



# Canadian Road Safety News Digest

A monthly compilation of national, provincial and local news stories on road safety

For the Period December 1-31, 2022

## **CAA survey finds people who drive high on edibles continues to rise**

December 1, 2022, CISION (THORNHILL, ONTARIO)

A survey conducted by CAA South Central Ontario (CAA SCO) found that since 2019, there has been a 10 per cent increase (26 per cent in 2022 vs. 16 per cent in 2019) in cannabis impaired drivers admitting to consuming an edible before driving. With approximately 10 million Ontario drivers, that number equals about 156,000 Ontario drivers who have driven high on edibles in the last three months.

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## **COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy associated with increased risk of traffic crashes in Ontario: study**

December 13, 2022, Global News (ONTARIO)

Those who have not had a COVID-19 vaccine have an increased risk of being involved in a traffic crash in Ontario, a new study suggests.

In the study, published in The American Journal of Medicine, researchers tested whether COVID-19 vaccination was associated with the risks of traffic crashes in Ontario.

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## US study: Over half of car crash victims had drugs in system

December 13, 2022, Yahoo News (DETROIT, MICHIGAN)

A large study by U.S. highway safety regulators found that more than half the people injured or killed in traffic crashes had one or more drugs, or alcohol, in their bloodstreams.

Also, just over 54% of injured drivers had drugs or alcohol in their systems, with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), an active ingredient in marijuana, the most prevalent, followed by alcohol, the study published Tuesday by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found.

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## Deadly Driving Behaviors Surge, New Survey Finds

December 13, 2022, Forbes

Speeding, red-light running, drowsy driving, and driving impaired on cannabis or alcohol are among the dangerous actions behind the wheel that rose from 2020 to 2021, reversing the steady declines in these behaviors in the three years from 2018 through 2020.

Those are the main findings of a new survey released on Thursday by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, a nonprofit research and education association, as part of its most recent annual Traffic Safety Culture Index.

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## **Auto insurers may charge unvaccinated drivers more for insurance - report**

December 19, 2022, Insurance Business (United States)

A new study has found a strong correlation between drivers who have passed on taking vaccinations on COVID-19 and higher vehicle collision risk levels - a finding that insurers could use to justify higher auto insurance rates, the researchers have suggested.

The study was recently published in The American Journal of Medicine. Canadian researchers during summer 2021 examined the government-held records of over 11 million adults, finding that 16% of them had not received the COVID vaccine.

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## **A chance to reimagine road safety**

December 19, 2022, The Free Press (WINNIPEG, MANITOBA)

Drivers have killed 11 pedestrians on Winnipeg streets in 2022.

The language of that sentence might sound jarring, because we rarely humanize a driver's role in vehicle collisions. We more commonly use object-based language that describes a vehicle doing something rather than a driver: a car jumped the curb and hit a pedestrian.

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## **Road Safety in Canada 2020**

December 25, 2022, Transport Canada

Transport Canada releases "Road safety in Canada 2020".

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## **Toronto is on track for one of its lowest pedestrian fatality totals in years. Is Vision Zero starting to work?**

December 28, 2022, CTV News (TORONTO, ONTARIO)

Toronto is on track to see one of its lowest totals for pedestrian fatalities in more than a decade, providing a glimmer of hope that the tens of millions of dollars that have been poured into the city's Vision Zero strategy are starting to result in meaningful change.

There have been a total of 50 people who have died on Toronto streets so far in 2022, including 22 pedestrians and one cyclist.

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## **Enforcement of electronic logging devices for truck drivers travelling between provinces coming Jan. 1**

December 30, 2022, CBC News

Starting Jan. 1, the federal government will start enforcing a requirement for commercial truck drivers travelling between provinces to track their hours behind the wheel using electronic logging devices.

The electronic logging devices (ELDs) replace the use of paper log books under a federal regulation – which came into effect in June 2021 – aimed at making roads safer by preventing fatigue in commercial drivers.

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January-March, 2023

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January 24, 2023 - February 28, 2023

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## **ITE Canada/CARSP 2023 Joint Conference**

June 4-7, 2023

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