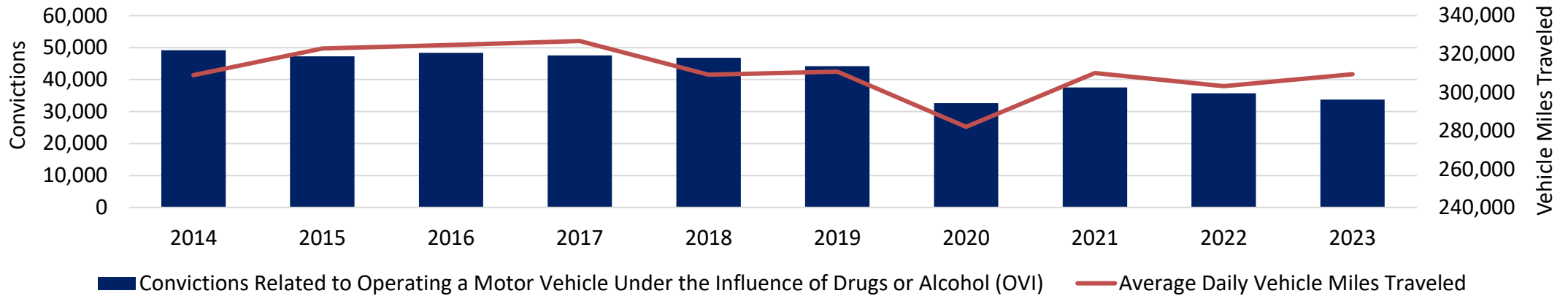


# Ohio OVI-related convictions resume downward trend after increasing in 2021

Ohio OVI-Related Convictions, 2014-2023



Sources: Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles; Ohio Department of Transportation

- In Ohio, a driver is considered to be alcohol impaired if their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is 0.08% or higher. Penalties include incarceration, fines, treatment, license suspension, ignition interlock device, and vehicle immobilization/forfeiture. 2023 saw 33,703 OVI-related convictions.
- OVI-related convictions increased by 4,892 (15.0%) from 2020 to 2021, likely indicating a trending return to pre-COVID-19 pandemic traffic volume and traffic law enforcement levels. In 2022 and 2023, convictions decreased by 1,780 (4.7%) and 2,040 (5.7%), respectively, resuming a longer-term downward trend that existed pre-pandemic.
- Over a ten-year period, on average 1,308 drivers had a BAC of 0.17% or higher for which enhanced penalties apply (861 in 2023).
- Commercial drivers typically account for around 0.1% of annual convictions (46 of 33,703 convictions in 2023).
- Convictions for operating a motor vehicle after underage alcohol consumption decreased by 22.2%, from 343 in 2022 to 267 in 2023.
- Ohio’s implied consent law requires suspected impaired drivers to submit to a chemical test. A refusal results in an immediate one-year administrative license suspension. Over a ten-year period, an average of 1,285 drivers refused testing each year (895 in 2023).