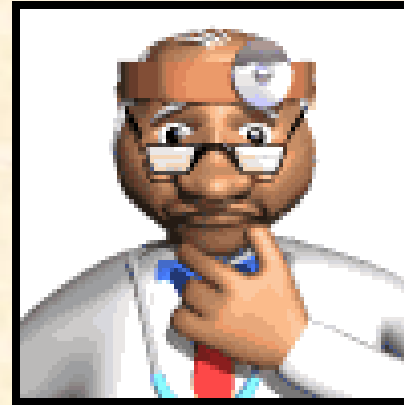
- Very low correlation between signs and symptoms and actual presence of drugs. Mainly in high concentrations or very recent use.
- Pupil reaction test was best predicting parameter, esp. for AMP and THC.
- Sensitivity of the checklist was 32%. For signs and symptoms only even lower: 13%.

- Saliva roadside tests can be easily used in prevention (no need for urine, fast)
- Not always in case of accident,
- To extend for violation of traffic rules,
- Importance of the need for an evidence, which is possible now through evidential saliva analysis
- Field sobriety tests and DRE face limits: we don't look only for impaired drivers: we track drivers with a higher relative risk of accident

General conclusion Druid WP2

- Alcohol is still by far the number one psychoactive substance on European roads, followed by illicit drugs and medicinal drugs.
- THC is the most frequently detected illicit drug in traffic, followed by cocaine.
- Amphetamines and illicit opiates were less frequently detected.
- Illicit drugs were in general mainly detected among young male drivers, during all times of the day but mainly in the weekend
- Benzodiazepines were the most prevalent medicinal drug in traffic. with differences between countries.
- Medicinal drugs were in general mainly detected among older female drivers during daytime hours.

SUBSTITUTION TREATMENTS ??



Conclusion 1/2

- Alcohol is still the main issue
- Illegal drugs are, at least, as important as a blood alcohol level of 0,5 g/l in term of risk
- Medicinal drugs can also induce a risk, but the effects have to be balanced with the risk of the pathology
- A medical treatment is not an offence, only misuse could be one



Conclusion 2/2

- Impaired driving is history: we face relative risks lower than R x 10 (RBT, AIID, 0,05% and lower for specific groups)
- « Speed model » is not the most efficient way to prevent recidivism due to addiction, or disinhibition (Education, monitoring, biological, psychological, medical follow-up)
- Mobility is the new challenge (elderly drivers, chronicle diseases, prescribed medical treatment, handicap)



acknowledgment

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Thank you for your attention

Questions?



