France

Median age: 39 years
Life expectancy at birth: 81 years
Income group: high
Gross national income per person: US$ 38 500  Rank: 13 of 49a
Human Development Index: 0.955  Rank: 6 of 49b
Private car ownership per 1000 population: 498.0
CO₂ emissions (tonnes) per person per year: 6.2

Institutional framework for road safety

Lead agency: Interministerial Road Safety Task Force
Status of the agency: Interministerial
Funded in national budget: Yes
National road safety strategy: Yes
Measurable targets: Yes
Implementation funded: Yes
Money allocated (in € (2007)): 2.30 billion

Key data

Reported number of road traffic deaths (2007): 4620a (76% males, 24% females)
Reported number of non-fatal road traffic injuries (2007): 77 007b
Road traffic deaths involving alcohol: 27.0%c
Wearing motorcycle helmets: 95%d
Using seat-belts in cars
   Overall: No information
   Front-seat occupants: 98% a
   Rear-seat occupants: 83% a
Costing study available: Yes
Annual estimated costs (in € (2006)): 11.60 billion
Study included deaths, injuries or both: Both deaths and injuries
Methods used: Gross output method

Deaths by road user category

- Drivers, 4-wheelers (42%)
- Passengers, 4-wheelers (26%)
- Riders, motorized 2- or 3-wheelers (23%)
- Cyclists (9%)
- Pedestrians (12%)
- Other (1%)

Notes:
- a Observatoire national interministériel de sécurité routière (ONISR) data, defined as died within 30 days of the crash.
- b Observatoire national interministériel de sécurité routière (ONISR) data.
- c 2006, Observatoire national interministériel de sécurité routière (ONISR).
- d 2006, ONISR, Observational study, data apply to motorcyclists (99% for moped riders).
- e 2006, ONISR, Observational study.

Reference:
- ONISR, Observatoire national interministériel de sécurité routière (2007)
### Acknowledgements

Authority approving the data for publication: Interministerial Road Safety Task Force

National data coordinator: Bernard Laumon, Institut National de REcherche sur les Transports et leur Sécurité (INRETS)

Respondents: Jean Chapelon, Obervatoire national interministériel de sécurité routière; Mireille Chiron, Institut National de REcherche sur les Transports et leur Sécurité (INRETS); Mouloud Haddak, Institut National de REcherche sur les Transports et leur Sécurité (INRETS); Alexis Marsan, Ministère de l'intérieur; Yves Rauch, Ministère des transports

### National legislation

**Speed limits set nationally** | Yes
---|---
**Local authorities may set lower limits** | Yes
**Speed limits differ by vehicle type** | Yes
**Maximum speed limits (km/h)**
- Urban roads: 50
- Rural roads: 90
- Highways and motorways: 130

**Enforcement** | 0.123456

**Drink-driving law**

- Defined by:
  - Blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit | Yes
  - Breath content | Yes
  - Physician certificate | No
- BAC limit: general population | 0.05 g/dl
- BAC limit: young or novice drivers | 0.05 g/dl
- BAC limit: professional and commercial drivers | 0.05 g/dl

**Mechanisms to enforce drink-driving laws**

- Random breath testing | Yes
- Police checkpoints | Yes
- Breath testing of all drivers involved in crashes | Yes
- Blood testing of all drivers involved in crashes | Yes

**Enforcement** | 0.123456

**Law requiring motorcycle helmets** | Yes
- Applies to all riders | Yes
- Applies to all engine types | Yes
- Exception to the legislation | Yes
- Helmet standards mandated | Yes

**Enforcement** | 0.123456

**Seat belt law**

- Applies to front-seat occupants | Yes
- Applies to rear-seat occupants | Yes

**Enforcement applied to:**
- Front- and rear-seat occupants | Yes

**Law requiring child restraints in cars** | Yes

**Enforcement** | 0.123456

### Promoting transport alternatives to cars

**National policies to promote walking or cycling** | No (subnational)
**Investment in bicycle lanes** | NA
**Investment in foot paths** | NA
**Traffic-calming measures** | NA
**Investment for increasing cycling** | NA
**Disincentives for private car use** | NA

**National policies to promote public transport** | Yes
**Subsidized pricing of public transport** | Yes
**Improving the frequency and coverage of public transport** | No
**Disincentives for private car use** | No

### Vehicle regulations

**Compulsory insurance for vehicles** | Yes
**Periodic vehicle inspection for:**
- Cars | Yes
- Motorized 2- or 3-wheeled vehicles | No
- Minibuses and vans | Yes
- Lorries | Yes
- Buses | Yes

### Registered motor vehicles

**Total (2007)** | 39,926,000
- Cars | 77%
- Motorized 2- and 3-wheeled vehicles | 6%
- Minibuses, vans, etc. (seating < 20 people) | 14%
- Lorries | 1%
- Buses | < 1%
- Other | 1%


### Care after road crashes

**Formal, publicly available prehospital care system** | Yes
**National universal access telephone number** | Yes (112)

### Road safety audits

**Formal audits required for major new road construction projects** | Yes
**Regular audits of existing road infrastructure** | No

### Vehicle standards

**Car manufacturers required to adhere to standards on**

- Fuel consumption | No
- Seat-belt installation for all seats | Yes

---

\* The enforcement score represents a consensus on the professional opinion of respondents on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is not effective and 10 is highly effective.

\* Exceptions: motorized 2-wheeled vehicles equipped with seat belts.