

ROAD SAFETY: Preventing Injury and Saving Lives Globally

BY THE NUMBERS

>1.25 million

More than 1.25 million people are killed each year in road crashes

48%

People between 15 and 44 years of age account for 48% of global road traffic deaths

90%

90% of road traffic deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries despite having just 54% of the world's vehicles

The Issue

Road traffic injuries are a global public health crisis and the leading cause of death for young people 15-29 years old. Road traffic injuries result in as many as 50 million serious injuries per year.

Walking, riding bicycles, and using motorcycles are popular forms of transportation in low- and middle-income countries, but people traveling in these ways must share road space with fast moving cars and trucks, putting them at higher risk of injury or death from road traffic crashes.

The United Nations General Assembly has called on countries to reduce the number of road deaths by 50% as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. By decreasing speeding and drink-driving (drinking alcohol and driving), and by increasing the use of motorcycle helmets, seat belts, and child safety seats, we can save millions of lives.

“I am convinced we can achieve safer, cleaner, and more affordable transport solutions that benefit the poor, create resilient economies, and save millions of lives.”

Jim Yong Kim, President, The World Bank Group

CDC's Response

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides direct technical assistance to governmental and non-governmental organizations to:

- Build better systems to collect and analyze data on road traffic injuries
- Use data to plan and evaluate programs and develop policy



Motorcyclists on a busy street in Ho Chi Minh City.



CDC'S Response (continued)

CDC's global road safety projects include:

- **Surveillance:** Collaborating on surveillance projects with the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC) and the Thailand Ministry of Public Health
- **Monitoring and evaluation:** Providing assistance to the Asia Injury Prevention Foundation to collect and evaluate data for the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI) in Cambodia
- **Mentorship:** Providing annual mini-grants to 3-5 Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) residents working on road traffic injury
- **Training:** Offering training on road traffic injury surveillance

Our Partners

- Asia Injury Prevention Foundation
- Chinese Center for Disease Control
- FIA Foundation
- Field Epidemiology Training Program
- Thailand Ministry of Public Health
- United Nations Road Safety Collaboration
- World Health Organization

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/global/index.html>

Cambodian motorcyclists leave a road safety workshop while wearing new helmets.

