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# NTUA Road Safety Update - December 2012 - Best Wishes for 2013



Road Safety Update

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December 2012

### NTUA best wishes for a beautiful and safe 2013



We heartily wish you joyful Christmas holidays and a beautiful new year 2013, plenty of personal and professional achievements.

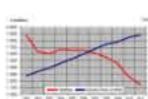
Let's dream, let's hope and let's work systematically for a more bright 2013 and for more lives saved on the roads. 🕏

### SARTRE 4 Conference in Brussels 2012



The Final conference of the SARTRE 4 project took place on 8th November 2012 in Brussels. The objective of the project was to survey, with a uniform methodology in all 21 European countries participating, the attitudes, opinions, self-reported behaviour and experiences of European drivers, riders of power two wheels, and of non-drivers with respect to road trafic risk. The project addressed issues such as mobility experiences, perception of safety needs by different types of road users, opinions and experiences about speeding, impaired driving, attitudes towards motorcycle riders, pedestrians and other road users. NTUA was in charge of the survey in Greece and the respective analyses. The Final Report and the Booklet of the project are now available.

#### Road fatalities in Greece drop by 9% in 2011



According to ELSTAT final data for 2011, road fatalities in Greece in 2011 decreased by 9% in relation to 2010, with the deep economic crisis having an impact on this decrease. During the last decade, road fatalities in Greece have decreased by 39%, whereas serious injuries decreased by 50%. The rate fatalities per number of vehicles has decreased the same period by 61%. This rate is still high in

comparison to the other EU countries, explained also by the the high increase of the vehicle fleet in Greece during the same period (56%). The significant increase in Police enforcement was found correlated to the road fatalities decrease.

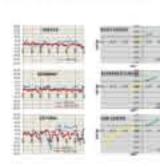
#### A statistical analysis of motorcycle helmet wearing in Greece 2012



A paper titled 'A statistical analysis of motorcycle helmet wearing in Greece' coauthored by G.Yannis, A.Laiou, S.Vardaki, E.Papadimitriou, A.Dragomanovits, G.Kanellaidis is just published in the Advances in Transportation Studies scientific journal. Helmet wearing in Greece was recorded through an on-site observational survey and data collected were used for the development of a binary logistic

regression model. The independent variables used were time of the day, motorcycle type, road type and riders' characteristics (gender, age and position on the motorcycle). Pseudo-elasticity values for all variables were calculated in order to quantify the impact of each one on helmet wearing. The survey revealed **low helmet** wearing rates. The rates are much higher in rural than in urban areas and for drivers of large motorcycles. Based on pseudo-elasticity values the variable with the greatest impact on wearing a helmet is being the driver.

## Effect of GDP change on road accidents 2012



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Effect of GDP change on road accidents' [ ] was presented by Katerina Folla in October 2012. For this analysis a database containing GDP per capita, road fatalities and population data for the EU member states for the period 1975-2011 was developed. Linear Mixed Models were developed and applied for all European countries tested and also for the different groups of countries that were selected (Northwestern, Northern, Eastern countries). It was demonstrated that an

annual increase of GDP per capita leads to an annual increase in fatality rates, whereas an annual decrease of GDP per capita leads to an annual decrease in fatality rates.

## Mobility and Road Safety in an Ageing Society, Vienna 2012



The Austrian Traffic Safety Board (KFV) organises an International Congress: Mobility and Road Safety in an Ageing Society, which will take place in 19-20 June, in Vienna. The congress will focus on future aspects and solutions of mobility and transport versus safety and quality of life in the context of an ageing society and it will bring together experts from the following fields:

- Transport researchers, operators and regulators
- Psychologists/behavioural researchers
- Gerontologists/geriatricians
- Urban planning researchers and policymakers
- Safety researchers
- Mechanical/electrical engineers from industry and academia (vehicle design, assistive technologies)

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- Occupational therapists
- Medical professionals UNK

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 cooperations 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.

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