



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.



Mossyrock High School Survey Results

January 30, 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)	137	31.4%	62.9% (n=94)	4.3% (n=4)	54.3% (n=51)	29.8% (n=28)	11.7% (n=11)
Entering School	23	43.5%	56.5% (n=13)	0.0% (n=0)	61.5% (n=8)	30.8% (n=4)	7.7% (n=1)
School Bus	4	85.7%	14.3% (n=1)	0.0% (n=0)	0.0% (n=0)	100.0% (n=1)	0.0% (n=0)
Passing Through	7	25.2%	74.8% (n=80)	5.0% (n=4)	53.8% (n=43)	28.8% (n=23)	12.5% (n=10)



Survey results show:

- ⇒ Nearly two-thirds of drivers observed were exceeding the 20 mph speed limit.
- ⇒ Over 40% of speeding drivers were traveling greater than 30 mph, and one in ten speeding drivers traveled greater than 35 mph in the school zone.
- ⇒ Three out of four school bus drivers observed traveled 20 mph or less, however one was traveling greater than 30 mph in the school zone.
- ⇒ Drivers passing through were slightly more likely to be speeding than drivers entering the school lots.
- ⇒ The observers noted that several drivers had to “slam on their brakes” when children were in crosswalks due to the high travel speeds of the drivers.

Observation Notes

Observations were collected directly across from the school on Williams Street. The regular posted speed on Williams Street is 20 mph and there is a speed feedback sign. There is also school crossings signage. The school is surrounded by rural residential housing, and Williams Street connects Highway 12 to State Street. There are several marked crosswalks and students were observed using the crosswalks.

