



## 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, create care and concern, issue a call to action, and engage community members:

- ⇒ Provide and collect a [parent-teen driving agreement](#) when students apply for a school parking permit to promote safe driving expectations
- ⇒ Adopt the free peer-to-peer [Teens in the Driver Seat program](#) to reduce risks and raise cash funds for your school club.
- ⇒ Encourage drivers 16-25 to use the free [You in the Driver Seat app](#) to earn free gift card rewards for safe driving. [Provide your mailing address](#) to request app cards to share with teens.

**Slower Speeds Save Lives** Speeding increases danger for everyone crossing streets or driving, walking, or rolling to school. Take these steps to slow traffic and improve student safety:

- ◇ Use this data brief and the [Speed Safety Cameras Readiness Guide](#) to educate 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.
- ◇ Engage teens with [traffic safety contests and scholarships](#) with cash awards!
- ◇ Share [safety messages](#) in your social media to promote a traffic safety culture in school zones and other places children and youth visit in your community.



Capital High School HOSA-Future Health Professionals, Olympia, WA, receives their \$500 State Farm award for completing two *Teens in the Driver Seat* modules.

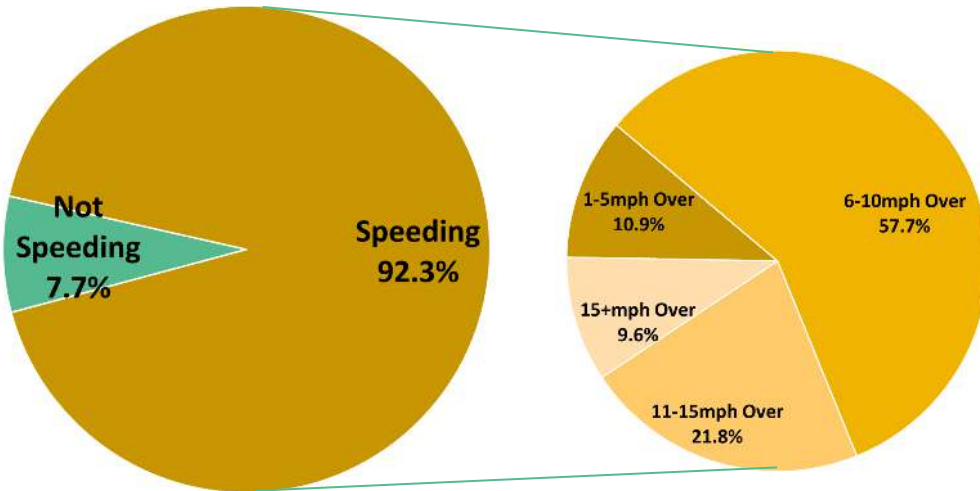
### Online Resources

- ⇒ Use the [Walkability Checklist \(Spanish\)](#) 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.
- ⇒ Talk with preteens and teens using these talking points to [Prevent Teen Pedestrian Crashes](#). How long has it been since you earned your driver’s license? Things may have changed since then.
- ⇒ Find [US Department of Transportation funding](#) to support increased safe bike and pedestrian pathways to where teens and families want to go. Use the [Let’s Get Together: A Guide for Engaging Communities and Creating Change](#) to incorporate allies outside your learning community.
- ⇒ Get to know and work with your [regional Target Zero Manager](#), a traffic safety professional interested in your community and your safety! They are willing partners and have resources to promote traffic safety for everyone.



# Washington High School Survey Results

March 8, 2023—Morning			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
A.M. School Zone (20 mph)	169	7.7%	92.3% (n=156)	10.9% (n=17)	57.7% (n=90)	21.8% (n=34)	9.6% (n=15)
Entering School	58	20.7%	79.3% (n=46)	19.6% (n=9)	60.9% (n=28)	10.9% (n=5)	8.7% (n=4)
School Bus	9	11.1%	88.9% (n=8)	25.0% (n=2)	37.5% (n=3)	25.0% (n=2)	12.5% (n=1)
Passing Through	102	0.0%	100.0% (n=102)	5.9% (n=6)	57.8% (n=59)	26.5% (n=27)	9.8% (n=10)



## Survey results show:

- ⇒ The majority of drivers did not travel 20 mph in the school zone, and all drivers that were traveling 20 mph were entering the school.
- ⇒ One in three drivers observed were also traveling in excess of the regular 30 mph posted speed limit, including one-third of school bus drivers and one marked police vehicle.
- ⇒ Nearly one in ten drivers observed were traveling greater than 35 mph.
- ⇒ Five bus drivers were traveling more than 20 mph but less than 30 mph. Two bus drivers observed were traveling 32 and 35 mph in the school zone. A third bus driver was observed traveling 47 mph on Ainsworth Ave. S., the fastest vehicle observed during the survey.

## Observation Notes

Observations were collected near the front of the school on Ainsworth Ave. S. There is a single 20 mph when children are present school zone sign and the regular posted speed is 30 mph. There are school crosswalk signs in both directions, however there are no marked crosswalks on Ainsworth Ave. S. There are no sidewalks but there are worn walking paths on the shoulder with small concrete barrier separations from the travel lanes. The area is surrounded by residential housing.

