

DOL Traffic Safety Curriculum

Joint Transportation Committee
October, 2014

- **Young drivers make up 14% of licensed drivers but are involved in:**
 - 35% of traffic fatalities
 - 38% of serious injury collisions
- **2013 fatality collisions for young driver records revealed:**
 - More often male than female
 - Get 2-3x as many tickets as non-crash drivers
 - Get over 3x as many of the worst tickets

- **Young drivers in fatal collisions are different in a few key ways:**
 - More violations overall
 - Increased alcohol & high risk violation types
 - More likely to drive even when suspended
 - More likely to be uninsured in a collision

Higher infraction rates & higher risk
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Higher likelihood of injury or death via collision

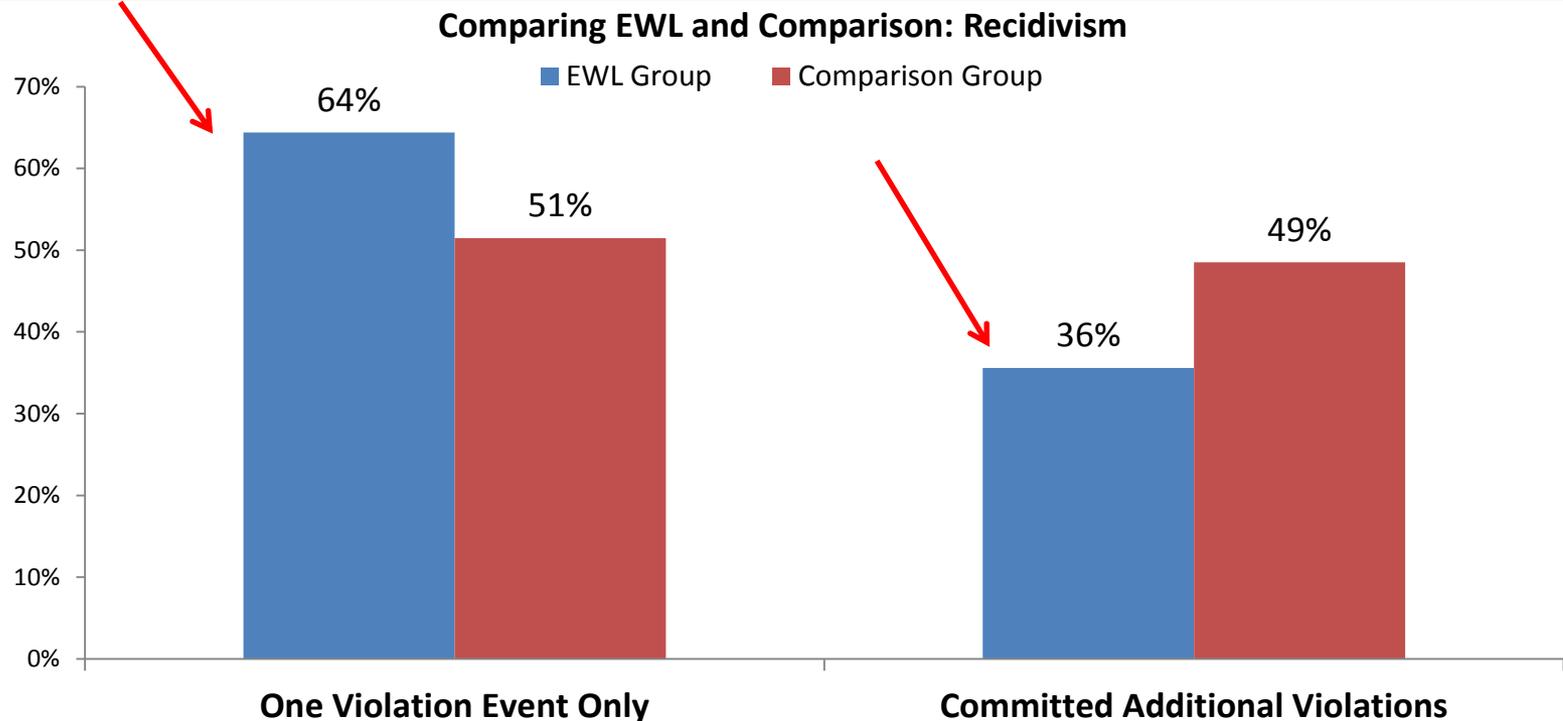
Results Washington Goal 4, Healthy and Safe Communities

- DOL is lead agency focused on young drivers age 16-25
- Early Warning Letter Program
- Traffic Safety Curriculum Review

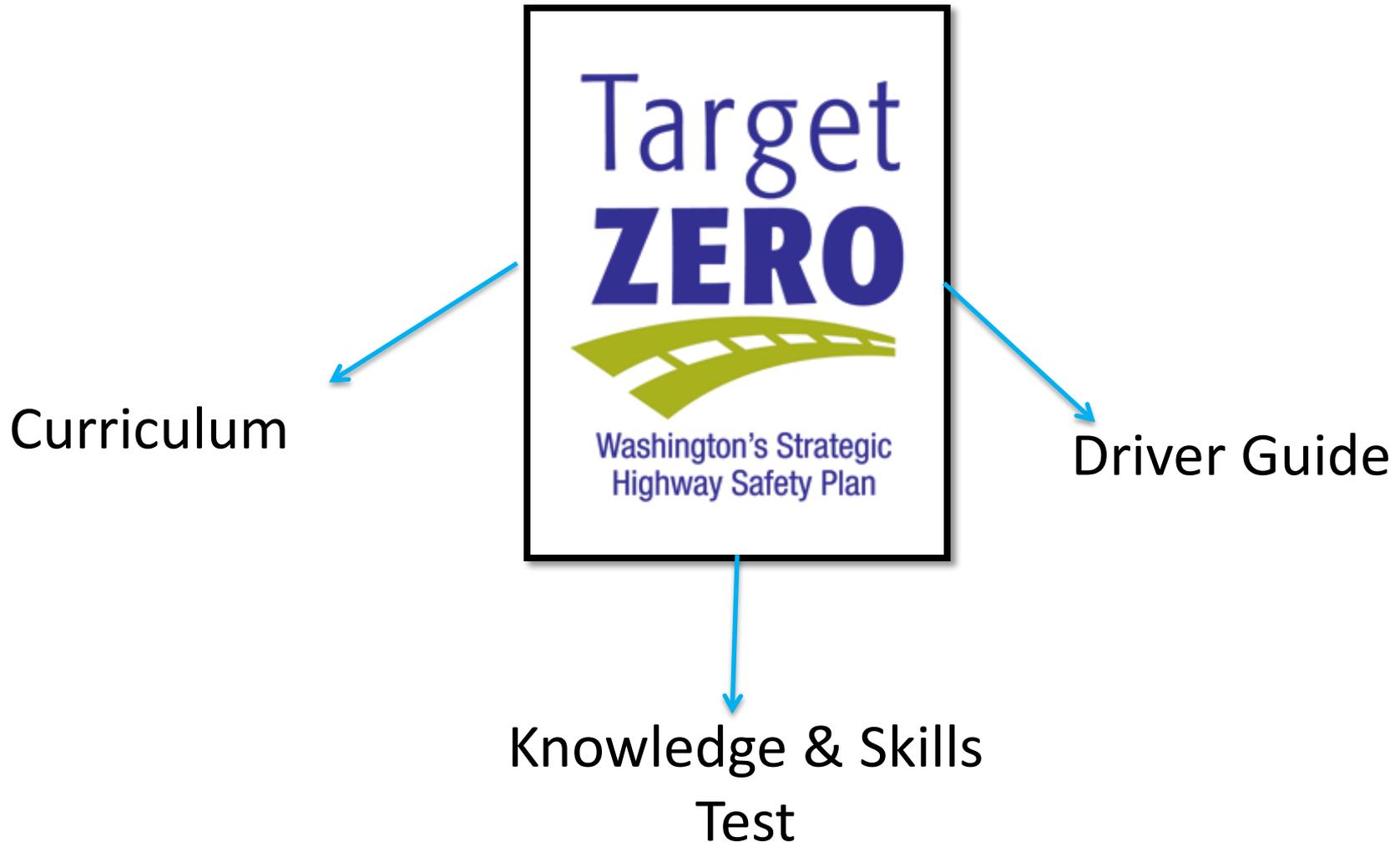
- In March, 2011 DOL began sending an early warning letter to 18-21 year old first time offenders
- Only moving violations trigger the letter
- The objective:
 - Keep first time violators from re-offending
 - Reduce exposure to risk resulting in fewer injuries/fatalities

- Sometimes people get multiple violations in one stop
- We combined these multiple stops into *events*
- This is a more accurate measure of *recidivism*

13% reduction in repeat traffic violations by the Early Warning Letter (EWL) Group



- Over 11,000 violations avoided
- 13% reduction in recidivism
- Injuries reduced by 42 young drivers
- Fatalities reduced by 14 young drivers



- Content gap analysis versus Target Zero, national standards and other states
- National standards met
- Curriculum & guide content enhancements:
 - Distracted Driving
 - Run off the Road
 - Speeding
 - Intersection Related
 - Impairment
 - Hazard Identification

- **Curriculum:**
 - April, 2015: Update current curriculum (6 areas)
 - Identify ways to Modernize and enhance delivery
- **Driver Guide:**
 - August, 2015: Update driver guide and reprint
- **Knowledge test:**
 - August, 2015: Update existing test with distracted driving & THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) questions
 - Increase test bank questions & implement 40 question test

- Increase classroom & driving time to national standards (40 hours class, 10 driving)
- Expand Intermediate Driver License-like punitive actions for 18-25 year olds: suspensions early on, three strikes for longer term, occupational restricted licenses
- Expand early warning letter to include safety related non-moving violations

Questions?