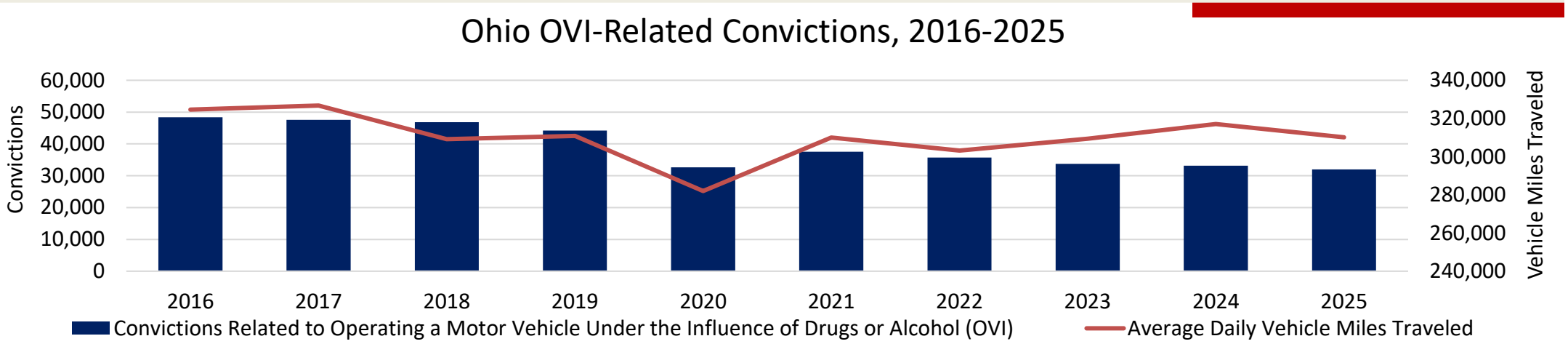
Ohio OVI-related convictions decrease 3.6% in 2025



- OVI-related convictions totaled 31,978 in 2025. Of this amount, around 0.1%, or 45, represent commercial drivers.
- In Ohio, a driver is considered alcohol impaired if their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is 0.08% or higher.
- Since 2021, convictions have decreased by 14.8%, or 5,545, averaging 1,386 (3.9%) per year. OVI-related convictions experienced a notable decrease in 2020 due to traffic volume and traffic law enforcement levels related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Convictions for operating a motor vehicle after underage alcohol consumption increased by 25.1%, from 218 in 2024 to 291 in 2025.
- Since 2016, on average of 1,073 drivers had a BAC of 0.17% or higher for which enhanced penalties apply (653 in 2025).
- 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 1,145 drivers refused testing each year (757 in 2025).
- Penalties for OVI-related convictions include incarceration, fines, treatment, license suspension, ignition interlock device, and vehicle immobilization/forfeiture.

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