COST TO SOCIETY: ALCOHOL-INVOLVED PORTLAND TRAFFIC CRASHES 1996-2005

ALL INFORMATION BASED ON DATA FROM THE NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND, SEE http://www.nsc.org/lrs/statinfo/estcost.htm

Investments in transportation safety provides an outstanding benefit to cost ratio. The reduction of crashes means fewer deaths and injuries, lower economic costs, and a much more livable city. From 1996-2005, Portland residents spent as much on the impact of motor vehicle crashes as was spent on the entire transportation system budget. In terms of quality of life factors, Portlanders spent 3.5 times as much on motor vehicle crashes as on the entire transportation budget. The best and least expensive way to reduce crashes is for people to drive slow and sober, be alert crossing the street, and ride bicycles in a predictable manner.

Costs of Alcohol-Involved Motor Vehicle Injuries

The calculable costs of motor-vehicle crashes are wage and productivity losses, medical expenses, administrative expenses, motor vehicle damage, and employers' uninsured costs.

	COST PER CRASH	TOTAL PORTLAND ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND MOTOR VEHICLE ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND PEDESTRIAN ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND BICYCLE ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST
Death									
	\$1,130,000	180	\$203,400,000	122	\$137,860,000	49	\$55,370,000	9	\$10,170,000
Incapacitating									
Injury	\$58,500	251	\$14,683,500	211	\$12,343,500	34	\$1,989,000	6	\$351,000
Non-Incapacitating									
Injury	\$18,900	553	\$10,451,700	517	\$9,771,300	27	\$510,300	9	\$170,100
Pain									
	\$10,700	721	\$7,714,700	708	\$7,575,600	7	\$74,900	6	\$64,200
		TOTAL	\$236,249,900		\$167,550,400		\$57,944,200		\$10,755,300

Comprehensive costs of motor-vehicle crashes.

In addition to the economic cost components listed above, the following comprehensive costs also include a measure of the value of lost quality of life which was obtained through empirical studies of what people actually pay to reduce their safety and health risks

	COST PER CRASH	TOTAL PORTLAND ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND MOTOR VEHICLE ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND PEDESTRIAN ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST	PORTLAND BICYCLE ALCOHOL CRASHES	COST
Death									
	\$3,760,000	180	\$676,800,000	122	\$458,720,000	49	\$184,240,000	9	\$33,840,000
Incapacitating									
Injury	\$188,000	251	\$47,188,000	211	\$39,668,000	34	\$6,392,000	6	\$1,128,000
Non-Incapacitating									
Injury		553	\$26,654,600	517	\$24,919,400	27	\$1,301,400	9	\$433,800
Pain						·			
	\$22,900	721	\$16,510,900	708	\$16,213,200	7	\$160,300	6	\$137,400
-		TOTAL	\$767,153,500		\$539,520,600		\$192,093,700		\$35,539,200