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Getting there safely together

Drink-driving in Norway – Challenges and tools to reduce drink driving

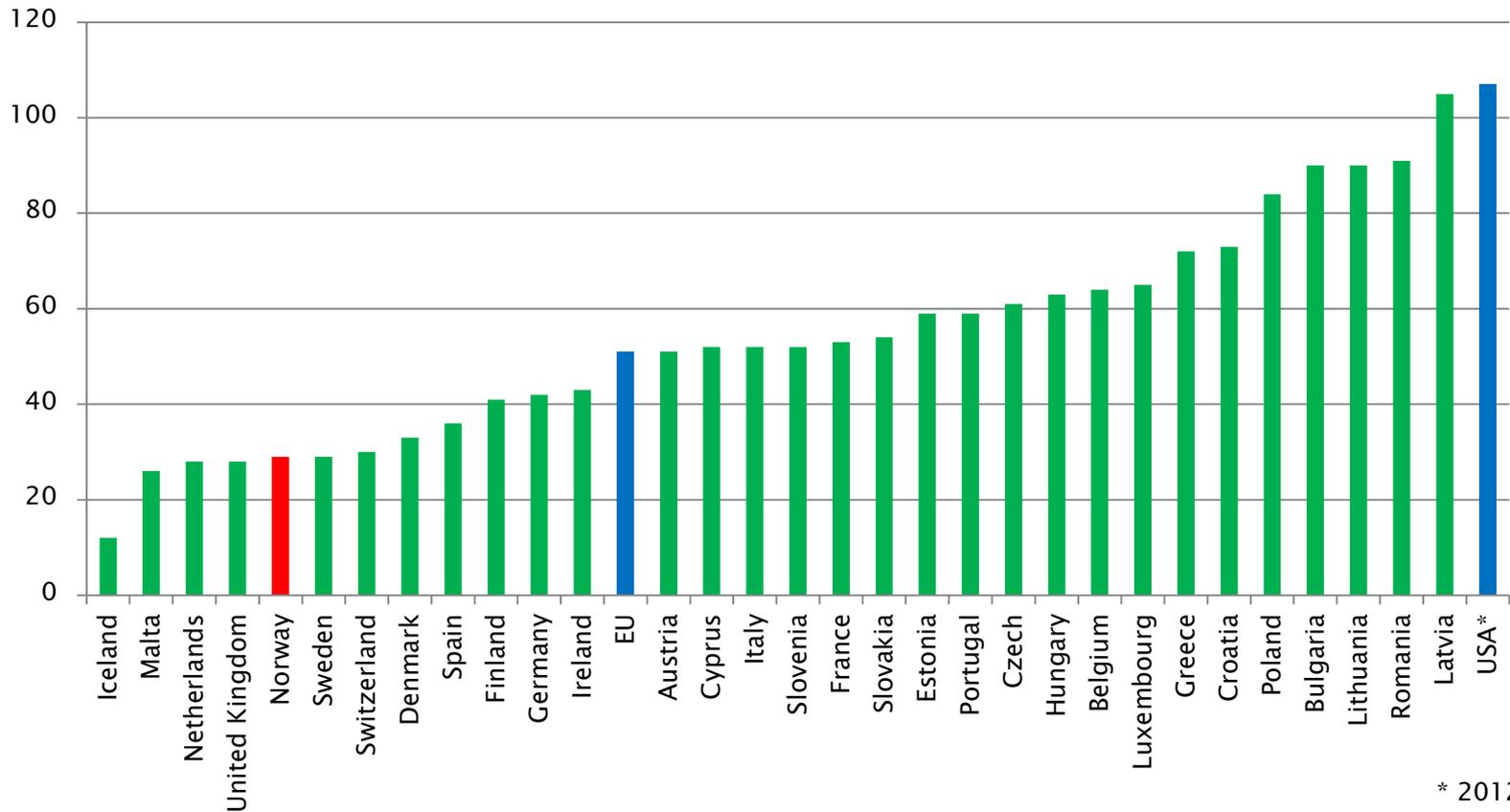
Anne Beate Budalen – Norwegian Public Roads Administration



Photo: Knut Opeide



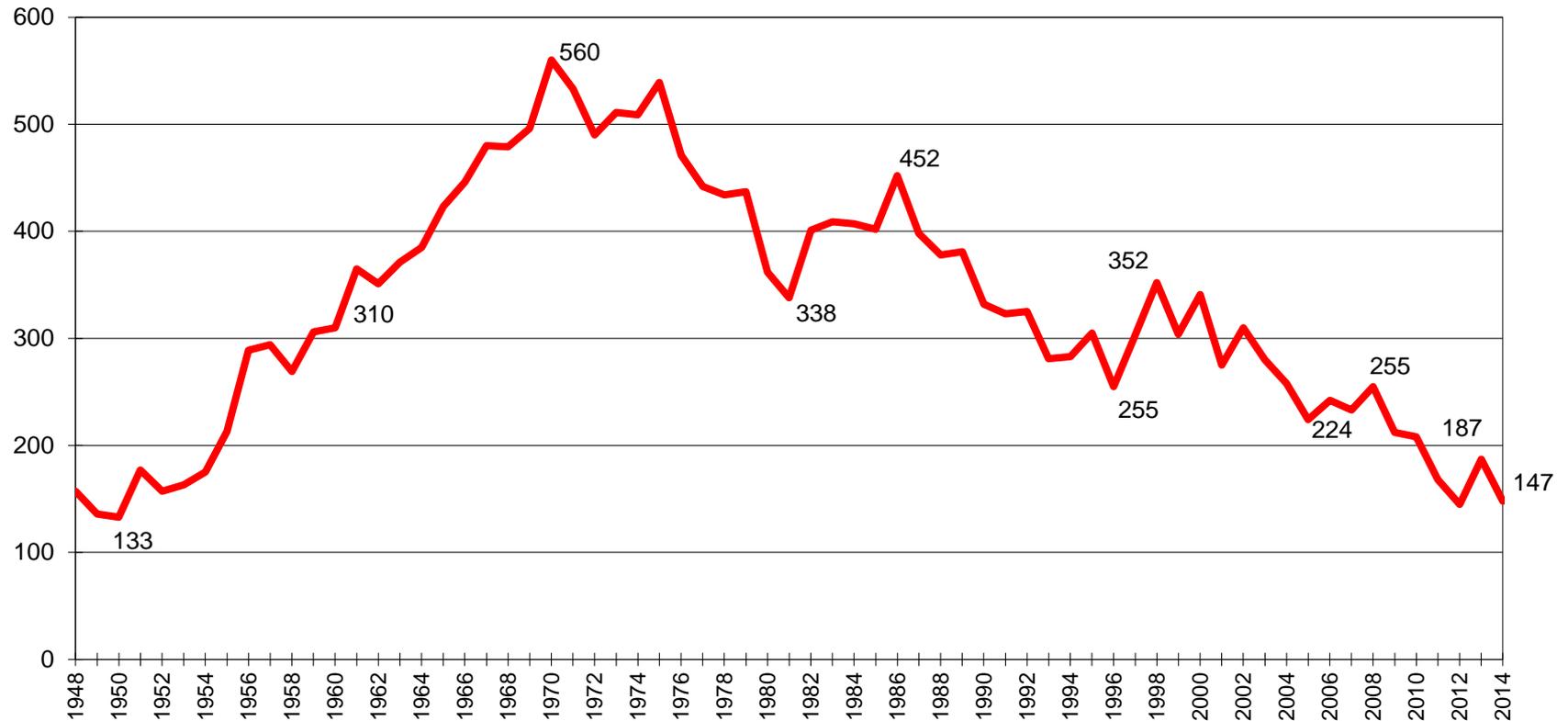
Fatalities per million inhabitants in Norway 2014 compared with other European countries and the USA



* 2012

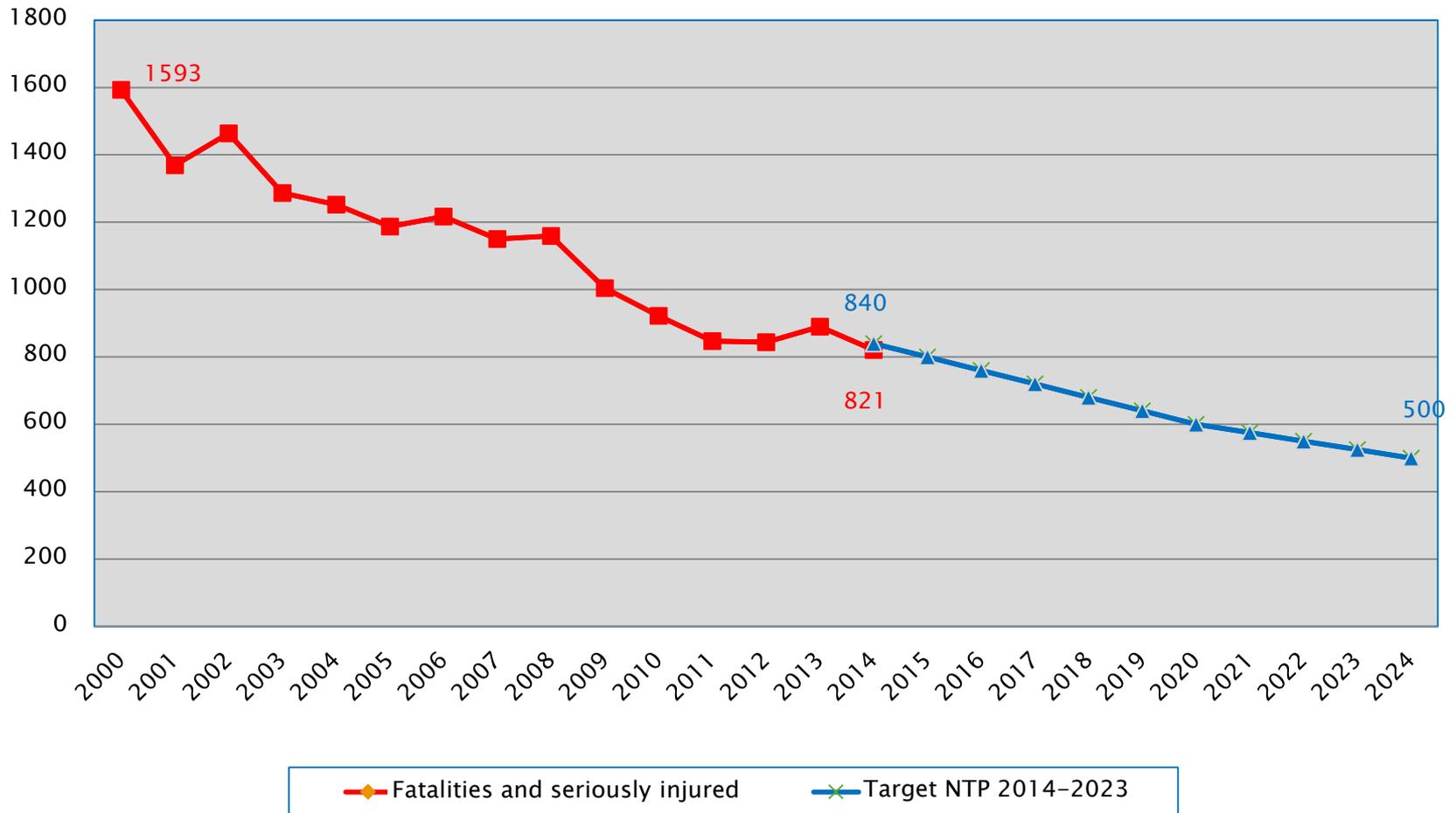


People killed in traffic accidents in Norway, 1948 - 2014



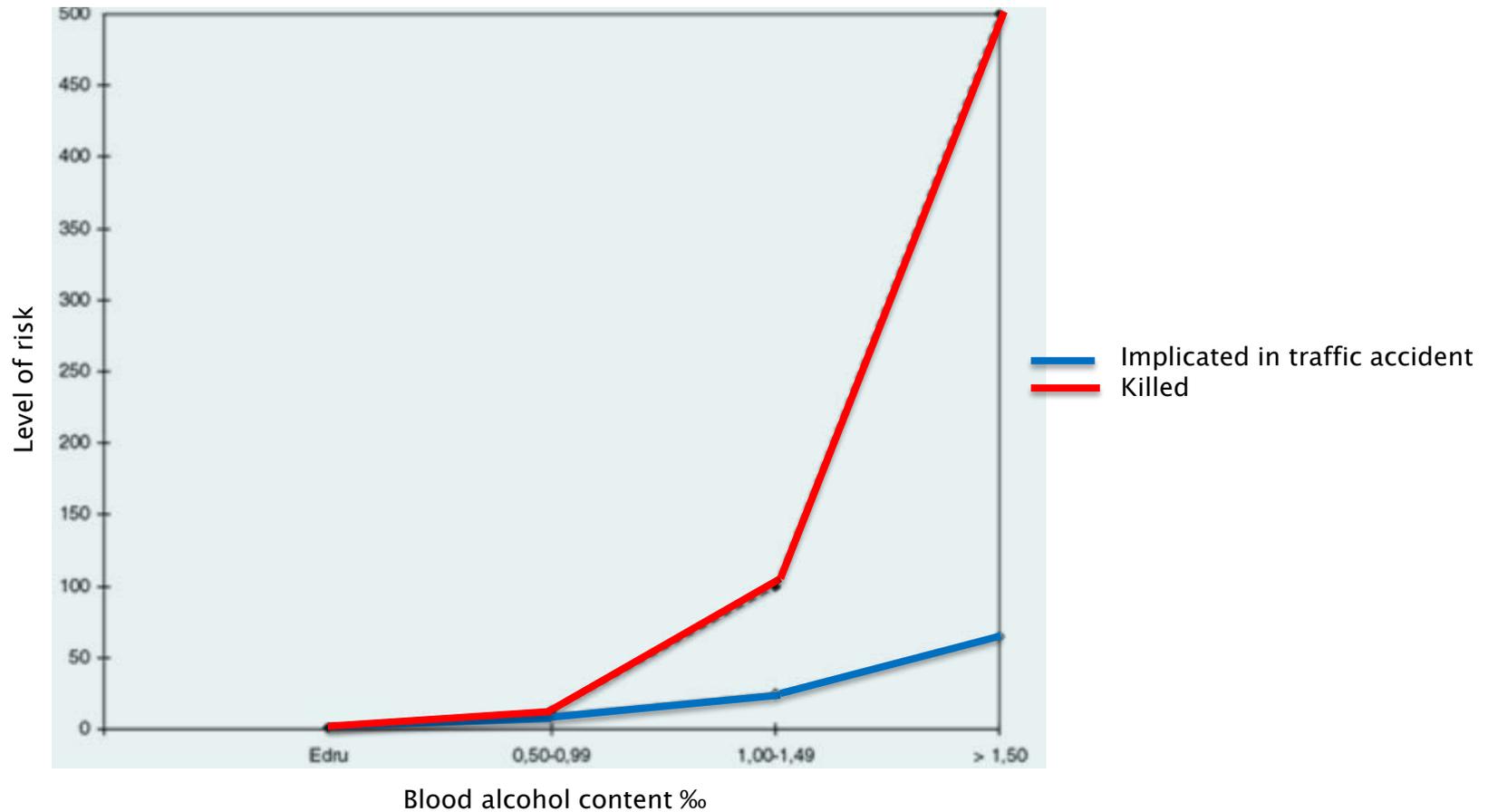


Development in the number of fatalities and seriously injured people





Accident risk when DUI



Ref: Glad and Vaas 1993



Norway – a pioneer



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- First country in the world to introduce a legal alcohol limit of 0.5 per mille in 1936
- Strongly encouraged by the *Norwegian Abstaining Motorists Association*
- Then lowered to 0.2 per mille in 2001





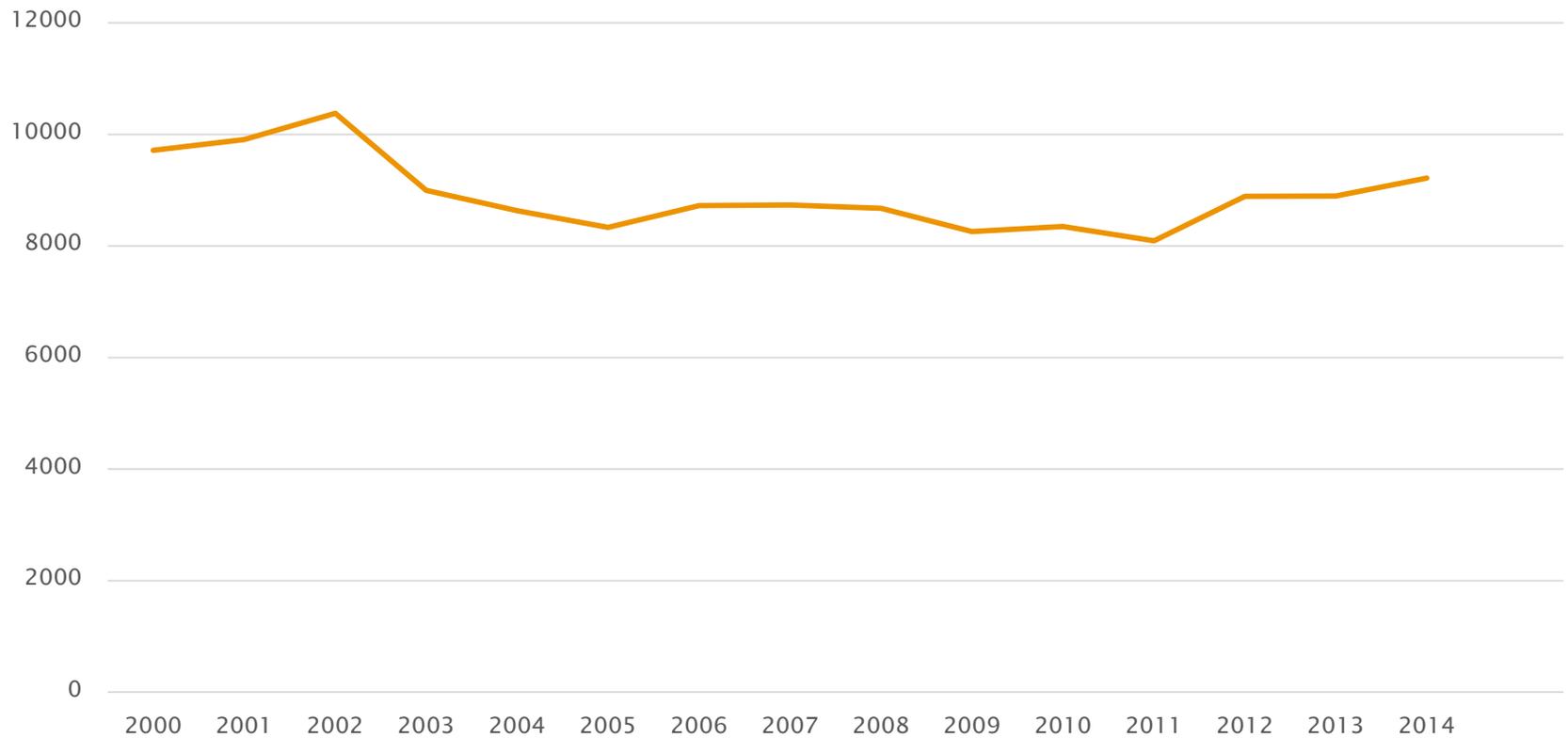
Traffic safety and DUI in Norway

- In-depth studies show that about 22 % of traffic accidents victims are killed in traffic accidents where alcohol and drugs are involved.
- In 14 % of all fatal traffic accidents in Norway, the driver was DUI of alcohol
- Average BAC among the alcohol-positive people killed in passenger cars is about 1.6 per mille (Ref: [Norwegian Institute of Public Health](#))
 - 0.6 – 0.9 per mille: 12.5 %
 - 1.3 – 1.6 per mille: 18 %
 - 2.6 – 2.9 per mille: 29 %
 - Average history of 2–3 arrests for each person in all groups.



The Norwegian Police

Number of drivers reported to the police for DUI 2000 – 2014



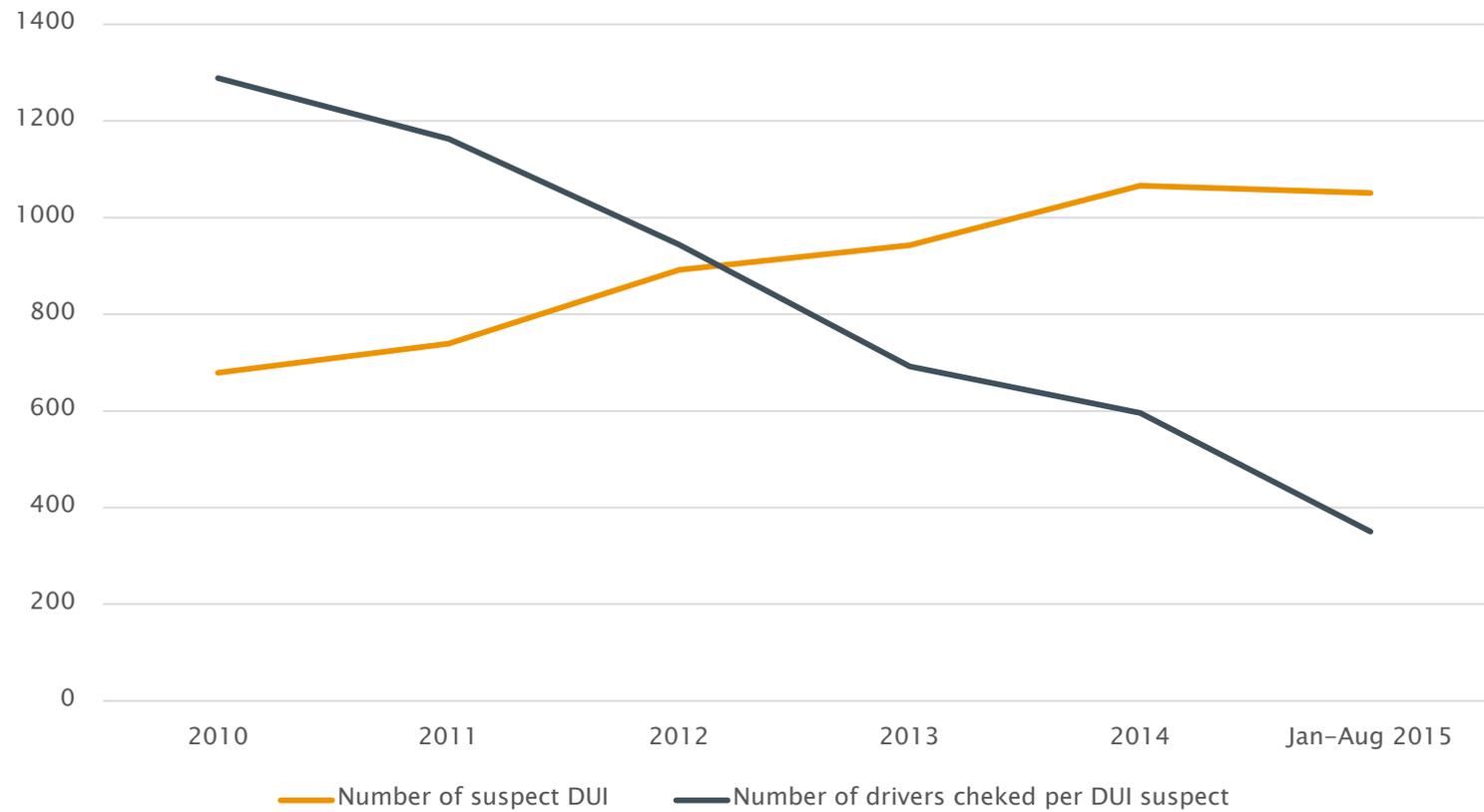


The Norwegian Police



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Number of suspects checked for DUI by the Police 2001 – 2015





Traffic safety and DUI in Norway

- The DRUID–study (2006–2008) of drug use among drivers killed in traffic accidents found alcohol or other substances in 38.9 % of blood samples of all *drivers*. (Ref: [DRUID homepage](#))



- In 247 accidents with heavy vehicles in the period 2005–08 no–one was DUI (Ref:TOI–report [1021/2009](#))



Per-se legislation

New legislation from 1 Feb, 2012

- *Aim: Harmonize the legislation for DUI of alcohol and drugs*
- Impairment limits for drugs comparable to BAC 0.2 g/L and limits for graded sanctions comparable to BAC 0.5 and 1.2 g/L
- Limits for 20 psychotropic drugs with an abuse potential and with documented increased crash risk based on epidemiological and experimental studies
- The limits for medicinal drugs do not apply to individuals with valid prescriptions





Drugs	Impairment limit (ng/mL of whole blood)	Limit for graded sanctions comparable to BAC of 0.5 g/L (ng/mL of whole blood)	Limit for graded sanctions comparable to BAC of 1.2 g/L (ng/mL of whole blood)
Alprazolam	3	6	15
Clonazepam	1.3	3	8
Diazepam	57	143	342
Fenazepam	1.8	5	10
Flunitrazepam	1.6	3	8
Nitrazepam	17	42	98
Oxazepam	172	430	860
Zolpidem	31	77	184
Zopiclone	12	23	58
THC (cannabis)	1.3	3	9
Amphetamine	41	not defined	not defined
Cocaine	24	not defined	not defined
MDMA	48	not defined	not defined
Methamphetamine	45	not defined	not defined
GHB	10 300	30 900	123 600
Ketamine	55	137	329
LSD	1	not defined	not defined
Buprenorphine	0.9	not defined	not defined
Methadone	25	not defined	not defined
Morphine	9	24	61



2014 – 2017

National Plan of Action for Road Traffic Safety

122

measures ► improved traffic safety

action plan targets:





2014 – 2017

National Plan of Action for Road Traffic Safety

We will:

- suggest compulsory alcolocks in vehicles used for school transport
- suggest compulsory alcolocks in vehicles used for driving tests
- continue the work to introduce an alcohol interlock rehabilitation programme
- suggest giving doctors the opportunity to prescribe alcohol interlocks
- work to introduce alcogates at important ferry and border crossings with a large number of heavy goods vehicles

National Plan of Action for Road Traffic Safety 2014–2017 Short version





The DUI Prevention Programme – since 1999

- Offender programme – alternative to unconditional prison sentence
- For offenders sentenced by a Criminal Court
- Run by the Probation service – 10 months
- Voluntary

- The penal sanction consists of:
 - Individual conversation therapy
 - Structured group meetings (lessons)
 - Mapping the needs for treatment
 - Supervision by the correctional service





The DUI Prevention Programme

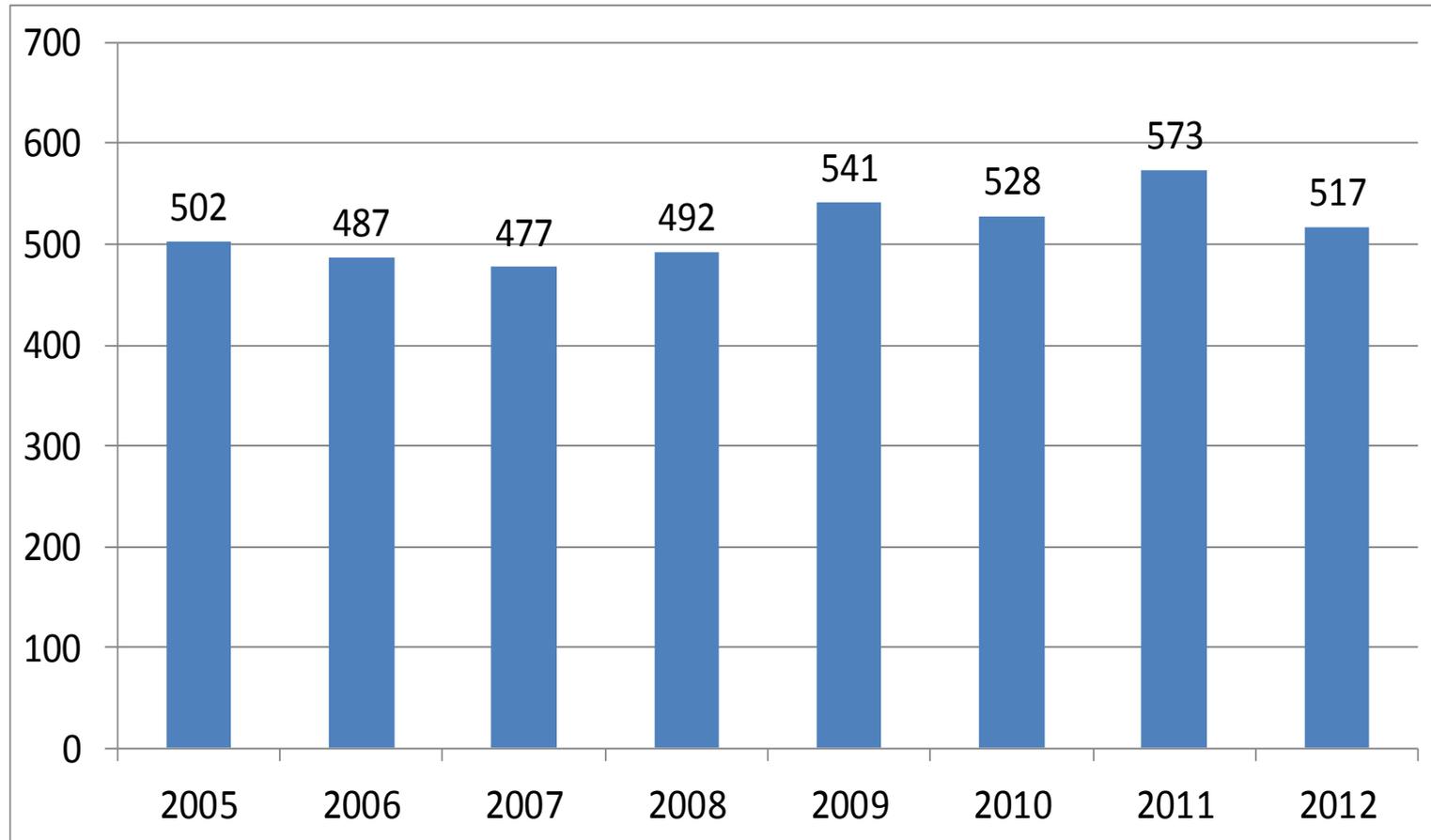
Target group

- People who would otherwise receive unconditional prison sentences for severe incidents of driving while intoxicated, and who have problems with alcohol and/or other kinds of intoxicants or sedatives.
- The sanction may also be applied to people who do not have an extensive substance abuse problem, but have driving while intoxicated as a problem. Repeated driving while intoxicated may indicate a substance abuse problem.



The DUI Prevention Programme

The number of participants in the DUI Prevention Programme 2005–2012





Suggested alcohol interlock rehabilitation programme for DUI offenders in Norway – an overview

- Aim: Road safety
- Target group: The most severe DUI offenders – BAC > 1.2 per mille or repeated offences (high risk group)
- Includes mandatory driving ban – 6 months
- A part of the DUI Prevention Programme
- Includes medical examinations
- The Prosecuting Authorities and major parts of the police oppose this use of alcolock: fear loss of preventive effect



Suggested alcohol interlock rehabilitation programme

Recovery of driving license

- Must have completed the DUI Prevention Programme
- Must meet the regular conditions for holding a driving licence
- Sobriety:
 - medical examination must confirm sobriety
 - no repeated positive breathalyzer tests the last year



Ignition alcolock in all vehicles used for road transport of passengers for hire or reward

- Includes buses, taxis and others
- Parliament voted for this in spring 2015
- Proposal for new legislation in spring 2016 prepared by the NPRA
- Then to be discussed and voted on in parliament, probably 2016/17





Thank you!



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