

Attitudes and Self-Declared Behaviours Among Greek Road Users: Evidence from the ESRA3 survey

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Extended Abstract

1. Introduction

Despite improvements in recent years, Greece continues to face significant road safety challenges, with one of the highest road fatality rates in Europe (64 deaths per million inhabitants, compared to the EU average of 44). Motorcyclists and car occupants represent the majority of fatalities, while risky behaviours such as speeding, distraction, and impaired driving remain widespread. Understanding road users' self-declared behaviours, attitudes and perceptions is crucial for designing targeted interventions.

2. Methodology

This study utilises data from the ESRA3 (E-Survey of Road Users' Attitudes) conducted in 2023 across 39 countries. The examined sample focuses on Greece, with 978 respondents aged 18-74. The survey collected information on self-reported unsafe behaviours, attitudes toward traffic rules, and perceived safety. Descriptive analyses identified the most prevalent unsafe behaviours among car drivers, motorcyclists, cyclists, pedestrians, and e-scooter riders. In addition, binary logistic regression models were developed for selected behaviours to examine associations between demographics, attitudes, and beliefs with unsafe practices.

3. Results

Unsafe behaviours were frequent across all user groups. Among car drivers, 56% reported speeding in urban areas and 41% admitted to talking on a handheld phone. PTW riders commonly exceeded speed limits outside built-up areas (46%). Cyclists often rode without helmets (56%), while 80% of pedestrians admitted to crossing where not allowed. E-scooter riders frequently rode on sidewalks (60%). Regression analyses revealed higher odds of unsafe behaviours among younger males, and those with low-risk perception and weak support for enforcement measures.

4. Conclusion

These results underline the urgent need for evidence-based policy interventions focusing on behavioural change, enhanced enforcement, and targeted communication campaigns. The insights from this study can support Greek policymakers in prioritising actions to reduce risky behaviours and improve road safety culture nationwide.

Keywords: road safety; self-reported behaviour; attitudes; Greece; ESRA.