Mission Statement
The KDOT Bureau of Traffic Safety strives to improve the quality of life for the traveling public by reducing the number of motor vehicle fatalities, injuries and crashes. The Bureau influences human behavior by identifying problems and implementing effective educational and enforcement programs focusing on prevention.

Kansas is experiencing a downward trend in the crash rate, fatal crash rate and injury crash rate over the last three decades, in spite of the increasing number of drivers and vehicles on the road. The fatality death rate dropped to 1.56 fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, in 2004. The 2004 injury rate of 80.75 per 100 million vehicle miles traveled reached its lowest level since 1968, the first year records were kept. While these figures point to positive change, every year approximately 500 motorists lose their lives on Kansas roadways. Additionally, 25,000 are injured each year.

The Bureau of Traffic Safety is a relatively small office consisting of nine personnel. Using a combination of federal & state funds the agency directs the state wide education, deterrence and prevention of serious vehicle injuries. The Bureau concentrates on two main areas of safety; occupant protection and drunk driving.

Occupant Protection – The Kansas Safety Belt Education Office (KSBEO) is contracted by the Kansas Department of Transportation to promote occupant protection in the State of Kansas. With a primary focus on saving lives and reducing injuries, KSBEO encourages Kansans to buckle up and travel safely on every ride. To measure compliance, KSBEO also conducts an annual safety belt usage study which involves over 548 survey sites. Additionally, KSBEO aims to increase statewide awareness about Child Passenger Safety, airbags and other occupant protection devices through educational classes, seminars and programming.

To accomplish these goals, KSBEO often partners with outside sources including law enforcement agencies, Emergency Medical Services, primary and secondary schools, Health Departments, safety coalitions and others. Each year, KSBEO reaches a variety of audiences; ranging from children in schools, to adults in the workplace, with a combination of public information, educational programming and community awareness efforts. KSBEO materials, including free promotional items, brochures, fact sheets and The Pulse, a quarterly newsletter related to occupant protection; are also distributed statewide.

Drunk Driving – The Kansas Drunk Driving Prevention (KDDP) Office works statewide to decrease the number of deaths and injuries caused by impaired driving. Each year approximately 100 people die in alcohol-related crashes. Young drivers under 21 years old are involved in approximately 18 percent of all alcohol-related crashes and comprise 15 percent of the DUI arrests annually, while they represent less than seven percent of all registered drivers. KDDP Office maintains an inventory of materials for use by our traffic safety partners in promoting the prevention of impaired driving to high school students, their parents, and the general public. Brochures are available to be distributed to the public, businesses and groups as needed. Also, KDDP stocks promotional items with the "No Excuse" message. KDDP produces a quarterly newsletter that is distributed to our safety partners. The KDDP Office staff members are available for presentations to high school groups, adult groups, and others that are interested in learning more about drunk driving issues in Kansas.
Other Activities:

- Law Enforcement Impaired Driving Deterrence Program (IDDP), nearly 40 counties and municipalities will conduct sobriety checkpoints/saturation patrols.

- Special Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) will include more than 50 local law enforcement agencies conducting mobilizations targeting occupant protection, impaired driving and speeding. These programs give law enforcement extra tools and assets to perform additional enforcement of traffic laws.

- Monthly corridor enforcement was launched as a continuing effort to concentrate law enforcement and assets on high interest corridors throughout the state.

- Paid media (radio and print) is coupled with enforcement on selected corridors in the state.

- Fatality Reduction Campaign in 2005 with the goal to better target problem areas which cause fatal crashes.

- Safe Not Sorry program is a driver education program that uses a variety of educational material for schools, businesses and the general public.

The Bureau of Traffic Safety coordinates many other statewide projects. For further information contact any of us at (785) 296-3756 or email us using the links below:

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