

It's time to be a Zero Hero



What does this mean for me?

Caught between the new limit and the old limit (0 - 0.03 BAC):

For those drivers under 20 who decide to take the risk and are caught driving at the former legal limit (up to 0.03 BAC) there will be consequences. **Drivers will be fined \$200 and 50 demerit points will go against their licence.** You lose your licence for three months if you clock up 100 or more demerit points within a two year period.

Caught over the old limit (0.03 BAC): The penalties get really serious from here. If you are caught with a blood alcohol concentration of more than 0.03 **you will be fined up to \$2,250 or even jailed for up to three months.** You're disqualified for three months or more from driving too.

Caught over the current adult limit (0.08 BAC): It won't matter that you are under age if you are caught driving over the adult limit of 0.08 BAC, **you will be penalised exactly the same as an adult.** This will mean there could be a **fine of up to \$4,500 or imprisonment for up to three months and of course you'll lose your licence for six months or more.**

If your BAC level is over 0.13 then the police can suspend your licence there and then, on the roadside. The more times you are caught the higher the penalties go.

Why is this important to me?

For decades SADD has been lobbying to reduce the youth limit to zero – we've done so because we know it will save lives. The changes coming into effect this year recognise that even a small amount of alcohol can impair your driving.

The law is changing.

As of August 7, 2011, drivers under the age of 20 must have **NO** alcohol in their system. No more guess work, no figuring out how many beers keeps you under the limit – from this day on, according to law, **one beer is too many.**



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Young drivers already have more to cope with than older drivers when they are behind the wheel; they are less experienced and more likely to be involved in a crash than adults – even when they are sober. **15-19 year olds are more likely to die in a car crash than by any other cause** – it doesn't seem like sound judgement to throw alcohol into that mix!

Crashes where young drivers (15-19 years old) were at fault resulted in 60 deaths and 385 serious injuries last year alone. **48% of those people who died were in crashes where alcohol was a factor.**

What is the BAC conversion?

BAC alcohol level	BAC 0.03	BAC 0.08	BAC 0.13
Alcohol per 100ml of blood	30mg	80mg	130mg
Alcohol per litre of breath	150mcg	400mcg	650mcg

zero alcohol – zero tolerance – zero crashes – zero deaths

Our source of info: Ministry of Transport. To find out more information about these changes go to <http://www.transport.govt.nz/>
Further information can also be found at the NZ Transport Agency <http://www.nzta.govt.nz/>

