

Ignition Interlock Usage in Canada

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Canada's Alcohol Ignition Interlock Participation Rates

- ▶ Over 300% increase in alcohol ignition interlocks since 2007 (mainly in Quebec)
- ▶ 7% increase in alcohol interlock participants from 2016 to 2017.
- ▶ All provinces and territories increased alcohol interlock participation rates from 2007 to 2017.
- ▶ British Columbia has had a significant decrease in its alcohol interlock participant rate since 2011.
 - This is due to making alcohol interlock participation discretionary as part of their 90-day Immediate Roadside Prohibition program, which was introduced in 2010.

Alcohol Interlock Rates vs. Impaired Driving Conviction Rates

	Interlock Participants 2017 ¹	Convictions 2016/2017	% of Participants to Convictions	Mandatory on Impaired Driving Conviction
NL	114	427	27%	Alcohol and Drugs
PE	243	213	114%	Alcohol and Drugs
NS	615	1,199	51%	Conditional ²
NB	243	859	28%	Alcohol and Drugs
QC	20,035	8,334	240%	Conditional ³
ON	5,584	9,377	60%	Alcohol and Drugs
MB	584	1,173	50%	Alcohol and Drugs
SK	1,817	2,394	76%	Alcohol and Drugs
AB	4,081	4,146	98%	Alcohol Only
BC (Criminal)	2,815 ⁴	942	299%	Alcohol Only
BC (IRP)	2,815 ⁴	14,625	19%	Alcohol Only
BC (Criminal + IRP)	2,815 ⁴	15,567	18%	Alcohol Only
YK	29	116	25%	No
NT	10	146	7%	No
CAN (Criminal Only)	36,170	29,326	123%	N/A
CAN (Criminal Only) without Quebec	16,135	20,992	77%	N/A

¹ The data provided under this heading are reported as of December 31st each year. Regional variance in reporting may not be reflected in the data.

² An interlock is mandatory for “high-risk” first offenders; impaired causing death or bodily harm offenders; or offenders with prior impaired driving, refusing/failing a test, or driving while disqualified.

³ An interlock is mandatory for *Criminal Code* impaired driving offenders who do not apply or are ineligible for the voluntary program.

⁴ As far as we are aware there is no breakdown as to how interlocks are assigned. As a result, this chart contemplates three scenarios: all interlocks are assigned to those convicted of a *Criminal Code* offence; all interlocks are assigned to those who receive an IRP; and all interlocks are assigned to both groups.

Alcohol Interlock Participation

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
NL	34	43	78	80	89	100	107	115	99	106	114
PE	32	41	57	73	85	80	186	210	207	258	243
NS	-	27	330	491	599	594	621	610	639	619	615
NB	-	-	116	120	137	140	166	168	198	236	243
QC	7,083	7,555	8,224	9,114	9,533	10,583	13,857	18,185	18,993	19,093	20,035
ON	2,345	2,823	2,732	4,017	6,209	5,068	4,992	4,873	5,227	5,256	5,584
MB	100	108	127	133	155	165	162	380	473	466	584
SK	320	323	369	376	400	477	522	645	1,247	1,246	1,817
AB	1,168	1,289	1,449	1,762	2,180	2,229	3,092	4,010	4,233	4,059	4,081
BC	206	336	633	1,248	8,041	7,391	1,582	1,650	2,100	2,373	2,815
YK	17	15	17	21	24	26	33	20	22	25	29
NWT	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	11	10	10
CAN	11,305	12,560	14,132	17,435	27,452	26,853	25,327	30,873	33,449	33,747	36,170

Recommendations

- ▶ While the provinces and territories have made great strides in their ignition interlock program, more can be done.
- ▶ Reduce insurance rates for alcohol interlock participants in jurisdictions where there is private insurance.
 - Currently, convicted offenders move to facility insurance for a minimum of three years, at a cost of \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year.
 - Reasonable alternative: surcharge of 100% of driver's current insurance premiums while interlock in on the vehicle. This would significantly increase alcohol interlock participation rates in those provinces with private insurance.
- ▶ All provinces and territories should require mandatory alcohol ignition interlocks for a minimum of one year following a conviction for any *Criminal Code* impaired driving offence involving alcohol.
- ▶ BC should require all those receiving 90-day IRPs to have a mandatory alcohol interlock for a minimum of one year.

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