

Students Are Safer When Drivers Slow Down

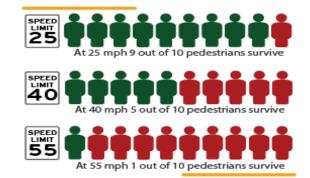
Traffic Safety is Important to Everyone Driving the speed limit reduces risk of injury and serious harm for drivers, passengers, and pedestrians. Make a deliberate choice to slow down, focus only on driving, and consistently wear a seat belt to demonstrate you care. Traffic safety culture is driven by daily choices. Together we make the roads safer for our children and youth!

Tell the Story Connect with concerned stakeholders and decision makers to slow speeds and mobilize your community. Share your data, issue a call to action, and engage community members:

- ⇒ Brainstorm solutions with your school board, city council, or county commissioners after a data presentation. Parents will also be interested!
- ⇒ Share <u>safety messages</u> in your social media to promote a traffic safety culture in school zones and other places children and youth visit in your community.
- ⇒ Use your data to craft a competitive Safe <u>Routes</u> to <u>School grant</u> to make infrastructure changes to improve safety.

Slow Speeds to Keep Kids Safe Speeding increases danger for everyone crossing streets or driving, walking, or rolling to school. Take these steps to slow down and improve student safety:

- ♦ Start or support a student safety patrol program. The <u>AAA Safety Patrol Operations</u> Manual is an excellent 'how-to' resource.
- Apply for <u>WTSC mini-grants</u> to fund school crossing guard programs or for local law enforcement to purchase equipment for school zone speed enforcement.
- Use this data brief and the <u>Speed Safety</u> <u>Cameras Enforcement Guide</u> to educate and support decision makers to adopt automated enforcement to slow speeds around critical places kids live, learn, play, and travel.
- Explore lowering speeds to 20 MPH on school walk routes to protect school children and families.



Online Resources

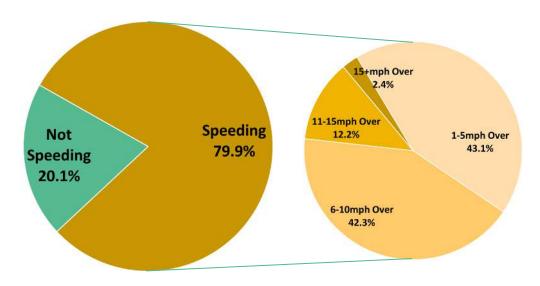
- ⇒ Use the <u>Walkability Checklist (Spanish)</u> to decide if your neighborhood, school walk route, or community is a friendly place to walk. Your school zone speeding data may help you take steps to make walking and riding in your community safer.
- ⇒ Bust myths and use the <u>Prevent Pedestrian Crashes</u> guide to teach kids 10 years old and younger traffic safety skills. You may refresh your own skills, too!
- ⇒ Talk with preteens and teens using these talking points to <u>Prevent Teen Pedestrian Crashes</u>. How long has it been since you earned your driver's license? Things may have changed since then.
- ⇒ Get to know and work with your <u>regional Target Zero Manager</u>, a traffic safety professional interested in your community and your safety! They are willing partners and have resources to promote traffic safety for everyone.

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.," Margaret Wheatley.



Hewins Early Learning Center Survey Results

October 11, 2022—Afternoon				How fast are SPEEDING DRIVERS going?			
Posted Speed/ Vehicle Action	Total Driver Observations (n=)	NOT Speeding Driver	Speeding Driver	Speeding 1-5 mph over	Speeding 6-10 mph over	Speeding 11-15 mph over	Speeding 15+ mph over
School Zone Area (2:30-3:30p.m. 25 mph)	154	20.1%	79.9% (n=123)	43.1% (n=53)	42.3% (n=52)	12.2% (n=15)	2.4% (n=3)
Entering School	32	31.3%	68.8% (n=22)	72.7% (n=16)	27.3% (n=6)	0%	0%
School Bus	8	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Passing Through	114	11.4%	88.6% (n=101)	36.6% (n=37)	45.5% (n=46)	14.9% (n=15)	3% (n=3)
All Drivers	154	20.1%	79.9% (n=123)	43.1% (n=53)	42.3% (n=52)	12.2% (n=15)	2.4% (n=3)



Observation Notes

Observations were conducted on A Street S near the school entrance. There are sidewalks in front of the learning center but not on the routes leading to the center. There are ample shoulders on both sides of A Street S. There are no flashing beacons or marked crosswalks. There are yellow school crossing signs marking the school zone on both approaches. The regular posted speed is 25 mph.



Survey results show:

- ⇒ About three-fourths of drivers observed exceeded the posted speed, half of whom were exceeding the limit by 6 mph or more.
- ⇒ Drivers passing through the area were more likely to be speeding than drivers entering the school however two-thirds of drivers entering the school were traveling faster than 25 mph.
- ⇒ Eight bus drivers were observed and all followed the 25 mph posted speed limit.
- ⇒ Eighteen drivers passing through the area were observed exceeding the posted speed by 11 mph or more, three of whom were traveling over 40 mph.
- ⇒ Just over half of drivers observed were traveling 30 mph or less.