Mayr:

What was normally treated as an accident in the past is being treated by law enforcement more and more as criminal offenses. The real problem is that if you're involved in a motor vehicle accident where someone is killed, you could face a charge such as manslaughter, where you face up to 20 years in prison, or criminally negligent homicide, where you face up to 10 years in prison. Even in certain cases, you can find yourself on the other end of a murder charge, where they're alleging that you were either criminally negligent with a child in the car, or you've been convicted of DWI before in the past. The punishments can get quite severe, up to life in prison.