



# WHAT WORKS

## Motor Vehicle-Related Injury Prevention

*Evidence-Based Interventions for Your Community*

### TASK FORCE FINDINGS ON MOTOR VEHICLE-RELATED INJURY PREVENTION

The Community Preventive Services Task Force (Task Force) has released the following findings on what works in public health to reduce motor vehicle-related injuries and deaths. These findings are compiled in The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide) and listed in the table below. Use the findings to identify strategies and interventions you could use for your community.

Legend for Task Force Findings: Recommended Insufficient Evidence Recommended Against (See reverse for detailed descriptions.)

Intervention	Task Force Finding
<b>Use of child safety seats</b>	
Laws mandating use	
Community-wide information and enhanced enforcement campaigns	
Distribution and education programs	
Incentive and education programs	
Education programs when used alone	
<b>Use of motorcycle helmets</b>	
Universal helmet laws	
<b>Use of safety belts</b>	
Laws mandating use	
Primary (vs. secondary) enforcement laws	
Enhanced enforcement programs	
<b>Reducing alcohol-impaired driving</b>	
0.08% blood alcohol concentration (BAC) laws	
Lower BAC laws for young or inexperienced drivers	
Maintaining current minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) laws	

Intervention	Task Force Finding
Sobriety checkpoints	
Mass media campaigns	
Multicomponent interventions with community mobilization	
Ignition interlocks	
School-based instructional programs*	
School-based peer organizing interventions	
School-based social norming campaigns	
Designated driver incentive programs	
Designated driver population-based campaigns	
* School-based instructional programs are recommended to reduce riding with alcohol-impaired drivers; however, the Task Force found insufficient evidence to determine whether these programs reduce alcohol-impaired driving or alcohol-related crashes.	

Visit the “Motor Vehicle-Related Injury Prevention” page of The Community Guide website at [www.thecommunityguide.org/mvoi](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/mvoi) to find summaries of Task Force findings and recommendations on preventing motor vehicle-related injuries. Click on each topic area to find results from the systematic reviews, included studies, evidence gaps, and journal publications.

## UNDERSTANDING THE FINDINGS

The Task Force bases its findings and recommendations on systematic reviews of the scientific literature. With oversight from the Task Force, scientists and subject matter experts from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conduct these reviews in collaboration with a wide range of government, academic, policy, and practice-based partners. Based on the strength of the evidence, the Task Force assigns each intervention to one of the categories below.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	ICON
<b>Recommended</b>	There is strong or sufficient evidence that the intervention is <b>effective</b> . This finding is based on the number of studies, how well the studies were designed and carried out, and the consistency and strength of the results.	
<b>Insufficient Evidence</b>	There is <b>not enough evidence</b> to determine whether the intervention is effective. This does not mean the intervention does not work. There is not enough research available or the results are too inconsistent to make a firm conclusion about the intervention’s effectiveness. The Task Force encourages those who use interventions with insufficient evidence to evaluate their efforts.	
<b>Recommended Against</b>	There is strong or sufficient evidence that the strategy is <b>harmful or not effective</b> .	

Visit the “Systematic Review Methods” page on The Community Guide website at [www.thecommunityguide.org/about/methods.html](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/about/methods.html) for more information about the methods used to conduct the systematic reviews and the criteria the Task Force uses to make findings and recommendations.

## RESOURCES

You can use the following resources to guide the implementation of evidence-based strategies and put the Task Force findings to work.

- **The Community Guide in Action: Stories from the Field**  
*Lowering Legal Blood Alcohol Limits Saves Lives*  
[www.thecommunityguide.org/CG-in-Action/BAC.pdf](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/CG-in-Action/BAC.pdf)
- **Partnership for Prevention**  
[www.prevent.org/Additional-Pages/Transportation-and-health.aspx](http://www.prevent.org/Additional-Pages/Transportation-and-health.aspx)
- **Healthy People 2020 Interventions and Resources on Injury and Violence Prevention**  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
[www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/overview.aspx?topicid=24](http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topicsobjectives2020/overview.aspx?topicid=24)