



FOD MOBILITEIT EN VERVOER
DG WEGVERVOER EN VERKEERSVEILIGHEID



ESRA Conference 21/04/2022

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Introduction

- Road Traffic Regulation Department (<Directorate-general Road Transport and Road Safety)
 - Update Traffic Code;
 - Update driving licence legislation;
 - Define sanctioning schemes for traffic (re)offenders.
- Long and close cooperation with Vias institute → knowledge center on road safety
- Key missions of Vias institute on behalf of the federal government:
 - Policy support: analysis of accident data & monitoring trends; road (un)safety questionnaires; EU and international benchmarking
 - Scientific research projects on road safety topics, including technology and innovation
 - International representation & communication on federal legislation



Importance of ESRA

What are the **needs** of our Road Traffic Regulation Department ?

- Accident and behavioural data → new legislation / amendment of existing legislation
- Enforcement data: limitations (cf. speeding versus DUI)
- Road side surveys (observed behaviour): expensive and time-consuming; methodology can differ
- ESRA survey:
 - ✓ cost-efficient (low cost online survey)
 - ✓ addresses a vast array of topics, including public support for new measures
 - ✓ no interviewer bias
 - ✓ uniform study design → international comparison of results: benchmarking tool



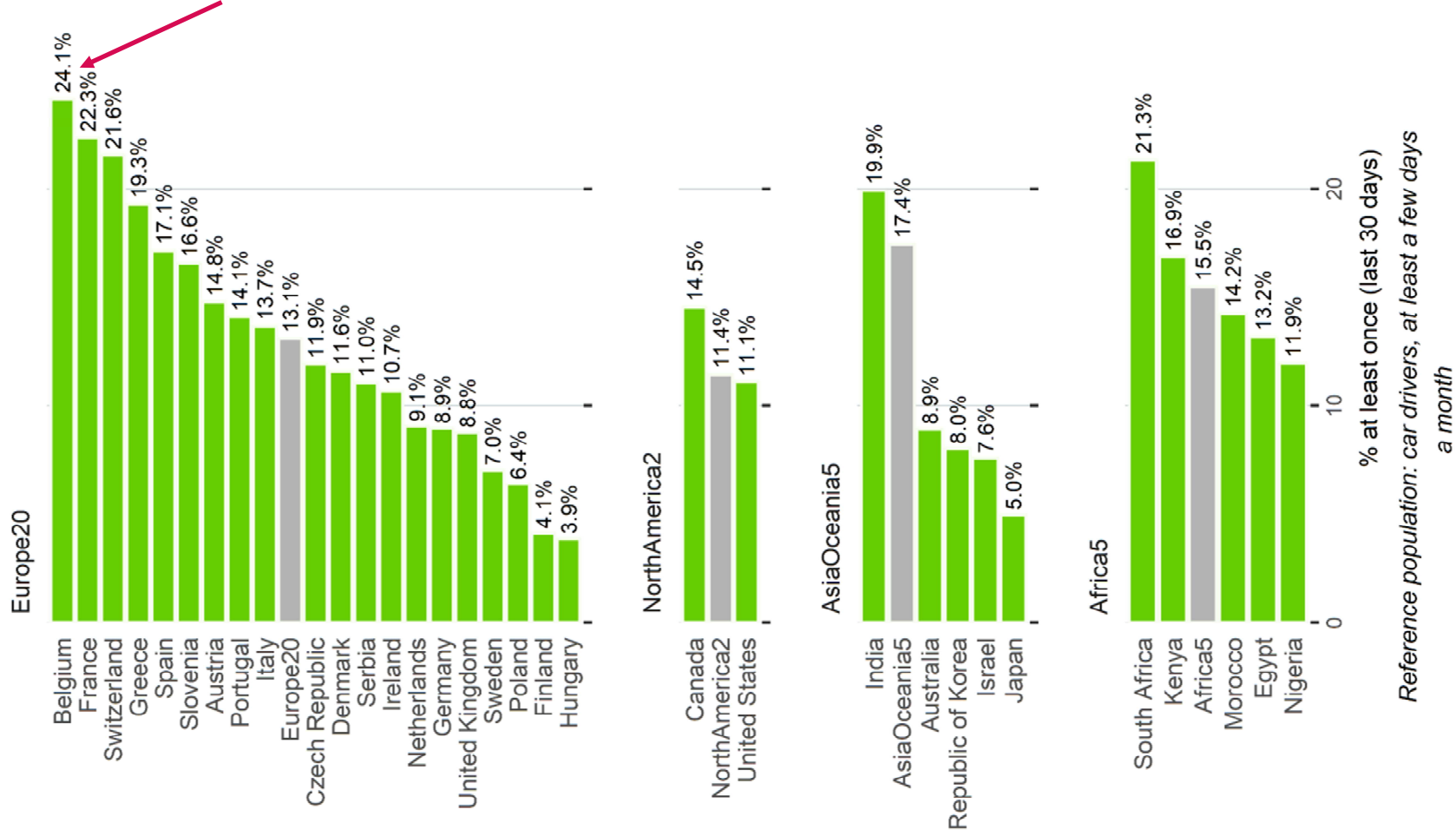
Example: Social norm DUI (of alcohol) - Belgium

- DUI (of alcohol) = Culturally embedded road safety issue in Belgium
- Limited enforcement data & dark number
- Social norm: weak (self-declared behaviour + acceptability)
- ESRA & prevalence (road side) surveys: similar results
- ESRA: a better picture of the offender (age, gender, socio-economic situation, regional differences)



Self-declared drink driving in last month - Belgium (<first wave ESRA2-data, 2018)

SELF-DECLARED BEHAVIOUR AS A CAR DRIVER Drive when you may have been over legal limit for drink-driving





Integration of ESRA-results in different strategic documents

2018/2019:

“Belgium in a European perspective” → broad benchmarking-study

2021:

- Different road safety research projects (POINTS report on demerit point systems and systems to fight recidivism; Status report on road safety – SGVV/EGSR nov/21, etc.)
- First federal road safety plan 2021-2025, with 32 new measures (www.all-for-zero.be): including a new working group on DUI



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Questions? Thank you for your attention!

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