



CITY NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**** Media Advisory ****

Police to focus on traffic safety the week of Feb. 12

Wichita Police Officers will be actively participating in the 2006 Buckle-Up America campaign next week, and will be conducting a number of traffic safety enforcement activities with an emphasis on child passenger and occupant protection. The enforcement effort will kick off on Sunday, Feb. 12 and run through Sunday, Feb. 19. Sadly, the life of a five-year-old child was lost in Wichita last year because he was improperly belted in the vehicle he was riding in. Wichita police do not want to see another similar incident, and will be conducting the following traffic safety enforcement activities next week:

The **Patrol North Bureau** will be conducting traffic saturation patrols on Feb. 13 and 16. Officers will focus on high accident areas with an emphasis on occupant protection that includes seat belt and child safety seat enforcement. They will focus their efforts at high accident intersections including 21st and Woodlawn, 21st and Rock, 21st and Amidon and 29th and Woodlawn.

Officers from the **Patrol East Bureau** will be focusing on the two busiest thoroughfares in that Bureau – east Kellogg and Rock Road. Officers will monitor the areas for traffic violations

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such as speeding, reckless driving, and other infractions that are contributing factors to accidents. Child restraint violations and adult seatbelt violations will also be strictly enforced.

During the day, **Patrol South** Officers will conduct traffic safety/occupant protection around schools, ensuring that children are safely buckled in with appropriate safety restraints. During the evening hours, Patrol South officers will concentrate their efforts on Kellogg including the onramps and exits.

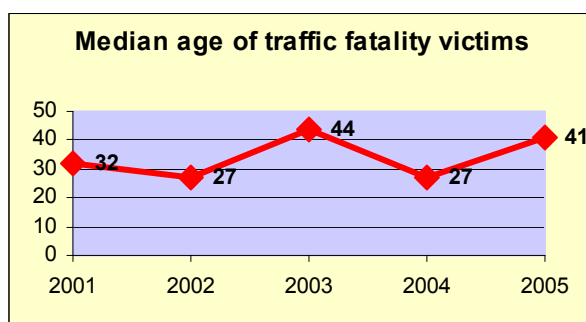
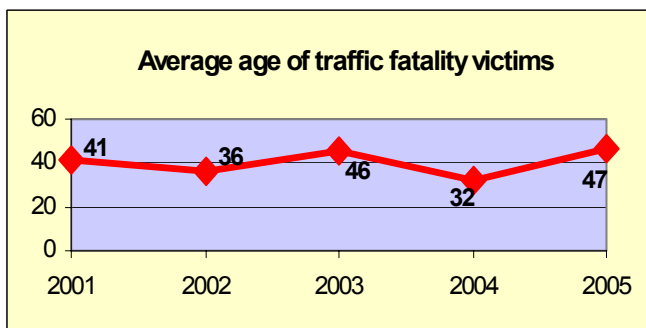
Officers from the **Patrol West Bureau** will be concentrating on the two busiest thoroughfares in west Wichita--west Kellogg and west 21st St. Officers will be monitoring the areas for traffic violations such as speeding, reckless driving, and other infractions that are contributing factors to accidents. Child restraint violations and adult seatbelt violations will also be strictly enforced.

“In 2005 we had senseless fatality accidents where the loss of live could have been prevented if only the motorists would have taken the time to ‘make it click’ and buckle up,” said Sgt. Jerry Quick, Patrol West Bureau.

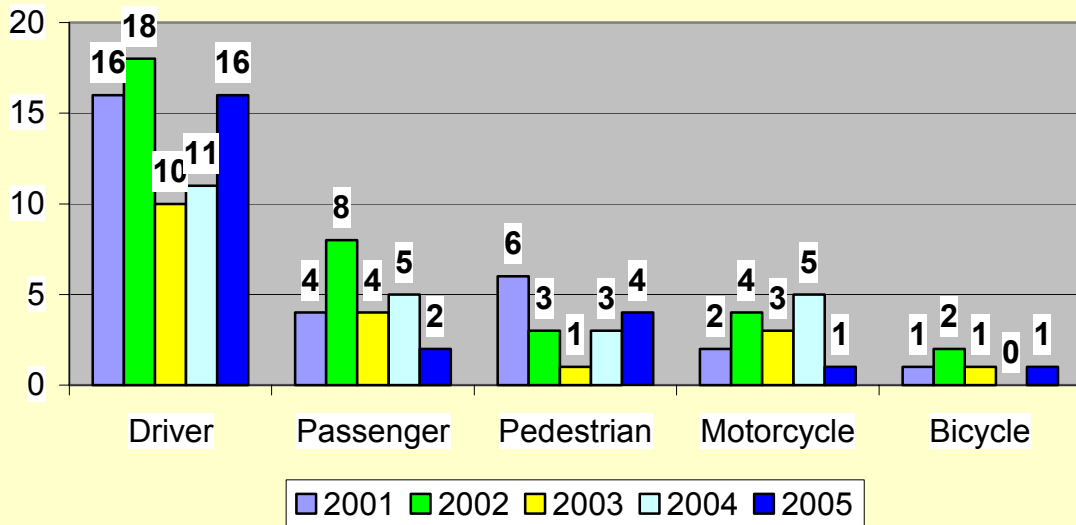
Through Feb. 9, Wichita has seen two traffic fatalities. In 2005 Wichita had 24 fatalities, the same as in 2004. For more facts on Wichita fatalities, please see below.

These traffic safety enforcement projects are being funded by the Special Traffic Enforcement Program grant (STEP) from the Kansas Department of Transportation.

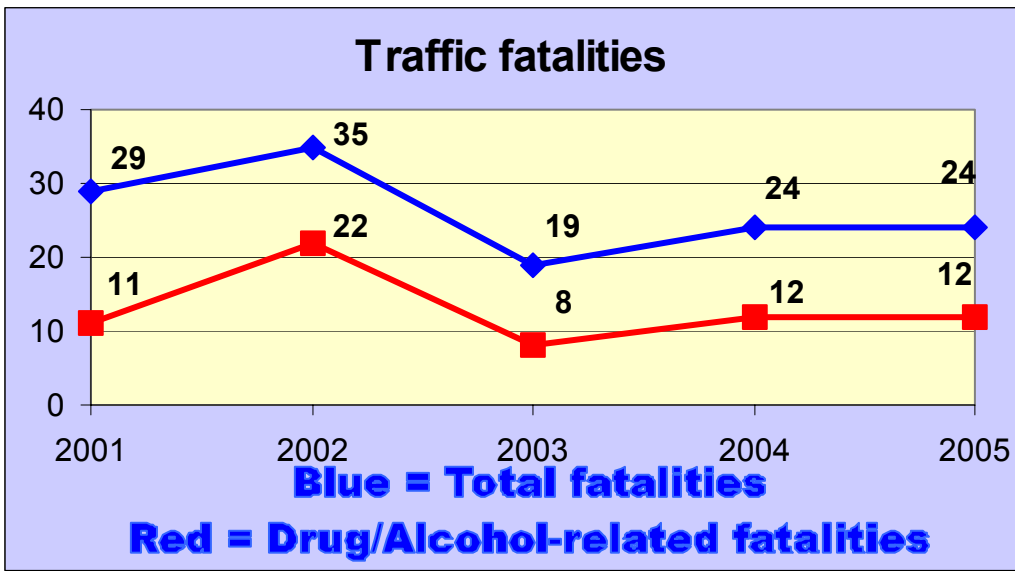
For more information on any of these projects, please contact Sgt. Chris McAuliffe, Patrol North 688-9500; Sgt. Donnie Phelps, Patrol South 337-9200; Sgt. Jerry Quick, Patrol West 337-9400, or Sgt. James Krok, Patrol East 688-9331.



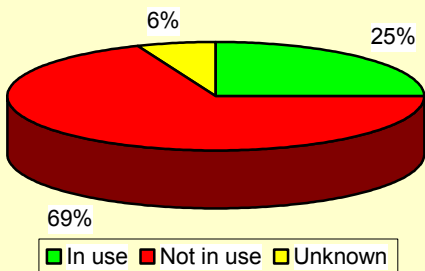
Traffic fatalities victim role



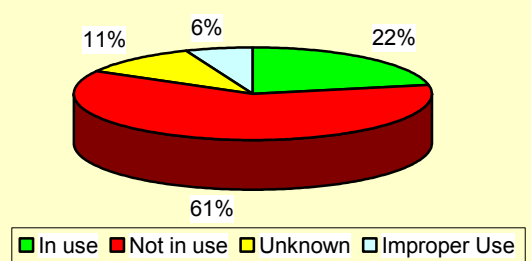
Traffic fatalities



2004 Fatality Seatbelt Usage



2005 Fatality Seatbelt Usage



Age of Traffic Fatality Victims

