



SMART policies for tackling drink driving
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Tackling Drink Driving in Sweden

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This is MHF!

- MHF is a non-profit traffic safety organization, founded in 1926
- MHF has great expertise in the area of alcohol, drugs and traffic.
- MHF is the owner of an ISO 17025-accredited test laboratory that carries out tests on alcohol ignition interlocks and breathalysers according to international technical standards
- MHF cooperates with national and local authorities responsible for road safety.



MHF – Swedish Abstaining Motorists' Association

Areas of activity

- Young people's attitude towards alcohol and driving
- Legal practice that promotes traffic safety
- Campaigning for alcolocks
- Road safety in general
- A consumer organisation for motorists

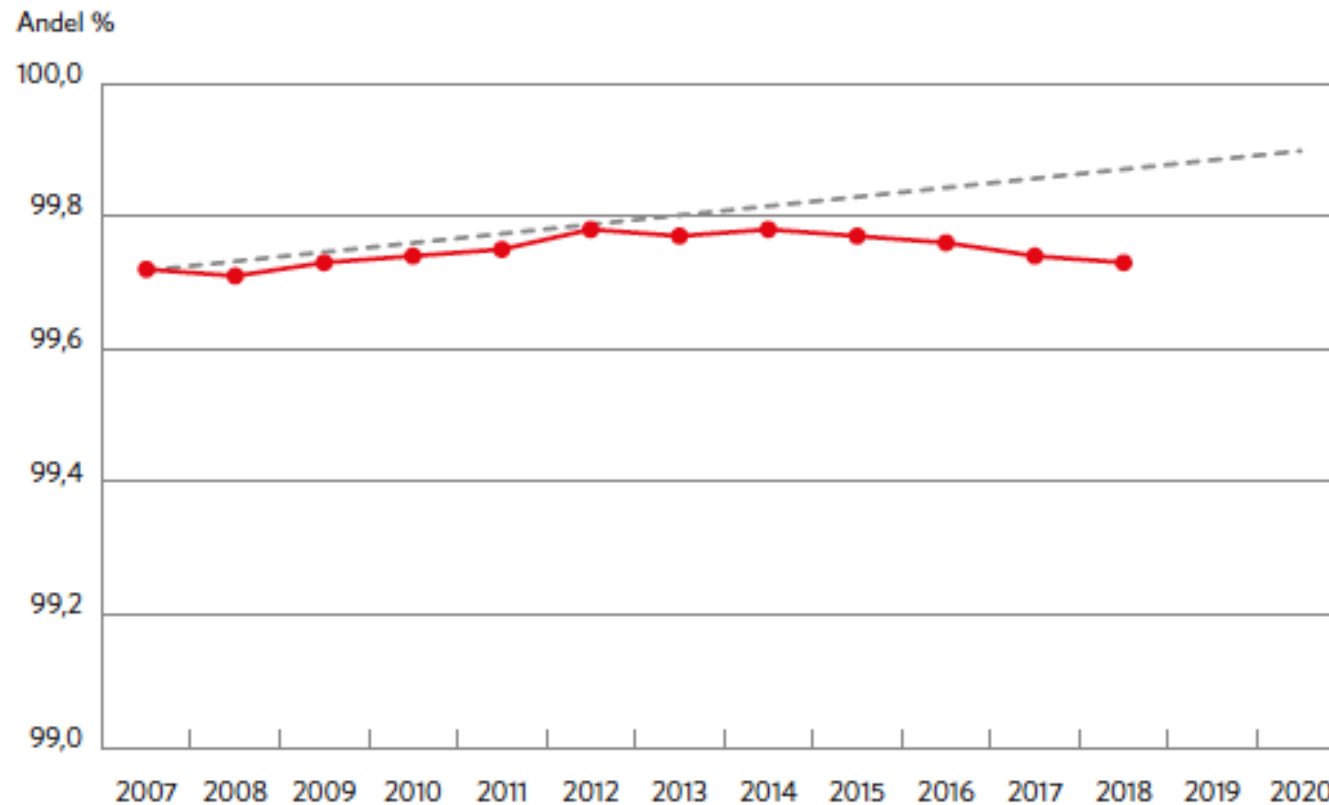


Sweden: facts

- Area: 528 447 km² (121 107 km² water)
- \approx 10,2 million inhabitants
- \approx 6,5 million driving licences
- \approx 6,2 million vehicles (in use)



Percentage of sober traffic 2007-2018



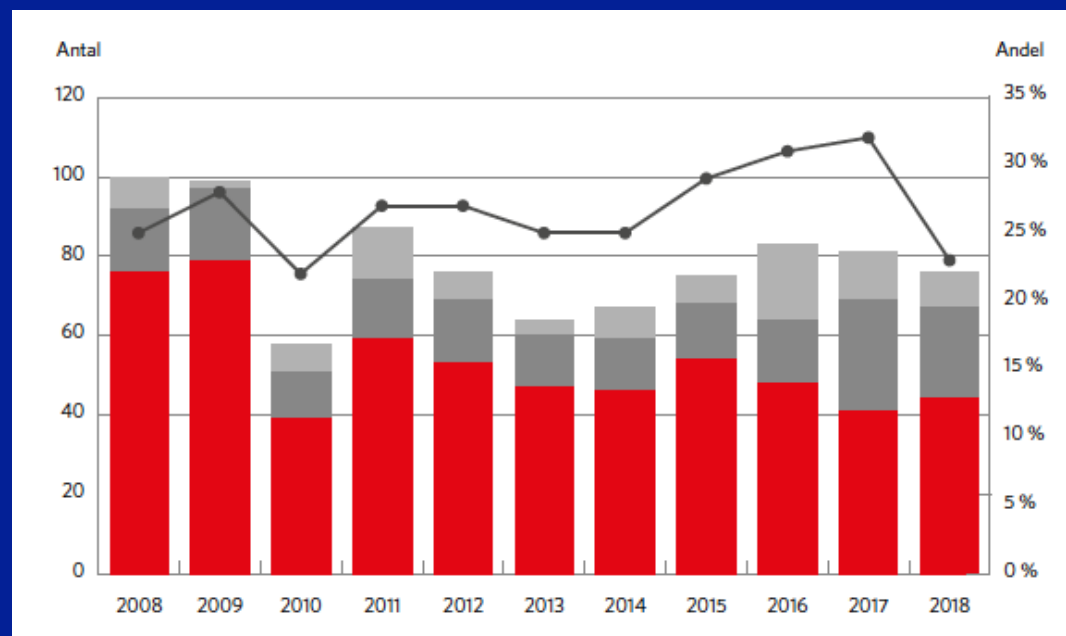
Figur 9.
Andel nykter trafik, 2007-2018.
Mätserie baserad på data från
polisens kontroller.
Källa: Polisen, VTI.

—●— Nykter trafik
- - - - - Nödvändig
utveckling

Sober traffic

Necessary
development

Killed in Sweden in alcohol and / or drug-related accidents, 2008-2018.



Number and proportion (of total number of fatalities in Sweden, right y-axis) persons killed in alcohol and / or drug-related accidents, 2008-2018.

* Excluding suicide from 2010.

Alcohol and illegal drugs

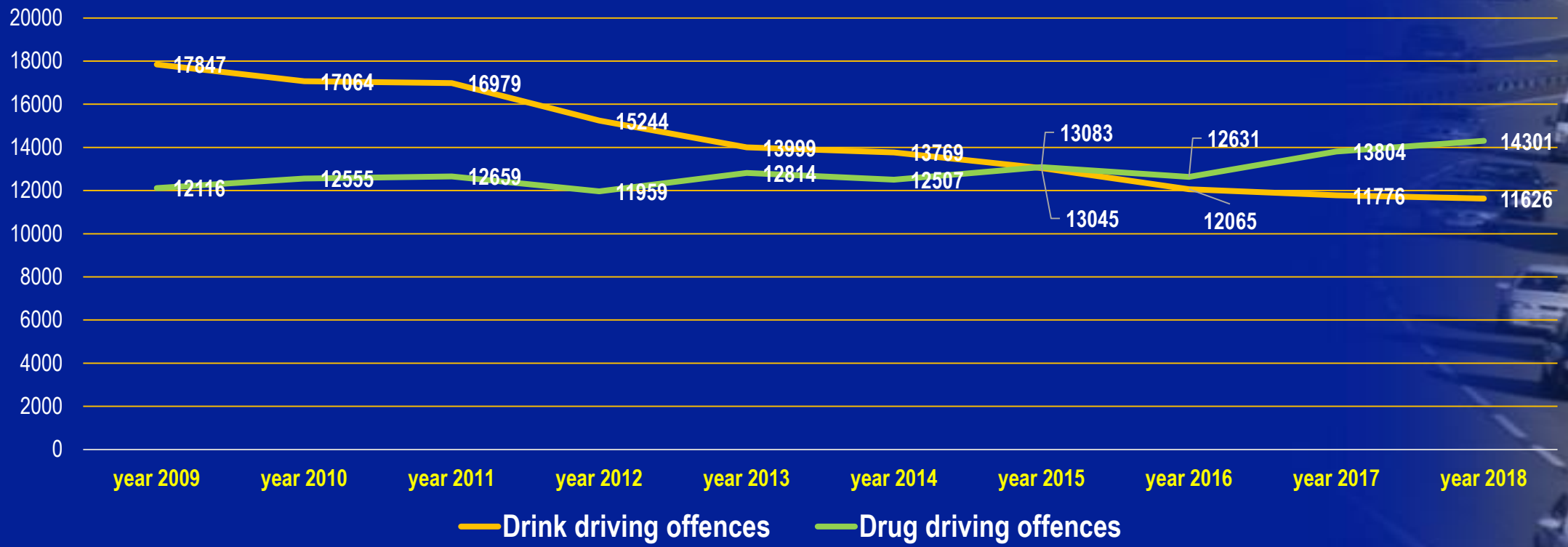
Illegal drugs

Alcohol



DUI Offences in Sweden

Number of Road Traffic Offences



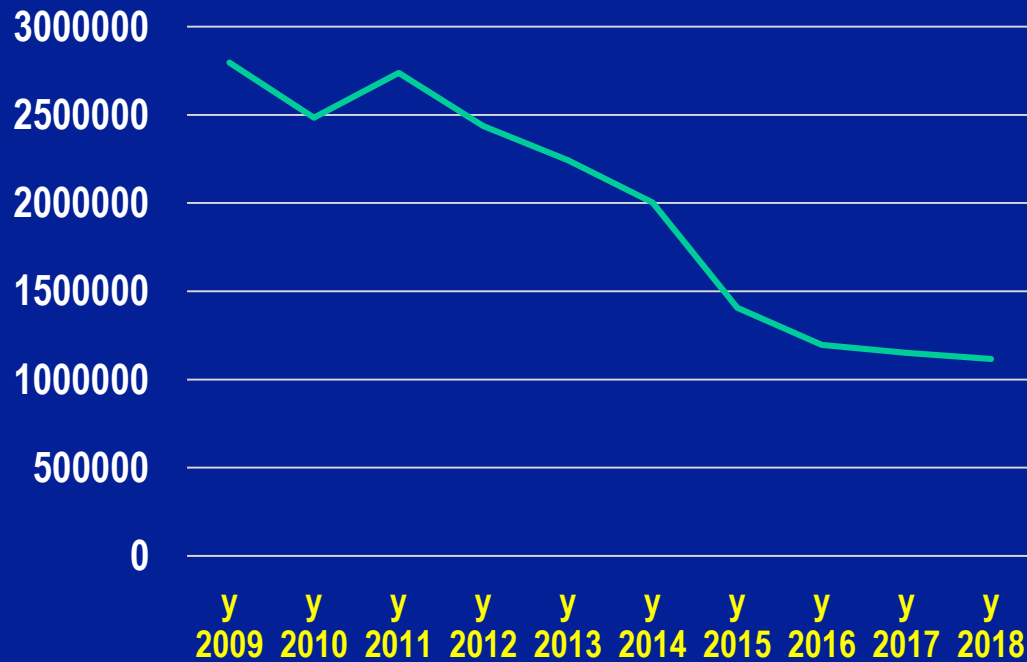
Roadside breath testing in Sweden

- The Swedish Police, the Swedish Coast Guard, and Swedish Customs have the right to conduct roadside breathalyser tests, even without suspicion of intoxication.
- Officials within the Swedish Coast Guard and Swedish Customs can also conduct regular checks, both at ferry quays and on the roads.
- Authorities compile statistics on the number of sobriety tests in road traffic.

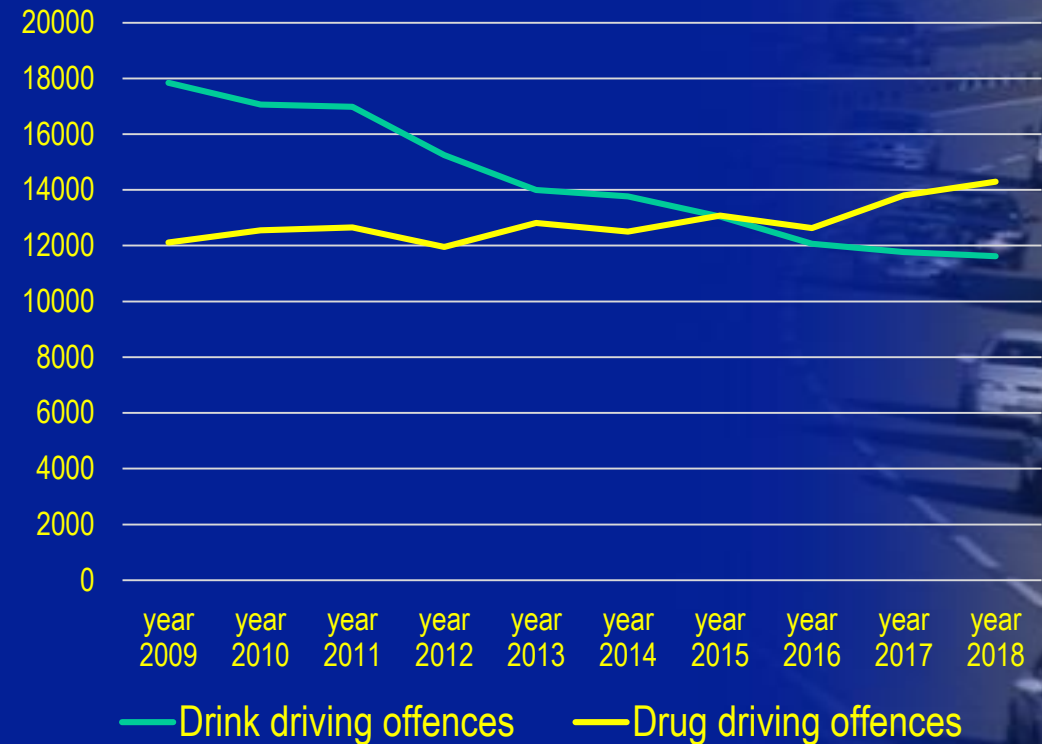


Reduced number of breathalyser tests in traffic leads to reduced drink-driving charges

Roadside sobriety breath tests in Sweden



Number of Road Traffic Offences



The public's attitude to impaired driving

- A high level of acceptance of the current legislation regarding alcohol, drugs and traffic
- Drivers are usually more positive to sobriety checks than to speed controls in road traffic
- 85% of the Swedes are familiar with the Vision Zero

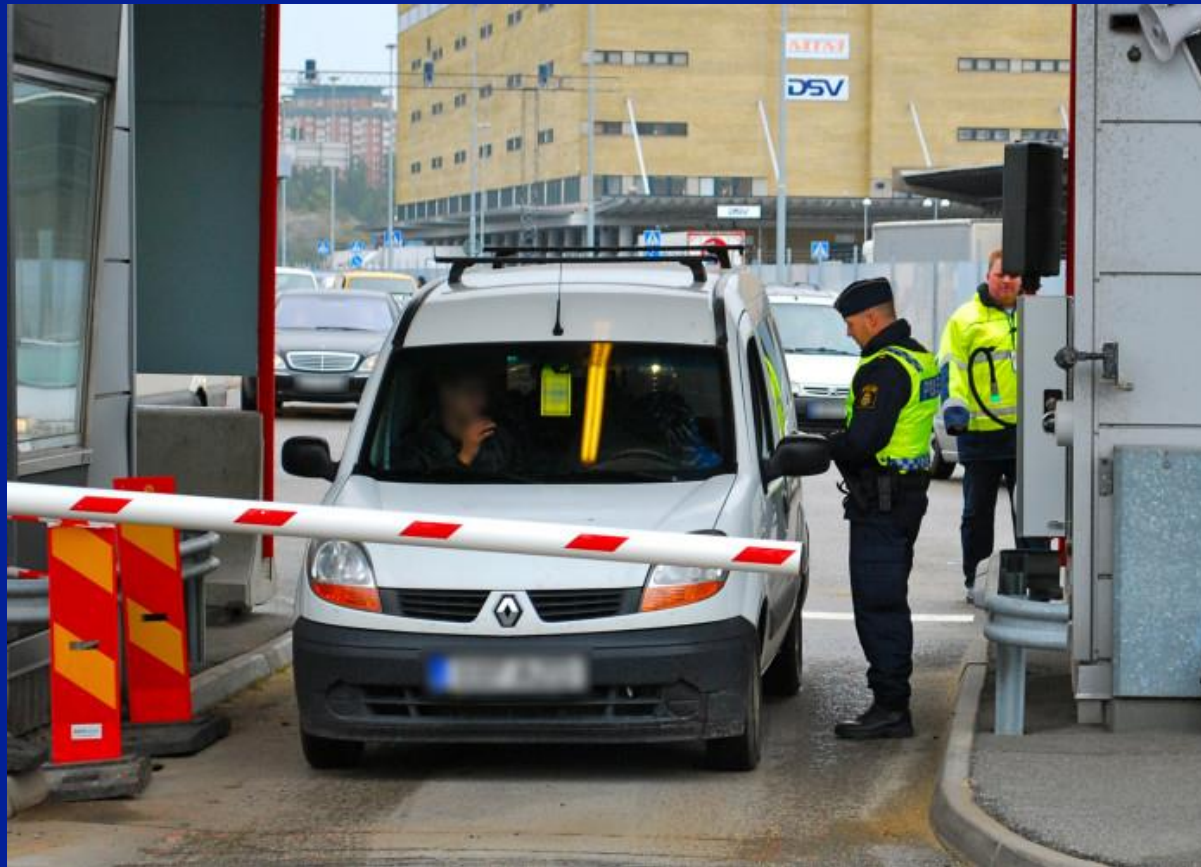


Overview – strategies undertaken to tackle drink driving

- Strong political commitment from the Swedish Government giving drink driving a high priority
- Mandatory education on negative effects alcohol/drugs when applying for a driver's licence (type B)
- Regulation 2009:1 for authorities that include interlocks when purchasing vehicles and transports
- Rehabilitation program SMADIT (Collaboration against alcohol and drugs in traffic)
- Alcohol ignition interlocks, "Swedish strategy 2007": 1. Preventive use. 1999, 2. Program for DUI offenders.(1999, 2003. Permanent since 1/1 2012.)



Experiences from the trial with automatic sobriety checkpoints ("Alco Gates") in Sweden



Alco Gates - A project in broad collaboration

- The activities with Alco Gates were conducted in collaboration between the project owner MHF and the Swedish Transport Administration, the National Police, the Customs and the Coast Guard.
- The cooperation also included the Ports of Stockholm and shipping companies.



Legal Premises



- The legal premises have been investigated by the legal experts of the National Police and are presented in a separate memo
- The operations with Alco Gates can be done on the basis of legislation already existing
- The automatic sobriety check constitutes a screening instrument, and the folded traffic barriers are approved as equivalent to the policeman's stop sign.
- The control activities are carried out in full compliance with the law

A New Measurement Technique with High Accuracy



Nykterhetskontroll



INTERNATIONAL ROAD SAFETY



Test Lab

EVALUATION • DEVELOPMENT • TEST

Traffic Management Centre in Tibro



Evidenzer Room in the Port



Results from the Alco Gates (1)

Statistics from the test period September 24 - December 31, 2014

- 9819 controlled car drivers
- 75 of them reported for drunk driving
- 0.76% of the car drivers intoxicated over 0.2 ‰
- 2 650 controlled drivers of trucks / buses
- 12 of them reported for drunk driving
- 0,45 ‰ of the truck / bus drivers intoxicated over 0.2 ‰



Trends during the Trial Period

Percentage of Impaired Drivers during the Trial Period (weekly) Sept – Dec 2014



Traffic Flow

- The traffic flow has worked well and the controls have not created additional queues, in addition to those that are always created when many vehicles are driven out from a ferry and out into the traffic.



Film from the harbour

Show "Film utfart Frihamnen"



After the trial period

- The project has been evaluated and a report was submitted to the Swedish Transport Administration in March 2015.
- The trial was followed by a government mandate to continue the controls during year 2015.
- A inquiry was commissioned to examine how the introduction of Alco gates can be implemented.
- September 2017: The Swedish Government instructed the Swedish Transport Administration to introduce facilities for automatic sobriety checkpoints in all major ports
- September 2019: The first permanent alco gate installation in one of Gothenburg's ports



Outcomes from the Tylösand Conference 2019

- Swedish Action Plan for Safe Road Traffic 2019-2022.
- The action plan reports a total of 111 measures that 14 authorities and stakeholders have the ambition to implement to contribute to safe road traffic during the period 2019-2022.
- The Government will examine proposals for more effective monitoring of commercial traffic
- Among other things, the conditions for allowing authorities to carry out drug screening tests, ie testing drivers without suspicion of crime, are being investigated.



Thank you for your attention!



Lars Olov Sjöström

