

Road Safety Week QUIZ ANSWER SHEET

1. How many people died on roads in Britain in 2019?

Answer: D: 1,752

In 2019, 1,752 people died as a result of a road crash in Great Britain (RRCGB: 2019, RAS30001).

In 2010, 1,850 people died in a road crash – this marked the end of four years of reductions in road deaths in Britain. Road fatality reductions have recognisably stagnated in recent years. (RRCGB: 2019, RAS30001)

In 2019, there were 25,945 seriously injured casualties reported in road traffic collisions.

2. What proportion of fatal crashes did police find speed contributed to in 2019?

Answer: B: One in four

Exceeding the speed limit contributed to 215 fatal crashes in 2019 (15%), and travelling too fast for conditions contributed to 133 fatal collisions in 2019 (9%). (RRCGB: 2019, RAS50001)

3. On what type of roads do the highest number of fatal crashes occur?

Answer: B: Rural

Of the 1,752 road deaths in 2019, the majority (57%) occurred on rural roads. A total of 653 deaths occurred on urban roads and 105 on motorways in the same period. (RRCGB: 2019, RAS30006)

4. According to the UK Highway Code, what is the stopping distance for a car travelling at 30mph?

Answer: D: 23 metres

The government's official estimates of stopping distances for a car travelling at 30mph is 23 metres (six car lengths). When travelling at 20mph the estimated stopping distance falls to 12 metres (3 car lengths).

These distances above are based on the assumption that the driver is alert, concentrating and not impaired. Stopping distances include the distance travelled while the driver notices a hazard and applies the brakes (thinking distance), and while the vehicle comes to a full stop from its initial speed (braking distance).

The braking distance depends on how fast the vehicle was travelling before the brakes were applied, and is proportional to the square of the initial speed. That means even small increases in speed mean significantly longer braking distances. Braking distances are much longer for larger and heavier vehicles, and in wet or icy conditions.

In 2017, Brake called for stopping distances published in the UK Highway Code to be increased, revealing data that suggested that drivers' thinking times were underestimated. Find out more at: <https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/speed/stopping-distances>.

5. By how much would the number of crashes on British roads fall if average speeds reduced by just 1mph?

Answer: C: 5%

Studies by the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) have found reducing average speeds by 1mph would reduce the number of collisions on Britain's roads by 5%. (Taylor et al (2002), TRL report 421L The effects of drivers speed on the frequency of road accidents).

6. ISA is an advanced driver assistance system that helps prevent road crashes. What does ISA stand for?

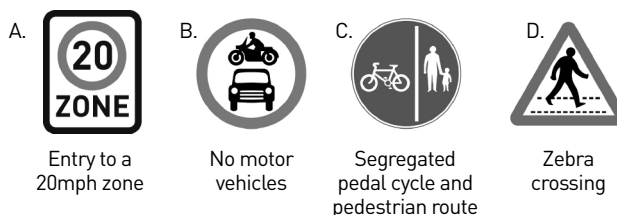
Answer: C: Intelligent Speed Assistance

The European Commission describes Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA) as: "A range of technologies which are designed to aid drivers in observing the appropriate speed for the road environment." ISA identifies if a vehicle is exceeding a speed limit and can control the vehicle to below a limit either: without the ability for the driver to override it (mandatory ISA); or with the ability to override it (voluntary ISA). Voluntary ISA alerts a driver to the fact they are about to break a limit through a vibration in the accelerator pedal. The driver can override the system by putting their foot down. ISA is much more effective than Speed Limit Information (SLI) systems that simply warn a driver, either through a visual sign or audio, if they are about to break a limit. ISA identifies the speed limit on a stretch of road through a digital road map containing information about limits, that is accessed via GPS, or from speed limit signs (known as a 'beacon system').

New vehicle safety standards approved by the European Parliament in 2019 include mandatory installation of driver assistance systems, including Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA). Road safety experts estimate the measures included in the new standards could save 25,000 lives in 15 years.

7. What do the following road signs mean?

Answers:



8. How many drivers break the speed limit in 30mph zones?

Answer: A: 54%

In 2019, 54% of cars exceeded the speed limit on 30mph roads. Half of vehicles (50%) also broke the speed limit on motorways and 9% broke the speed limit on national speed limit single carriageways. Similar relative patterns were seen for most vehicle types across all road types. (Vehicle speed compliance statistics for Great Britain: 2019)

9. What proportion of car and van drivers leave the recommended two-second gap between themselves and the vehicle in front?

Answer: B: Three-quarters

Fewer cars and vans (75%) and motorcycles (64%) were seen leaving the minimum recommended two second gap between themselves and the vehicle in front than articulated Heavy Goods Vehicles (88%), rigid HGVs (82%) or buses (84%) in 2019. (Vehicle speed compliance statistics for Great Britain: 2019)

10. What speed is recommended by the World Health Organization as most appropriate in place where people live, work and play?

Answer: A: 20mph

The World Health Organization states in its document on speed management:

"A safe speed on roads with possible conflicts between cars and pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users is 30 km/h (20mph)" (World Health Organization (2017), Managing speed)