



NTUA Road Safety Update - January 2013



National Technical University of Athens
Road Safety Update

January 2013

TRB Annual Meeting 2013



The Transportation Research Board (TRB) 92nd Annual Meeting was held in Washington, D.C., in January 2013, with more than 4.000 presentations in a nearly 750 scientific sessions and workshops. Spotlight theme for 2013 was **deploying transportation research** - doing things smarter, better, faster. NTUA road safety

presentations concerned:

- Road safety forecasts in five european countries using structural time-series models
- Assessment of exposure proxies for macroscopic road safety prediction
- Driving simulator experiment design for the assessment of driving performance and the effects of driver distraction
- Experiences and future challenges for reliable and transferable estimates of safety countermeasures in Europe

Country overviews at the DaCoTA Road Safety Knowledge System 2012



Road Safety Country Overviews are available at the DaCoTA Road Safety Knowledge System, developed by the EU co-financed project DaCoTA. For **30 European countries** (all 27 EU members States, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) a comprehensive picture on road safety is provided, using a common analysis methodology: the SunFlower footprint. Information is provided on road safety structure and culture, programs and measures, road safety performance indicators and outcomes and the social cost, followed by an overall synthesis and the related literature. [LINK](#)

At the country overview for Greece prepared by NTUA, the current road safety strengths and weaknesses are highlighted, based on a thorough analysis of all available data and information. [LINK](#)

Road fatalities characteristics, Greece 1991-2011



Basic characteristics of road fatalities in Greece for the period 1991 - 2011 are summarised in a comprehensive Table (data source:ELSTAT). Since 2001, there are more than 700 less road fatalities per year in Greece. According to these time series data an important **decrease in road fatalities for young people** is observed during the last decade, as well as a spectacular decrease in fatalities outside urban areas and in the number of people killed in accidents with HGV. On the contrary fatalities decrease during the last decade is limited for people killed in motorways, non national drivers and women drivers.

The New European Driving License 2013



From January 19th 2013, all new driving licences issued across the EU will be in the form of a **plastic "credit card"**, with a standard European format and tougher security protection. The new European licence will progressively replace the more than 100 different paper and plastic models currently in use by more than 300 million drivers across the EU. It is a part of a broader package of measures (3rd EU Driving Licence Directive) coming into force to guarantee a true freedom of movement to EU drivers, reinforce safety on European roads and reduce possibilities of fraud. [LINK](#)

Investigation of the acceptance of a handbook for safe driving at an older age 2012



A research titled 'Investigation of the acceptance of a handbook for safe driving at an older age' co-authored by Sophia Vardaki and George Yannis from NTUA, was recently published in the International Journal of Injury Control and Safety Promotion. The handbook was developed with the purpose of **increasing elderly drivers' awareness** of their driving abilities and providing information about the effects of ageing on driving and about safe driving practices and compensation strategies. Binary logistic analysis was conducted to identify individual driver characteristics that might predict acceptance of the handbook by active older drivers in terms of reported increased awareness and intended repeated use. The findings of the research indicate

a quite positive attitude of elderly active drivers towards the handbook, as more than half of them reported that they had become more aware of changes in their driving after reading it. [DOI»](#)

Attitudes of Greek drivers towards mobile phone use while driving 2012



A Diploma Thesis titled 'Attitudes of Greek drivers towards mobile phone use while driving' was presented by Paraskevi Marinou in July 2012. The research is based on the data of the pan-European SARTRE 4 survey, which was conducted on a representative sample of Greek drivers in 2011. The analysis of the drivers' behavior was carried out by the statistical methods of factor and cluster analysis. According to

the results of factor analysis, Greek drivers' responses in the selected questions were summarized into seven factors, describing road behavior, accident involvement probability, but also their views on issues concerning other drivers' road behavior, enforcement for road safety and mobile phone use while driving. The results of cluster analysis indicated four different groups of Greek drivers: **the cautious, the moderate, the conservative and the thoughtless drivers** and the characteristics of each group where identified.

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.