

NHTSA Form 1538  
OMB Number:  
Expiration Date:



# NATIONAL SURVEY ON TRAFFIC SAFETY



Please have the household member age 18 or older who has the next birthday take the survey.

This is a method of random selection important to producing accurate estimates.

Thank you for participating in the National Survey on Traffic Safety. The information you share will help the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration improve the lives of people across the country. Your household was randomly selected for this survey. Your name will never be connected with your answers. Results of the survey will only be shown in group form so no one can be identified. The survey will take about 20 minutes. You do not need to gather any records to answer the questions—your best guess is OK. Participation in this survey is voluntary.

If you are eligible to participate, a \$5 bill will be mailed to this address about a month after the completed questionnaire has been received.

## Marking Instructions

- Please use a No. 2 pencil or a blue or black ink pen.
- Please do not use pens with ink that soaks through the paper.
- Please make solid marks that fill the response completely.
- Please make no stray marks on this form.

CORRECT: ●

INCORRECT: ✓ ⊗ ◐ ◑



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**National Highway Traffic Safety  
Administration**



Paperwork Reduction Act Burden Statement: Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, a federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is TBD. The average amount of time to complete this survey is 20 minutes. All responses to this collection of information are voluntary. If you have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, send them to: Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E., Washington, DC, 20590.

**PLEASE ANSWER THIS FIRST**

- A** What is your age?
- 18 years of age or older → **SKIP TO QUESTION 1**
  - 17 years of age or younger → **CONTINUE**
- B** Is there anyone living in this household who is 18 years of age or older?
- Yes → **Give this to the household member who is 18 years of age or older and has the next birthday.**
  - No → **STOP. Please return the blank questionnaire in the postage paid envelope as soon as possible.**

**GENERAL DRIVING INFORMATION**

The next few questions ask about your general driving experiences. For these questions, a motorcycle counts as a motor vehicle.

- 1** How often do you usually drive a car or other motor vehicle?
- Every day, or almost every day
  - Several days a week
  - Once a week or less
  - Only certain times a year
  - Never → **SKIP TO THE FINAL SECTION CALLED "ABOUT YOU" ON PAGE 10**
- 2** What kind of vehicle do you drive most often?  
*(If you drive two vehicles about the same amount and can't decide which of them you drive most often, then answer for which of those two vehicles you drove last.)*
- Car
  - Van or minivan
  - SUV
  - Pickup truck
  - Other truck/box truck/semi
  - Motorcycle
  - Other

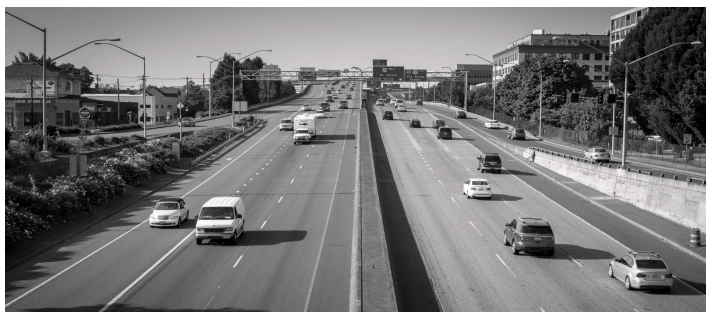
**SPEED BEHAVIOR**

- 3** Which of the following statements best describes your driving?
- I tend to pass other cars more often than other cars pass me
  - Other cars tend to pass me more often than I pass them
  - Both about equally
- 4** When driving I tend to...
- Stay with slower moving traffic
  - Keep up with the faster traffic
  - Both about equally

We want to find out how people may change the way they drive on different types of roads, such as multi-lane highways, rural routes, or residential streets. These next questions are about how you drive on some of these different kinds of roads.

**MULTI-LANE, DIVIDED INTERSTATE-TYPE HIGHWAYS**

The next questions ask about your driving on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways. These include interstates, freeways and other highways and have a barrier or a median separating traffic in opposite directions.



- 5** How often do you drive on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely → **SKIP TO QUESTION 6**
- Never

**5a** During the past seven days, approximately how many miles did you drive on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways?     Miles

**5b** What do you consider to be a safe speed limit for (most) Multi-Lane, Divided Highways in good weather on roads with no congestion during the day?   Miles per hour (mph)

**5c** When driving on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways in good weather during the day, how fast do you normally drive?   mph

5d How often would you say you drive 15 miles an hour over the speed limit on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways?

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

5e At what speed would you typically be driving on a Multi-Lane, Divided Interstate Freeway that passes through a major town or city with a 65 mph posted speed limit?

 mph

6 How far above the speed limit do you think the average driver can go on Multi-Lane, Divided Highways before receiving a ticket?

 mph over the speed limit

### TWO-LANE HIGHWAYS, ONE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION

The next questions ask about your driving behavior on Two-Lane Highways which are not divided. This means there is only one lane traveling in each direction and no median or barrier separating traffic traveling in opposite directions.



7 How often do you drive on Two-Lane Highways that have one lane in each direction?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never → SKIP TO QUESTION 8

7a During the past seven days, approximately how many miles did you drive on Two-Lane Highways?

 Miles

7b What do you consider to be a safe speed limit for (most) Two-Lane Highways in good weather during the day?

 mph

7c When driving on Two-Lane Highways in good weather during the day, how fast do you normally drive?

 mph

7d How often would you say you drive 15 miles an hour over the speed limit on Two-Lane Highways?

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

8 How far above the speed limit do you think the average driver can go on Two-Lane Highways before receiving a ticket?

 mph over the speed limit

## MAIN (ARTERIAL) ROADS

The next question asks about Main (Arterial) Roads with two travel lanes in each direction, in a town with a 35 mph posted speed limit.



9 At what speed would you typically be driving on a Main (Arterial) Road with two travel lanes in each direction in a town with a 35 mph posted speed limit?

 mph

## NEIGHBORHOOD AND RESIDENTIAL STREETS

The next questions ask about your driving behavior on streets in Neighborhoods and Residential areas.



10 How often do you drive on Neighborhood or Residential Streets?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never → SKIP TO QUESTION 11

10a During the past seven days, approximately how many miles did you drive on Neighborhood or Residential Streets?

 Miles

10b What do you consider to be a safe speed limit for (most) Neighborhood or Residential Streets in good weather during the day?

 mph

10c When driving on Neighborhood or Residential Streets in good weather during the day, how fast do you normally drive?

 mph

10d How often would you say you drive 10 miles an hour over the speed limit on Neighborhood or Residential Streets?

- Always
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

11 How far above the speed limit do you think the average driver can go on Neighborhood or Residential Streets before receiving a ticket?

 mph over the speed limit

## DRIVING AND SPEED LIMITS

- 12** The next few statements are about driving and speed limits. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each one.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. Everyone should obey the speed limits because it's the law.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. People should keep pace with the flow of traffic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Speeding tickets have more to do with raising money than they do with reducing speeding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Driving over the speed limit is not dangerous for skilled drivers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. There is no excuse to exceed the speed limits.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. It is unacceptable to exceed speed limits by more than 20 mph.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. If it is your time to die, you'll die, so it doesn't matter whether you speed.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. I enjoy the feeling of driving fast.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. The faster I drive, the more alert I am.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. I often get impatient with slower drivers.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. I try to get where I am going as fast as I can.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. I worry a lot about having a crash.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
m. I consider myself a risk taker while driving.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
n. Speeding is something I do without thinking.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
o. Driving within or near the speed limit makes me feel bored.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13 People sometimes go faster than the speed limit for different reasons. On those occasions when you do, what do you think are the main reasons you drive faster than the speed limit? *Select all that apply.*

- I'm late
- I am unlikely to have a crash
- It's a habit
- I'm alone in the car
- I'm unlikely to get a ticket
- People I am with encourage it
- I'm comfortable driving fast
- It's an emergency/illness
- I'm not paying attention/distracted
- I'm in a hurry
- I'm going with the traffic flow
- I'm passing another vehicle
- There is no traffic/roads are clear
- The speed limit is too low
- I'm avoiding accidents
- Other
- I never speed

14 Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. Driving at or near the speed limit <u>reduces my chances of an accident.</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Driving at or near the speed limit <u>makes it difficult to keep up with traffic.</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Driving at or near the speed limit <u>makes me feel annoyed.</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Driving at or near the speed limit <u>makes it easier to avoid dangerous situations.</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Driving at or near the speed limit <u>uses less fuel.</u>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please answer the following questions thinking about the posted speed limit, plus or minus a few miles per hour, in the places you will be driving over the next few days.

15 How likely is it that you will drive at or near the speed limit if you were driving in a fast or powerful car?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

16 How likely is it that you will drive at or near the speed limit if the speed limit is clearly signed?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

17 Please tell us how often you do the following while driving:

	Nearly All The Time	Frequently	Quite Often	Occasionally	Hardly Ever	Never
a. How often do you <u>disregard the speed limits</u> late at night or early in the morning?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. How often do you <u>get involved in "races"</u> with other drivers on a roadway or from a stop light?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. How often do you <u>take risks while driving</u> because it's fun, such as driving fast on curves or accelerating over bumps/hills to "get air"?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. How often do you <u>drive 10-20</u> mph over the speed limit?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

18 How much do you want to drive at or near the speed limit while driving in the next week?

- Extremely so
- Quite a bit
- Moderately so
- A little
- Not at all

#### ATTITUDES TOWARD ENFORCEMENT

19 How important is it that something be done to reduce speeding by drivers?

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not too important
- Not at all important

20 How often do you think police should enforce the speed limit?

- All the time
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

21 How often do you see motor vehicles that have been pulled over by police on the streets and roads you normally drive?

- All the time
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never

#### SPEED CAMERAS

The next questions are about speed cameras. These are cameras set up at intersections or other locations to take pictures of speeding vehicles. A traffic ticket is mailed to the owner of the vehicle along with a photograph and information about the location and time.

22 Before today, had you ever heard of speed cameras being used to ticket drivers who speed?

- Yes
- No

23 Thinking about locations where speed cameras might be useful, would you find it acceptable to use them...

23a ...where it could be hazardous for a police officer to stop a driver?

- Yes
- No

23b ...where stopping a vehicle could cause traffic congestion?

- Yes
- No

23c ...where there have been many crashes?

- Yes
- No

23d ...in a school zone?

- Yes
- No

23e ...in a construction zone?

- Yes
- No

23f ...on all roads?

- Yes
- No

24 Along the routes you normally drive, are there speed cameras in use?

- Yes
- No
- I Don't Know

25 Have you ever received a ticket in the mail for a speed violation identified by a speed camera?

- Yes
- No

Now, please read the next few statements and tell us how much you agree or disagree.

26 Speed cameras are used to prevent accidents.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

27 Speed cameras are used to generate revenue.

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree



OPINIONS ABOUT REDUCING SPEEDING

28 How would you feel about using the following measures in your community to reduce speeding?

	Good Idea	Neither a good idea nor a bad idea	Bad Idea
a. More frequent ticketing for speeding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Issuing higher fines for speeding tickets.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Increasing public awareness of the risks of speeding.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Road design changes, like speed humps and traffic circles, to slow down traffic.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Electronic signs by the road that warn drivers that they are speeding and should slow down.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Increased use of speed cameras in dangerous or high crash locations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

There are many new technologies in use to reduce speeding on our nation's roads. These next questions ask what you think about these technologies.

29 A speed governor is a device which does not allow the vehicle to go above a certain speed. Do you think the mandatory use of a speed governor is a good idea or a bad idea for...

	Good Idea	Neither a good idea nor a bad idea	Bad Idea
a. Truck drivers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Drivers 18 years or younger?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Drivers with multiple speeding tickets in one year?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. All drivers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The next questions describe some devices that can be added to a motor vehicle to reduce speeding. For each type of device, we will first ask you whether you think it is a good idea or a bad idea to help reduce speeding in general. Then we will ask you about whether you think that device would keep you from speeding.

**30a** A device in your motor vehicle that notifies you with a buzzer or a flashing light when you drive faster than the speed limit. Do you think this is a...

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**30b** Would this device prevent you from speeding?

- Yes
- No

**31a** A device in your motor vehicle that records your speed data and gives you the option to provide the information to your insurance company to lower your premiums, if you obey the speed limits? Do you think this is a...

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**31b** Would this device prevent you from speeding?

- Yes
- No

**32a** A device in your motor vehicle that slows your motor vehicle down when it senses another car or object is too close to your motor vehicle. Do you think this is a...

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**32b** Would this device prevent you from speeding?

- Yes
- No

Please tell us how likely or unlikely you would be to use each of the following devices on your own vehicle.

**33a** A device that does not allow you to drive faster than 10 mph over the posted speed limit.

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

**33b** A device that you can switch on or off, that prevents you from driving faster than the speed limit?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

**33c** A device that allows parents to limit the maximum speed of a motor vehicle, when a teenager drives the motor vehicle.

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Neither
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely

**34** Some roadways use digital speed signs to change the speed limit on a section of road based on traffic or weather conditions.

Do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea to use digital speed signs in the following situations?

**34a** Construction zones

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**34b** School zones

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**34c** Bad weather

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

**34d** Congested roadways

- Good idea
- Neither a good idea nor a bad idea
- Bad idea

35a How many times have you been in a speeding related accident in the past twelve months?

Number of speeding-related accidents

**IF NONE, SKIP TO QUESTION 36a IN NEXT SECTION**

35b Did you receive any injuries as a result of the most recent speeding related accident?

- Yes
- No

### SPEEDING TICKETS

36a How many times have you been stopped for speeding in the past twelve months?

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of times stopped for speeding

**IF NONE, SKIP TO QUESTION 38 IN NEXT SECTION**

36b Did you receive a ticket or warning the last time you were stopped for speeding?

- Yes, a ticket
- Yes, a warning
- No

37 Did you change your driving behavior as a result of receiving that ticket or warning for speeding?

- Yes
- No

### GENERAL DRIVING BEHAVIORS

38 When driving your primary motor vehicle how often do you wear your seat belt?

- All the time
- Often
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
- My primary vehicle is a motorcycle

39 In the past 30 days, have you driven a vehicle when you thought you might have consumed too much alcohol to drive safely?

- Yes
- No

40 How often do you talk on the phone while you are driving?

- All trips
- Most trips
- About half my trips
- Fewer than half my trips
- None of my trips
- I don't have a cell phone → **SKIP TO QUESTION 43**

41 How often do you send text messages while you are driving and the vehicle is moving?

- All trips
- Most trips
- About half my trips
- Fewer than half my trips
- None of my trips

42 How often do you read text messages while you are driving and the vehicle is moving?

- All trips
- Most trips
- About half my trips
- Fewer than half my trips
- None of my trips

### ABOUT YOU

43 How old are you?

years old

44 What is your sex?

- Male
- Female

45 What is the highest grade of school you have completed?

- No formal schooling
- First through 7th grade
- 8th grade
- Some high school
- High school graduate
- Some college
- Four-year college graduate
- Some graduate school
- Graduate degree

46 Are you currently married, divorced, separated, widowed, or single?

- Married
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed
- Single

47 Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino/a?

- Yes
- No

**48** Which of the following racial categories describes you? You may select more than one.

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African-American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other

**49** Do you own or rent your home?

- Own
- Rent
- Some other arrangement

**50** Which of the following categories best describes your total household income before taxes in 2019? Your best estimate is fine.

- Less than \$15,000
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 or more

**That completes the survey. Please return the completed questionnaire in the postage paid envelope as soon as possible.**

**If you reported that you drive a car or motor vehicle, a \$5 bill will be mailed to this address about a month after the completed questionnaire is received. If you reported never driving a car or other motor vehicle, you are not eligible to receive the \$5 bill but the responses you provide help us make sure the data we collect is representative of the general population.**

**Thank you very much for your time and cooperation.**



m a s t e r i d

{tray} {presort}