

Save LIVES

Every year an estimated 1.25 million people die because of road traffic crashes, and millions more are injured. The World Health Organization has synthesized evidence-based measures that can significantly reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries.

The result is **Save LIVES**: a package of 6 strategies to reduce injuries and deaths from road traffic crashes.



The components of the **Save LIVES** package are: **Speed** management, **Leadership**, **Infrastructure** design, **Vehicle** safety standards, **Enforcement** of traffic laws and **Survival** after a crash.

This flyer summarizes **ENFORCEMENT OF TRAFFIC LAWS** – one of the six strategies of the Save LIVES road safety package.

ENFORCEMENT OF TRAFFIC LAWS

! IMPROVING ENFORCEMENT

The five main behaviours most likely to result in road traffic injuries are drinking and driving, not using a helmet, a seat-belt or child restraint, and speeding. Although many countries have laws that address these risky behaviours, they may not be fully enforced.

SOLUTIONS

1 Establish and enforce laws at national, local and city level

When establishing new laws or amending existing ones, consider the evidence on best practices. Laws that do not meet best practice are less likely to have an impact on road traffic deaths or change the behaviour of drivers and passengers.

Speeding laws

- National speed law in place.
- Speed limits on urban roads ≤ 50 km/h.
- Local authorities have the power to modify national speed limits.



Drink-driving laws

- National drink-driving law in place.
- Drink-driving law is based on blood alcohol concentration (BAC) or equivalent breath alcohol concentration (BrAC).
- BAC limit for general population ≤ 0.05 g/dl, but limit for young/novice drivers ≤ 0.02 g/dl.



Motorcycle helmets laws

- National motorcycle helmet law in place.
- Law applies to motorcycle drivers and passengers.
- Law applies to all road and engine types.
- Law requires helmet to be properly fastened and meet a national or international standard.



Seat-belt

- National seat-belt law in place
- The law applies to drivers and front- and rear-seat passengers.



Child restraints laws

- National child-restraint law in place and is based on age-weight-height or a combination of these factors.
- Law restricts children under a certain age-height from sitting in front seat.



ENFORCEMENT OF TRAFFIC LAWS

2 Adapt laws to a changing society

The risky behaviours associated with road traffic crashes evolve as societies change. Road safety laws need to be updated and adapted to address emerging risks such as mobile phone use while driving and drug-driving.

Primary enforcement (when drivers can be stopped and sanctioned for violating drinking and driving, seat-belt or other laws independently of committing another offence) can make law enforcement more effective.



3 Build public trust

- Launching mass media campaigns in support of enforcement maximizes compliance and builds public support.
- Take steps to prevent corruption in traffic law enforcement, for example, by training police and adopting devices such as speed cameras that provide objective evidence of violations.



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes a target to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries by 50% by 2020. This is an ambitious goal that can be achieved only if we work collaboratively to build a culture of road safety.



BENEFITS

Enforcement of traffic laws improves compliance and reduces road traffic fatalities, injuries and related socioeconomic costs.



How well is your country enforcing traffic laws?

Assess your country's enforcement of traffic laws with the tool provided in the appendix of the **Save LIVES** technical package.

