



NTUA Road Safety Update - May 2012



ITF Report - Pedestrian Safety, Urban Space and Health 2011



The International Transport Forum (ITF/OECD) published the Research Report on Pedestrian Safety, Urban Space and Health. This Report is the result of a three-year co-operative effort by an international group of experts representing 19 countries, chaired by NTUA Professor Thanos Vlastos and with contribution from NTUA Research Associate Eleonora Papadimitriou. The purpose of this report is to emphasize the importance of walking as an integral part of the transport system and the **vital need for policies to promote walking at all levels of planning**. National governments and transport and health ministers can do much to support and encourage walking, even when it is considered to be mainly a local policy issue. A clear vision and political support at national level, backed by a systematic approach to understanding and defining infrastructure quality for pedestrians, is an important complement to and support for initiatives taken by local authorities. On that purpose a comprehensive set of twelve recommendations is proposed. [LINK](#)

Drink Driving: Towards Zero Tolerance 2012



In April 2012, ETSC published the report 'Drink Driving: Towards Zero Tolerance'. Drink driving is one of the three main killers. According to the European Commission's estimates **25% of all road fatalities across the EU are alcohol related**. This report provides an overview of the drink driving situation in the European Union and measures taken at the EU level to curb drink driving deaths. Countries' progress in reducing road fatalities attributed to drink driving between 2001 and 2010 is also presented. [LINK](#)

Sartre 4 Conference - Versailles 2012



The Conference on **Social Attitudes to Road Traffic Risk in Europe**, organised by the SARTRE4 consortium with the coordination of IFSTTAR, French institute of science and technology for transport, development and networks took place with great success in Versailles on 30-31 of May 2012. The results of the pan-European survey in 19 countries have been presented, with analyses on the attitudes, behaviour, habits and needs of 21.280 car drivers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians towards road accident risk. Key analysis issues concerned speed, alcohol, drugs and other factors

affecting fitness to drive, use of safety equipment, enforcement, ITS, etc. NTUA presentations concerned:

- Pedestrians' attitudes and behaviour in Europe,
- Driving a motorcycle while impaired.

[LINK](#)

Road fatalities by road type, Greece 2010



According to ELSTAT data, among the 1.258 persons killed in Greece in 2010: 665 were outside built-up areas and 593 were inside built-up areas. 60% of road fatalities outside built-up area occurred on national roads. More than three quarters of road accidents and **47% of fatalities occurred inside built-up areas**. However, accident severity is more than 4 times higher outside built-up areas in total.

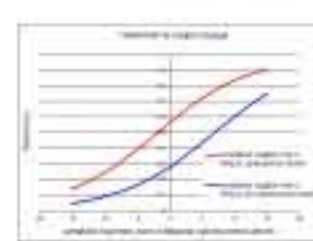
A statistical analysis of the impact of advertising signs on road safety 2012



A paper titled "A statistical analysis of the impact of advertising signs on road safety" co-authored by G.Yannis, E.Papadimitriou, P.Papantoniou and C.Voulgari is just published in the International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion. An exhaustive review of international literature was carried out on the effect of advertising signs on driver behaviour and safety and a before-and-after statistical analysis with control groups was applied on several road sites with different characteristics in the Athens metropolitan area. The statistical analysis shows **no statistical correlation between road accidents and advertising signs** in none of the nine sites examined, as the confidence intervals of the estimated safety effects

are non-significant at 95% confidence level. This can be explained by the fact that, in the examined road sites, drivers are overloaded with information, so that the additional information load from advertising signs may not further distract them. [DOI>](#)

Investigation of the impact of mobile phone use to driver behaviour and safety with the use of driving simulator 2010



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Investigation of the impact of mobile phone use to driver behaviour and safety with the use of driving simulator' was presented by Leonidas Roumpas in February 2010. Lognormal regression and binary logistic methods were used to investigate the influence of mobile phone use as well as various other parameters on the mean speed and the probability of an accident. From the models application it appears that mobile phone use leads to a statistically significant decrease of the mean speed in urban and interurban environment and to **an increase of accident's probability**, probably due to distraction of driver attention and as a result, delayed reaction time at the moment of the incident. It appeared that in rainy conditions drivers did not present different driving behaviour, however, they had a high probability of being involved in an accident.

This Road Safety Update aims to support frequently the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which is gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens.
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About NRSO



The mission of the NTUA Road Safety Observatory (www.nrso.ntua.gr) is to support the Greek and the International Road Safety Community with current key road safety knowledge and data, which are gathered, analysed and organised within the research activities of the Department of Transportation Planning and Engineering of the School of Civil Engineering of the National Technical University of Athens, as well as within co-operations with various national and international road safety organisations.

The NTUA Road Safety Observatory has been developed within the framework of two European Union co-funded research projects, namely SAFETYNET - Development of the European Road Safety Observatory (2004-2009) and DACOTA - Road Safety Data Collection, Transfer and Analysis (2010-2012), with Scientific Responsible for NTUA, Professor George Yannis.