

Drug Driving Enforcement on Finnish roads

Helsinki 27.5.2025 Jouni Takala Chief Inspector, Häme Police Department



Topics today

- Legislation
- Practice
- Driving bans
- Statistics
- Future



Legislation

- Legislation strongly support intervention in drugged driving
- The Polices rights are sufficient for monitoring
- Driving under influence is a growing problem
 - also requires developmet work, a new drug for example
- Driving under the influence is punished the same as alcohol
- In almoust half of the cases, it is related to drugs
- Zero tolerance for drugs
- Alcohol 0,5 0/oo (0,22mlg) driving under influence
- Alcohol 1,2 0/oo (0,53mlg) aggravated driving under influence

Practice

- Part of the normal day-to-day work of the police
- Part of theme-based enhanced supervision
- The camera technology of police cars supports monitoring
 - The Revika systems reads the vehicles licence plate and provides history information
 - Vehicle inspection, vehicle insurance



Practice

- Caught driving under the influence
 - Informant
 - Police observation (known vehicle or driver)
 - Accident
- It often involves the event
 - Drug crime, violence, stolen goods, stolen cars, etc.



Practice

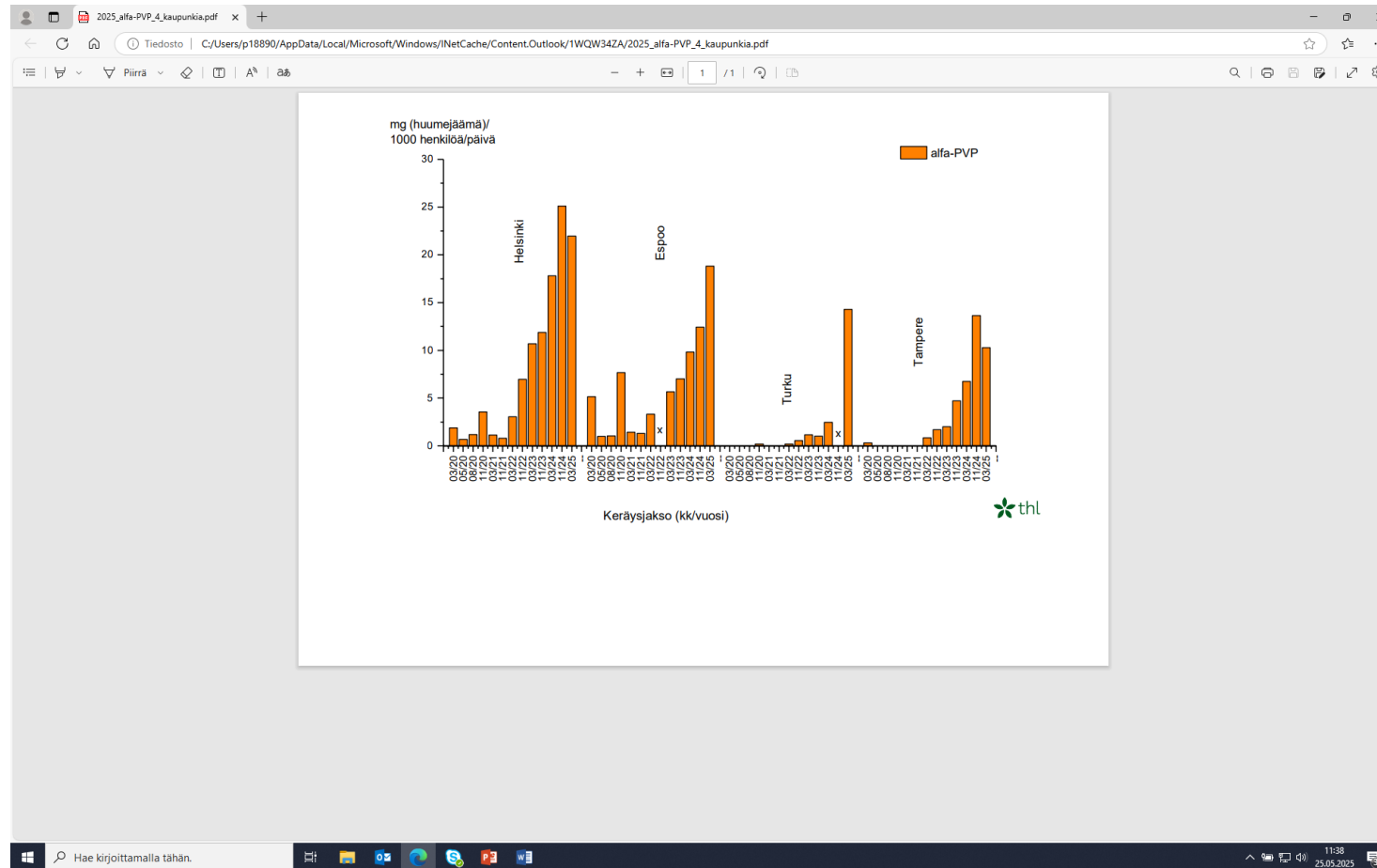
- Police stop -> breath test -> suspicion of drugs -> saliva test
 - (DrugWipe about 17000 test, about 6000 drug driving)
 - Blood test -> possible interrogation
 - Possibility of treatment, (usually don't want to)
 - Penalty fine or processing in court
- Alcohol; the breathalyzer test (Intoxilyzer) is sufficient – a quick process
- Drug; always a blood test – slow process
- A drug user is different from an alcohol user
 - Drug user generally do not have driving licence, repeat the crime
 - Use often different intoxicants
- The easy availability of drugs is also visible in traffic
- 1. Amphetamine 2. Cannabis 3. Buprenorphine (Subutex misuse)
 - Cocaine is found only rarely in the traffic ? (about 300 case / year)

What follows, daily fine and driving ban

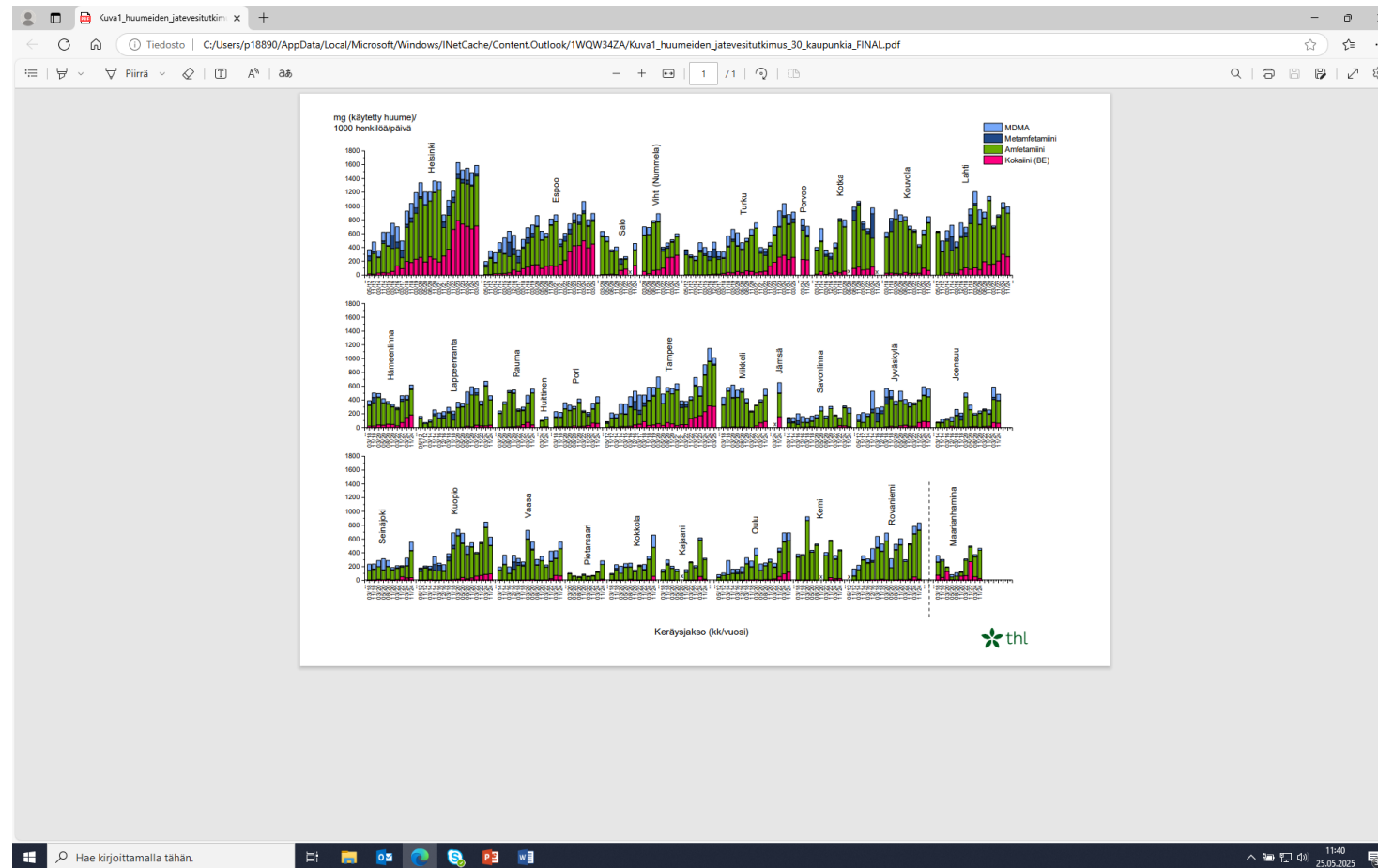
Taulukko ajokiellon normaalista kestosta ensikertalaiselle ja uusijalle määrättäessä ajokielto rattijuopumuksesta, jonka syynä on huumausaine, alkoholi ja muu huumaava aine tai muu huumaava aine:

Rangaistus-seuraamus	Ajokiellon normaali kesto ensikertalainen (min. 1 kk)	Liukuma ensikertalainen	Ajokiellon normaali kesto uusija (min. 6 kk)	Liukuma uusija
alle 40 päiväsakkoa	2 kk	1 kk - 3 kk	7 kk	6 kk - 8 kk
40 - 49 päiväsakkoa	2 kk 2 vko	1 kk 2 vko - 3 kk 2 vko	7 kk 2 vko	6 kk 2 vko - 8 kk 2 vko
50 - 59 päiväsakkoa	3 kk	2 kk - 4 kk	8 kk	7 kk - 9 kk
60 - 69 päiväsakkoa	4 kk	3 kk - 5 kk	8 kk 2 vko	7 kk 2 vko - 9 kk 2 vko
yli 69 päiväsakkoa	5 kk	4 kk - 6 kk	9 kk	8 kk - 10 kk
vankeutta	6 kk	5 kk - 5 vuotta	10 kk	9 kk - 5 vuotta

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Cocaine, red



Future

- New legislation – electric bicycles, electric scooters
- Take of vehicles (attachement)
 - Possible now but practically difficult
 - Ownership often unclear
 - Storage is expensive
 - Only part of the problem solving
- Is technical ignition lock solution of the future?
 - Or something else...



Finally

- Drug driver require police resources now and in the future
 - It demands a lot of resources from society
- The problem cannot be solved by police supervision alone



Thank you for your interest

