

Country fact sheet United States of America

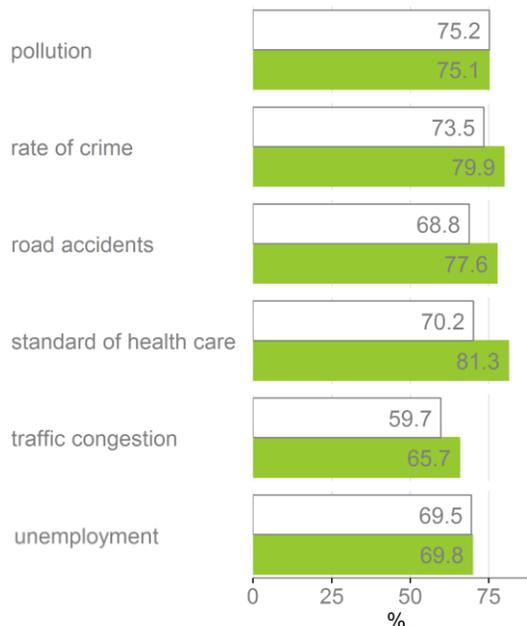
ESRA results

The ESRA project is a joint initiative of research institutes in 25 countries aiming at collecting comparable national data on road users' opinions, attitudes and self-reported behaviour with respect to road traffic risks. A common questionnaire was developed in English (UK)¹ and translated into 29 different country-language versions. The themes covered in the survey are: attitude towards unsafe traffic behaviour, behaviour of other road users, subjective safety and risk perception, involvement in road crashes, reported police checks and perceived likelihood of getting caught for traffic offences, self-declared (unsafe) behaviour in traffic, support for road safety policy measures and use of different modes of transportation.

Data collection was organised in two phases (June 2015 for 17 countries- ESRA1 and November 2016 for 8 additional countries²- ESRA1bis). In total, ESRA gathered data from almost 27,000 road users. An overview of the project and the results are available on www.esranet.eu. The following figures show a core set of variables in which the United States of America (green) is compared with the European ESRA mean³ (white).

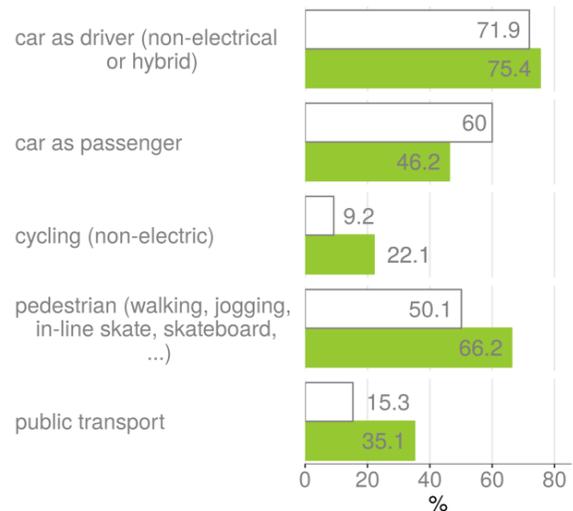
Concern about road safety

How concerned are you about each of the following issues? (4-point scale, 1=very concerned to 4=not at all concerned) - % of respondents feeling (very) concerned (1-2)



Mode of transportation

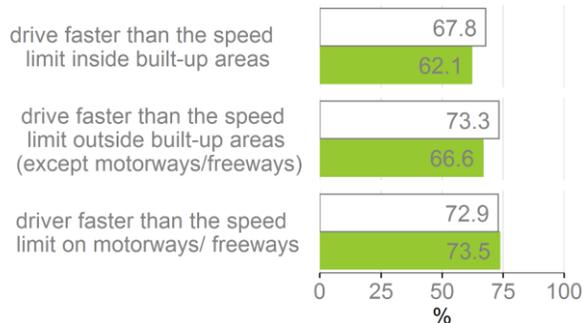
What were your most frequent modes of transport during the last 12 months? - % of respondents choosing this mode as one of their top 3 transportation modes



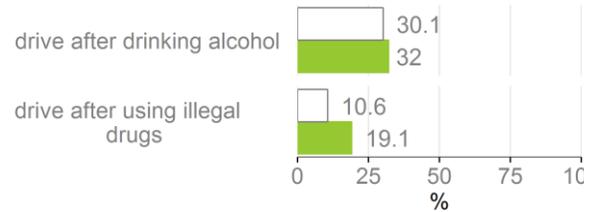
Self-reported behaviour

In the past 12 months, as a road user, how often did you...? (5-point scale, 1=never to 5=(almost) always) - % at least once (2-5)

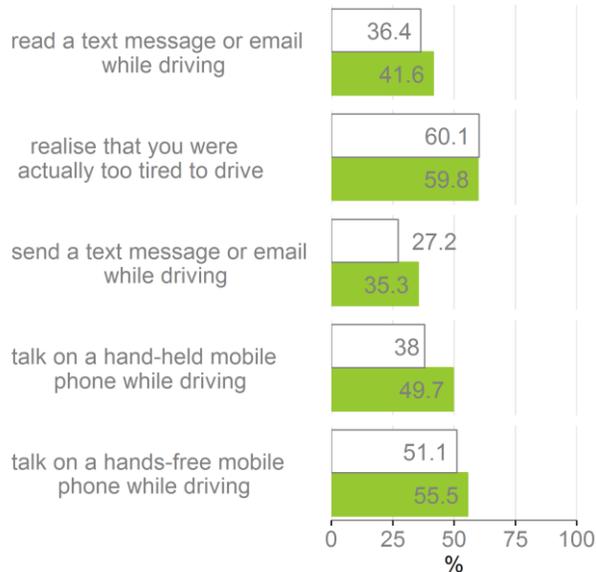
Speed



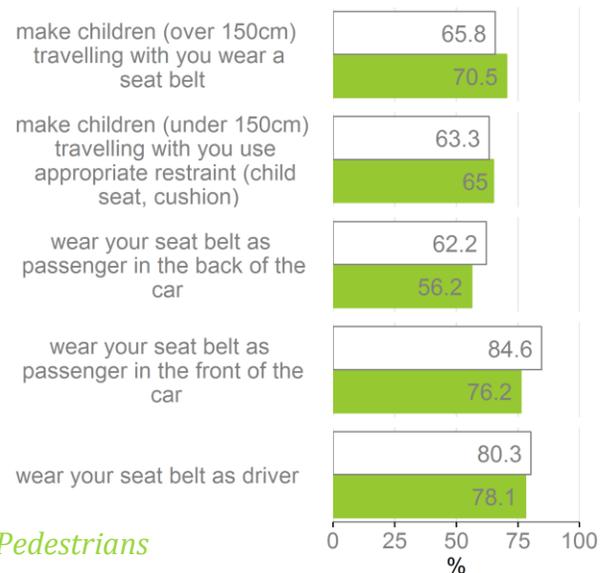
DUI



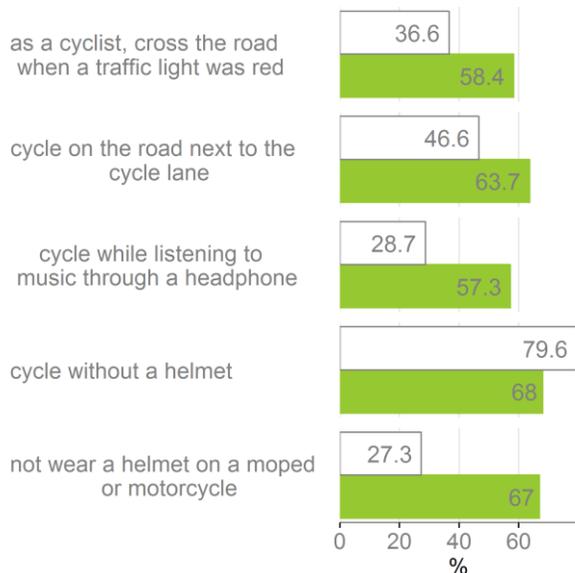
Distraction & Fatigue



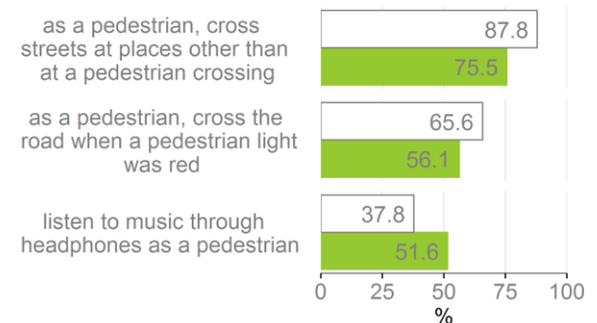
Seat belt and Child restraint systems* /** - % almost always (5)



Cyclists & Motorcyclists



Pedestrians

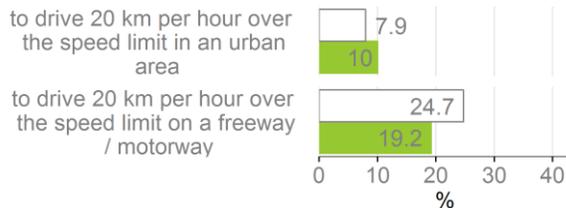


* The seat belt related items describe safe behaviour – in contrast with the other items
 ** Please note that this country fact sheet used the British terminology

Acceptability - personal

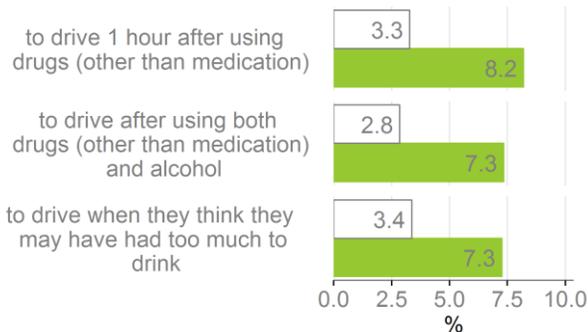
How acceptable do you, personally, feel it is for a driver...? (5-point scale, 1=unacceptable to 5=acceptable) - % (rather) acceptable (4-5)

Speed *

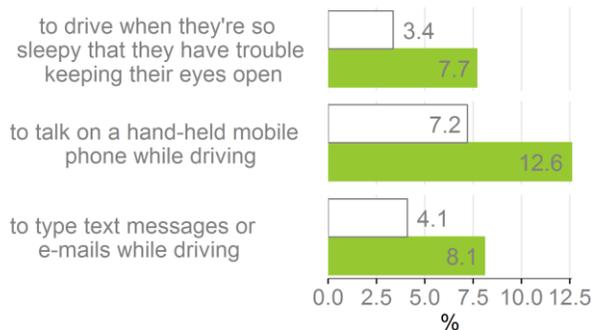


*U.S. survey used "15 miles per hour over the speed limit"

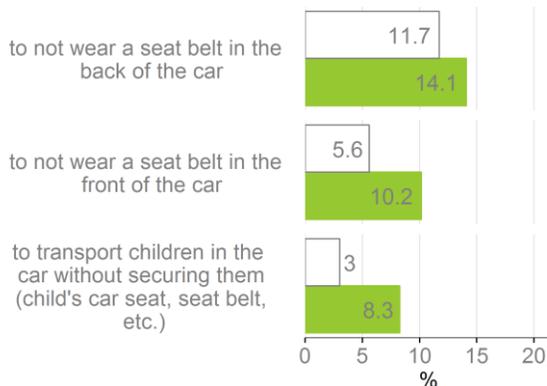
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Distraction & Fatigue

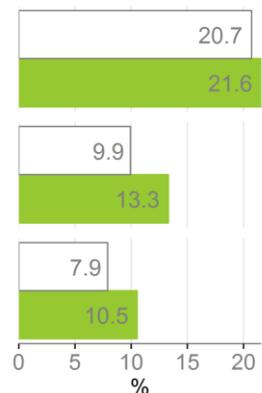


Seat belt and Child restraint systems



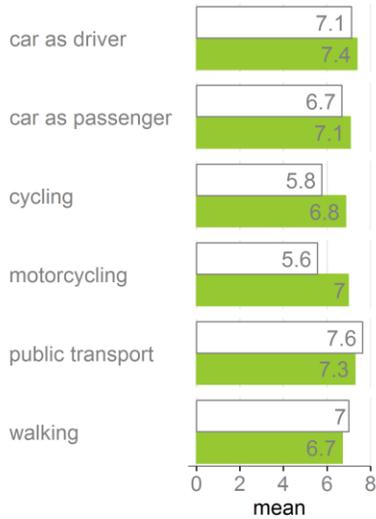
Acceptability- others

Where you live, how acceptable would most other people say it is for a driver...? (5-point scale, 1=unacceptable to 5=acceptable) - % (rather) acceptable (4-5)



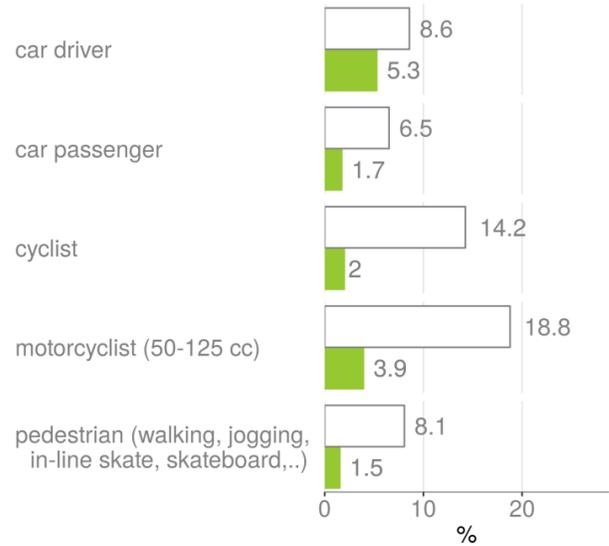
(Un)Safety feeling

How (un)safe do you feel when using the following transport modes...? (11-point scale, 0=very unsafe to 10 very safe) - mean of the 11-point scale



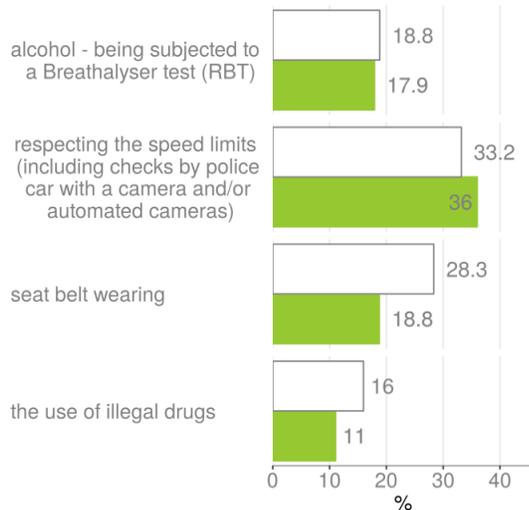
Involvement in road crashes

In the past three months have you been involved in a road traffic accident as...? - % at least once



Enforcement

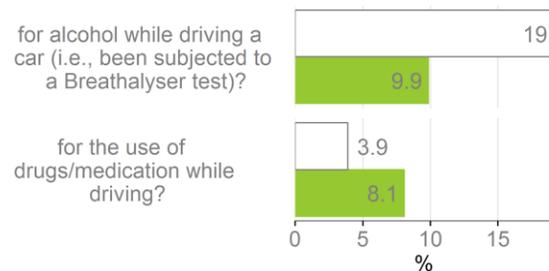
On a typical journey, how likely is it that you (as a driver) will be checked by the police for...? (5-point scale, 1=very small chance to 5=very big chance) - % (very) big chance (4-5)



In the past 12 months, how many times have you been stopped by the police for a check? - % at least once



In the past 12 months, how many times were you checked by the police...? - % at least once



Background Data

Basic data of the United States of America in relation to the European average⁴.

Exposure

	year	USA
total length of roads (km)*	2014	6722348
total length of motorways (km)*	2014	76705
vehicle kilometres (total in millions)*	2014	4869321
motorisation rate ⁵ (Cars/1000 inhab.)**	2009	442

* Source: IRTAD

** Source: UNECE

Persons killed in road accidents by age (IRTAD & CARE database)

ages	year	USA		EU	
		absolute number	%	absolute number	%
0-14	2014	1070	3.3	645	2.4
15-17	2014	983	3.0	621	2.4
18-24	2014	5489	16.8	3638	13.8
25-49	2014	12235	37.4	9264	35.1
50-64	2014	7102	21.7	5125	19.4
≥65	2014	5709	17.5	6864	26.0
Unknown	2014	87	0.3	259	1.0
TOTAL	2014	32675	100.0	26416	100.0

European sum computed with the most recent available year by country (2009: BG; 2010: MT, SK; 2013: IE; 2014: BE, SE; others: 2015).

Persons killed in road accidents by transport mode (IRTAD & CARE database)

mode of transportation	year	USA	EU
		absolute number	absolute number
car (including taxi)	2014	11,947	12223
moped	2014	172	712
motor cycle	2014	4,594	3937
pedal cycle	2014	729	2058
pedestrian	2014	4,910	5528

European sum computed with the most recent available year by country (2009: BG; 2010: MT, SK; 2013: IE; 2014: BE, SE; others: 2015)

Population

	year	USA	EU
population (M. inhab.)	2015	321.8	505.2
density (inhab./km ²)	2015	35.2	113.2 ⁶

Source: United Nations (Estimates)

Age Distribution

ages	year	USA*	EU**
0-14	2015	19.0	15.5
15-24	2015	13.6	11.0
25-49	2015	32.8	34.2
50-64	2015	19.7	20.2
65-79	2015	11.1	13.8
≥80	2015	3.8	5.4

% of the population

*Source: United States Census Bureau

**Source: United Nations (Estimates)

Internet users (per 100 people)

year	USA	EU
2015	76	80

Source: World Bank (Estimates)

¹ Please note that this country fact sheet has been written in British English. Exact wording of items and spelling was adapted in the online survey.

² In a 1st phase (ESRA1 - June 2015) data were collected from 17 European countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. In a 2nd phase (ESRA1bis - November 2016) data of 8 additional countries were added: Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Hungary, Israel, Norway, South Korea and the United States of America

³ The European ESRA mean is based on the results of the European ESRA-members: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

⁴ The European average is based on the EU-28: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

⁵ The motorization rate is defined as the number of passenger cars per 1 000 inhabitants. A passenger car is a road motor vehicle, other than a motorcycle, intended for the carriage of passengers and designed to seat no more than nine persons (including the driver).

⁶ Population density EU is based on the total population of the EU-28 (505 150 000 inhabitants; Source: United Nations) divided by the total surface of the EU-28 (4 463 600 km²; Source: Eurostat).

Please refer to this document as: Belgian Road Safety Institute (2017). Country fact sheet United States of America. ESRA project (E-Survey of Road users' Attitudes). Brussels, Belgium: Belgian Road Safety Institute.

