MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY
Keep people safe on the road – everyday

Key Strategies
- Improve proper restraint use (including seat belts, car seats, and booster seats)
- Prevent crashes and injuries among vulnerable populations, including teens, older adults, American Indians and Alaska Natives
- Reduce alcohol-impaired driving
- Develop and communicate occupational motor vehicle injury prevention and protection information to manufacturers, employers, workers, and others who need it

Key Highlights 2014
- Released in October 2014, MV PICCS (Prioritizing Interventions and Cost Calculator for States) is an on-line interactive calculator that can help state decision makers prioritize and select motor vehicle injury prevention strategies from a suite of 12 effective interventions that are not in widespread use. MV PICCS calculates the expected number of injuries prevented and lives saved at the state level, as well as the costs of implementation, while taking into account the state’s available resources.

- State specific fact sheets on restraint use and drunk driving were created and broadly disseminated. The fact sheets detail the state-level public health burden for both topics and successful strategies for reducing the burden.

- Employer and worker information was prepared and broadly disseminated on motor vehicle safety to employers and workers at high risk for motor vehicle crashes. Information included a pamphlet to inform truckers on the importance of quality sleep to prevent drowsy driving, and an article that describes how employers can develop effective motor vehicle safety programs using a consensus-based standard influenced by CDC science.

- Four new standards were developed with partners to enhance safety in ambulance compartments to better withstand crashes and protect emergency medical service workers and patients.

- CDC worked to expand work with tribal nations to identify specific risk behaviors associated with motor vehicle fatalities and to focus on opportunities to improve motor vehicle safety, decrease crashes, and reduce motor vehicle related fatalities. Video and online resources were created and updated.

- An estimated 2,519,471 Emergency Department visits resulted from nonfatal crash injuries, which resulted in 188,833 hospitalizations and an estimated $18.4 billion in lifetime medical costs and $32.9 billion in lifetime work loss costs, according to CDC Vital Signs on motor vehicle crash injuries released in October 2014. Primary seat belt laws, child passenger restraint laws, ignition interlocks to prevent alcohol impaired driving, sobriety checkpoints, and graduated driver licensing (GDL) systems have demonstrated effectiveness for reducing motor vehicle crashes and injuries. To date, no state has implemented all of these safety measures in accordance with evidence and expert recommendation.

- Motor vehicle crash deaths among children age 12 and younger decreased by 43% from 2002-2011; however, still more than 9,000 children died in crashes during that period, according to CDC Vital Signs released on child passenger safety in February 2014. Of children who died in a crash, one in three was not buckled up, and more black and Hispanic children were not buckled compared with white children. CDC recommends that states and communities consider using proven strategies to increase car seat, booster seat, and seat belt use and reduce child motor vehicle deaths.

- Sobriety checkpoint programs are effective, according to a systematic review released in conjunction with the Community Guide. However, in looking at the overall use of all sobriety checkpoints (not just those that are publicized or part of a program), 12 states do not allow them at all, and only one-third of the other states use them regularly.

- Re-launched in October 2014, Parents Are the Key campaign provides information and tools for parents, pediatricians, and communities that focus on reducing teen driving-related injuries and deaths. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among teens. Over 100,000 people have accessed the website and 40,000 materials have been downloaded.
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Progress to Date

Trends in motor vehicle-related fatalities, 2007–2013

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA), Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)

*Data anticipated June 2016