



NC Department of Health and Human Services

Forensic Tests for Alcohol Branch

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Forensic Tests for Alcohol Branch Mission:

Reduce the incidence of Driving While Impaired (DWI) in North Carolina by providing **support** and **educational resources** to **North Carolina law enforcement agencies**, the North Carolina **Court System**, and the **citizens** of NC.



2019

7,796 law enforcement officers were trained in the detection, apprehension, and prosecution of drivers impaired by alcohol and drugs.



330 Driving While Impaired checking stations were supported for law enforcement officers.

189 Education Events were conducted



Training and Support to Law Enforcement is Critical

- DWI charges hold up in court
- Offenders held accountable
- Offenders referred to educational intervention or substance abuse treatment programs



The Community Preventative Services Task Force recommends:

Publicized Sobriety Checkpoints

- Decrease alcohol-involved fatal crashes by **8.9%**
- Effective among high-risk populations
- Benefit-to-cost ratios from **6:1** to **23:1**



Source: CDC's Motor Vehicle Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States (MV PICCS)
Guide to Community Preventive Services. Motor Vehicle Injury – Alcohol-Impaired Driving: Publicized Sobriety Checkpoint Programs.
Page last updated: August 28, 2019.

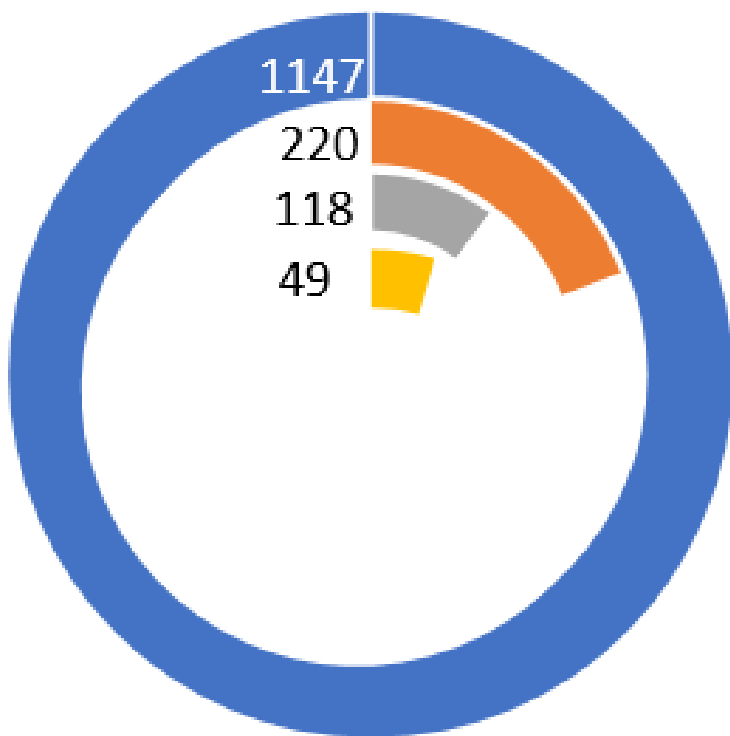
Sobriety Checkpoints in NC



Prevent **33** fatal and
1,157 nonfatal injuries annually.

Source: CDC's Motor Vehicle Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States (MV PICCS)

Alcohol-Impaired Driving Nationally 2017



1,147 fatal injuries among
passengers 0-14

19% (220) killed in alcohol-
related crashes

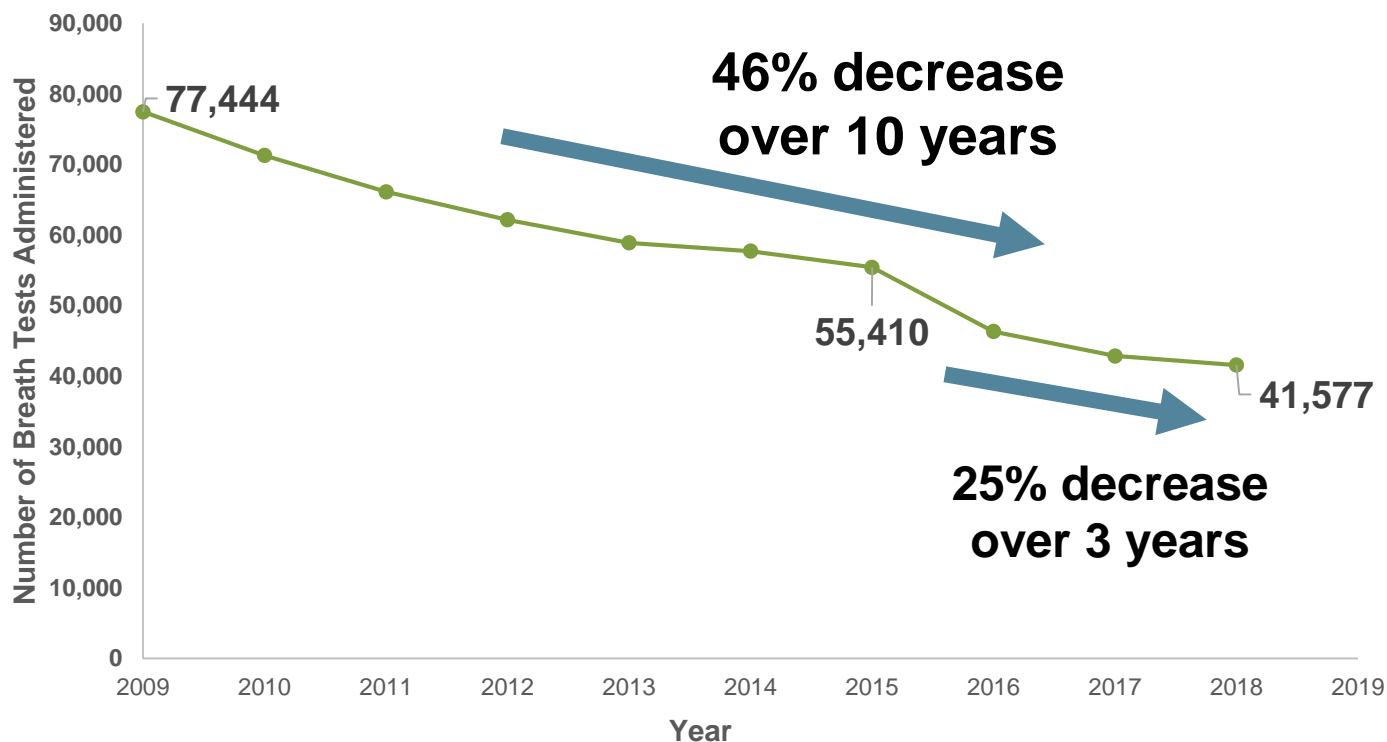
54% (118) passengers of
vehicles with impaired
driver

42% (49) unrestrained

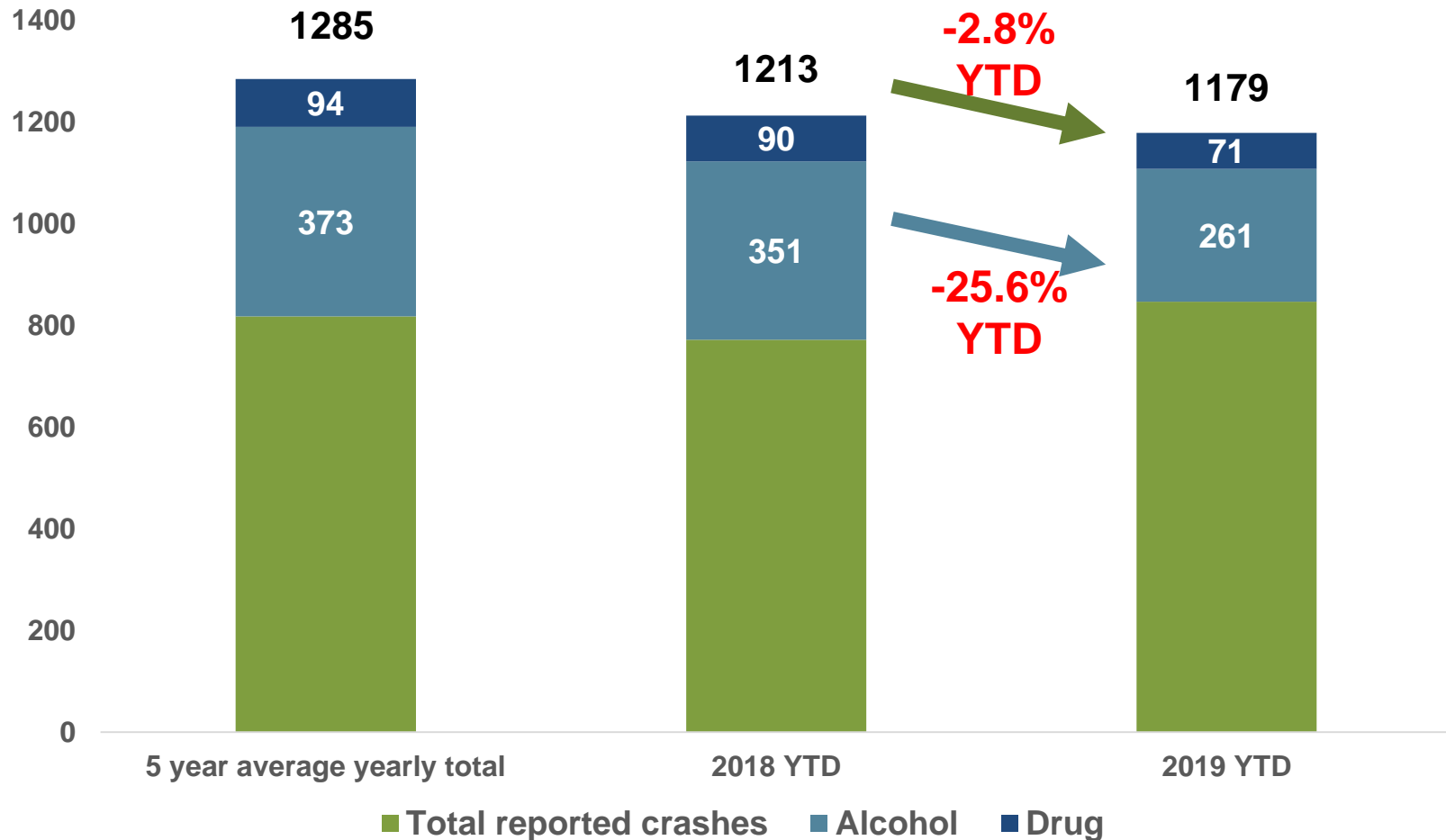
DRE Training Challenges

- Don't Recognize the Training Need
- Rely on Blood Analysis Alone
- Limited Agency Resources
- Recruiting Qualified Officers

North Carolina Breath Tests Decreasing

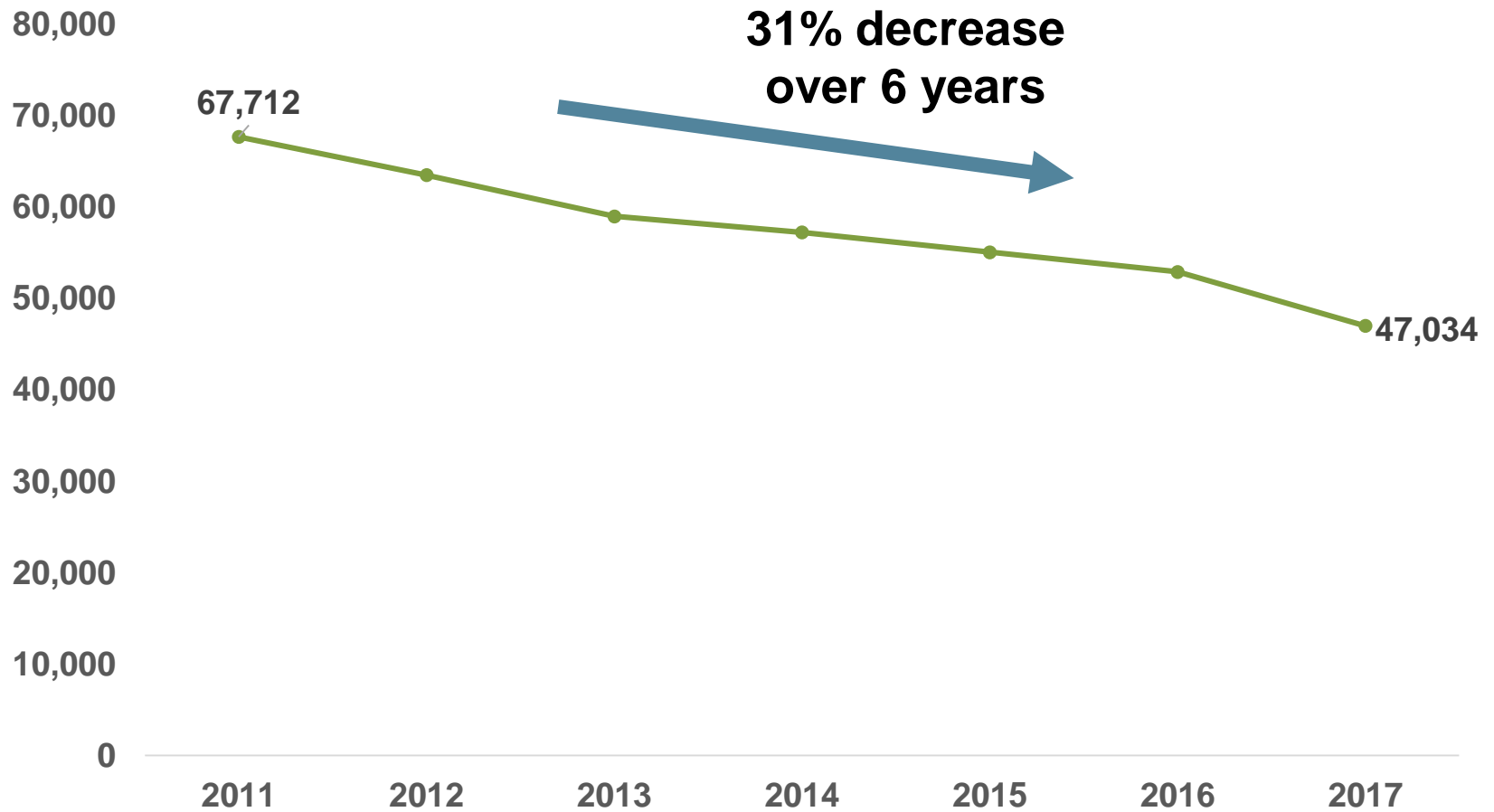


North Carolina Fatal Crash Data Indicates a downward trend



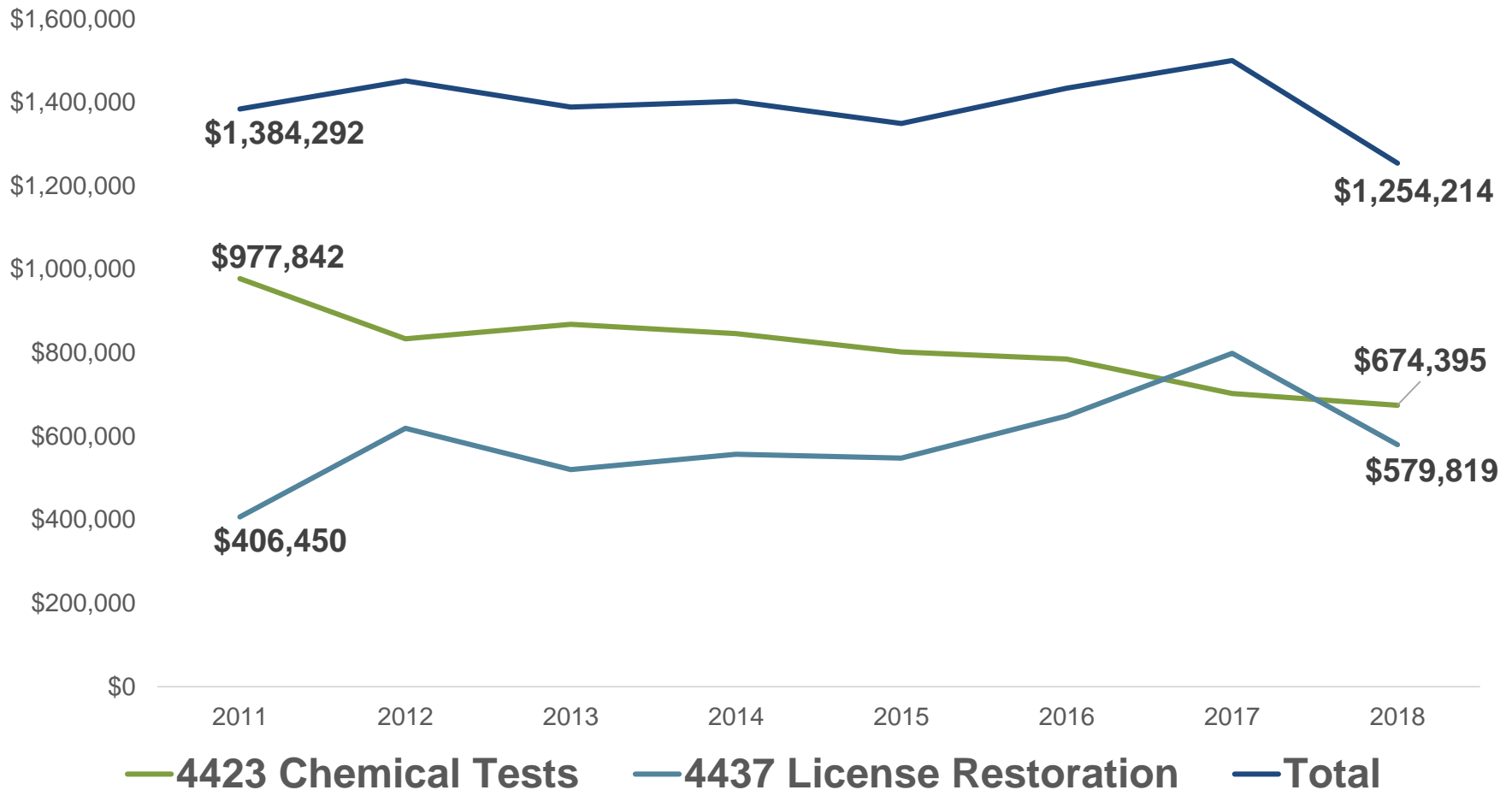
The above chart was generated from reported fatal crash data contained in North Carolina's Crash Database as of 11/25/2019

Impaired driving charges have decreased



Impaired Driving Charges and Implied Consent Charges Filed (nccourts.gov)

Impaired driving restoration fee revenue has decreased



Restoration Fee Revenue Appropriation Amount (NCAS)