



NTUA Road Safety Update - September 2013



Road Safety Webtexts at the DaCoTA Road Safety System 2013



The Road Safety Webtexts are available at the DaCoTA Road Safety Knowledge System and were developed through a peer review process by the EU co-funded research projects DaCoTA and SafetyNet, within the framework of developing and enhancing the European Road Safety Observatory. These road safety webtexts consist of **comprehensive and high quality syntheses** on important road safety issues, scientifically founded, easy to read and ready to use. For each subject, the information consists of an overview of the magnitude of the problem, prevalence and countermeasures followed by key bibliography references.

[LINK](#)

They cover most contemporary road safety issues:

Age groups: Children, Novice drivers, Older drivers
Road users: Pedestrians and cyclists, Powered two wheelers
Hazardous behavior: Driver distraction, Cell phone use while driving, Fatigue, Alcohol/drugs, Speed and speed management, Work-related road safety
Post-crash: Post impact care, E-safety
Road safety measures: Roads, Speed enforcement, Vehicle safety
Policy issues: Quantitative targets, Cost-benefit analysis, Safety ratings, Road safety management, Integration of Road Safety in other policy areas

3rd International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention 2013



The 3rd International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention organised by the SAFER - Vehicle and Traffic Safety Centre of the Chalmers University took place in **Gothenburg on 4-6 September 2013**, having brought together more than 150 Experts and stakeholders from more than 20 countries. [LINK](#) Driver Distraction and Inattention Conference 2013 brought into the spotlight relevant developments in research from mainstream and neighbouring disciplines, and showcased new and emerging technologies, products and countermeasures. All papers, abstracts and presentations are now available. [LINK](#)

NTUA presentations concerned:

- Effects of cerebral diseases on driver distraction
- Impact of Texting on Young Drivers' Behaviour and Safety on Motorways by the Use of a Driving Simulator
- Impact of Mobile Phone Use and Music on Driver Behaviour and Safety by the Use of a Driving Simulator

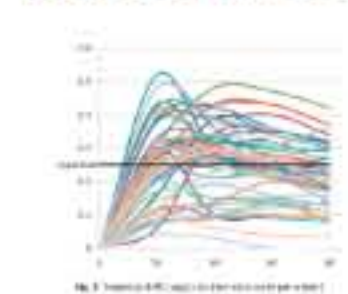
Green urban mobility and road safety 2013



A new book on Green Urban Mobility has been presented on September 26th, 2013 in Athens, highlighting the **European approach on current policies for sustainable urban mobility**. This book was edited by urban planner Stavros Tsetsis and was presented by the European Parliament Deputies Daniel Cohn Bendit and Marietta Giannakou. [LINK](#)

NTUA Associate Professor George Yannis has contributed a chapter on transportation choices in the modern city, highlighting not only the fundamental road safety choices of the modern city but also the need for integrating road safety choices in the urban mobility plans.

Reaction times of young alcohol-impaired drivers 2013



A paper titled 'Reaction times of young alcohol-impaired drivers' co-authored by Z.Christoforou, M.Karlaftis and G.Yannis is now available at the Accident Analysis and Prevention Journal. The paper focuses on young individuals who drive under the influence of alcohol and are having a higher relative risk of crash involvement; as such, the literature has extensively investigated the factors affecting such involvement through both post-accident surveys and simulator experiments. The results suggested that **increased reaction times before consuming alcohol strongly affect post-consumption reaction times**, while increased BrAC levels prolong reaction times, a 10% increase in BrAC levels results in a 2% increase in reaction time. Moreover, individuals with faster alcohol absorption times perform better regardless of absolute BrAC level, while recent meals lead to higher reaction times and regular exercising to lower reaction times. [DOI](#)

Road Accidents Annual Statistical Report at the DaCoTA Road Safety System 2012



The Road Accidents Annual Statistical Report 2012 is now available at the DaCoTA Road Safety Knowledge System. This Annual Report was developed by the EU co-financed project DaCoTA, within the framework of developing and enhancing the European Road Safety Observatory. This Annual Statistical Report provides the **basic characteristics of road accidents in 25 member states of the European Union** (no data for Bulgaria and Lithuania yet) and Switzerland for the period 2001-2010, on the basis of data collected and processed within the CARE database, the Community Road Accident Database with disaggregate data. [LINK](#)

Pulitzer Roads Kill Maps 2013



"Roads Kill" is a Pulitzer Center initiative that draws on its extensive global network of journalists in almost every corner of the world to raise the visibility of this growing public health crisis. The centerpiece of this flexible and fully embeddable digital platform, is an **interactive map** by clicking on a country one can access an assortment of road safety data, ranging from trend lines on highway fatalities to statistics on the types of vehicles most likely to be involved in fatal crashes. Moreover, there is the option to rove across the map and access an ever-expanding roster of full reports and brief "roads facts" from around the world. [LINK](#)

Road safety in bits and pieces by Henk Stipdonk 2013



SWOV Senior Researcher Henk Stipdonk defended recently his PhD Thesis at Delft University of Technology, exploiting also findings from the EC co-funded research projects SafetyNet and Dacota. This Thesis, titled **'Road safety bits and pieces: for a better understanding of the development of the number of road fatalities'**, focuses on the subdivision (stratification) of the crash data and the data of distance travelled. Different subgroups with different risks (like different travel modes, different age groups and combinations of both) are modelled separately. It is shown that these groups often have different risks and different trends in distance travelled. These different subgroups – the 'bits' and 'pieces' – and their different developments can give rise to a substantial change in the total risk – the 'road safety'. It is concluded that the present manner of analyzing road safety developments – i.e. based on the total number of road fatalities and the total fatality rate – is insufficient to achieve a thorough understanding of these developments. It is better to divide the total number of road fatalities into subgroups and to investigate for each individual subgroup which factors influenced road safety. [LINK](#)

ETSC - The role of gender in road safety 2013



ETSC published recently a PIN Flash concerning the rate of collisions between men and women. Just under 30.400 people were killed in 2011 in the EU27 in road collisions, approximately 7.200 females and 23.200 males. Females account for 51% of the total EU population but only 24% of road deaths. This percentage has changed by only one percentage point since 2001, but the reduction in female deaths since then has been four percentage points greater than the reduction in male deaths. Males account for 76% of people killed on the roads in the EU in 2011. **Males have more than three times the death rate of females** on the roads in the EU. [LINK](#)

Transnational Meeting for Road Safety in South East Europe - Athens 2013



The 1st Meeting of the Transnational Working Group for road safety in South East Europe took place in Athens, on 4 July 2013 organised by the ROSEE project in the framework of the South East Europe transnational cooperation programme. Representatives from the ROSEE project countries (Italy, Romania, Hungary, Greece, Slovenia, Bulgaria) discussed on **key road safety issues in this European region** and attempted to create synergies and cross fertilization across the South East Europe in the quest for fewer road accidents and casualties. All presentations are available at the ROSEE project website. [LINK](#)

The NTUA presentation concerned a broad overview of road safety in Greece with focus on specific road safety issues related to the policy framework, the road infrastructure and the road user behaviour, as highlighted at the respective National Advisory Group.

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.