

State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Office of Highway Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NEWS RELEASE

GRANT-FUNDED ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVES RESULT IN ARRESTS, CITATIONS

CONCORD, N.H. – A dozen arrests were made and more than 300 vehicles were stopped during two recent enforcement initiatives funded by the New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety (NHOHS).

On Tuesday, May 21 and Wednesday, May 22, NHOHS coordinated a high-visibility enforcement initiative on U.S. Route 4, which crosses the state for 107 miles from Lebanon to Portsmouth. The NHOHS collaborated with state, county and local law enforcement, as well as counterpart agencies in the State of Maine, to deter and detect dangerous driving behaviors, including speeding and distraction. During the two-day initiative, 125 vehicles were stopped, with 111 warnings and 52 summonses issued. 18 child restraints were checked, and four arrests were made on warrants and other violations.

During the Memorial Day holiday weekend, NHOHS also coordinated additional impaired driving patrols statewide, with a concentrated focus on Belknap County. During the initiative, law enforcement agencies actively sought to find and arrest impaired drivers. 196 vehicles were stopped, with 169 warnings and 44 summonses issued. 72 child restraints were checked and eight arrests were made on various charges, including DUI, warrants and other violations.

- In 2022, the most recent year for which data has been finalized, there were 146 people killed in crashes on New Hampshire roads. Of those crashes, 73% percent were alcohol and/or drug-related.
- According to NHTSA, from 2019 to 2022, 165 people were killed in speed-related crashes in New Hampshire. Additionally, 27 people were the victims of crashes in which distraction and/or inattention were cited as a causation factor by the investigating police department.
- From 2016-2022, 854 people died in crashes in New Hampshire. Of those 854 people, 515 (60%) were victims of an alcohol and/or drug-related crash.

The two recent enforcement efforts were funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration through grants issued by the NHOHS. The NHOHS thanks all agencies and their members who will be participating in this effort to protect lives and take dangerous drivers off the roads, as well as the residents and visitors of New Hampshire who commit to driving safely.

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