

COSTA RICA



Population: 4 658 887
 Income group: Middle
 Gross national income per capita: US\$ 6 860

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Lead agency	Council on Road Safety
Funded in national budget	No
National road safety strategy	Yes
Funding to implement strategy	Partially funded
Fatality reduction targets set	Yes (2007–2011)
Fatality reduction target	19%

SAFER ROADS AND MOBILITY

Formal audits required for new road construction	Yes
Regular inspections of existing road infrastructure	Parts of networks
Policies to promote walking or cycling	No
Policies to encourage investment in public transport	No
Policies to separate road users to protect VRUs	Yes

SAFER VEHICLES

Total registered vehicles (2009)	923 591
Cars and 4-wheeled light vehicles	605 943
Motorized 2- and 3-wheelers	141 470
Heavy trucks	162 179
Buses	13 999
Other	0
Vehicle standards applied	
UN World forum on harmonization of vehicles standards	No
New car assessment programme	No
Vehicle regulations	
Front and rear seat-belts required in all new cars	— ^a
Front and rear seat-belts required all imported cars	Yes

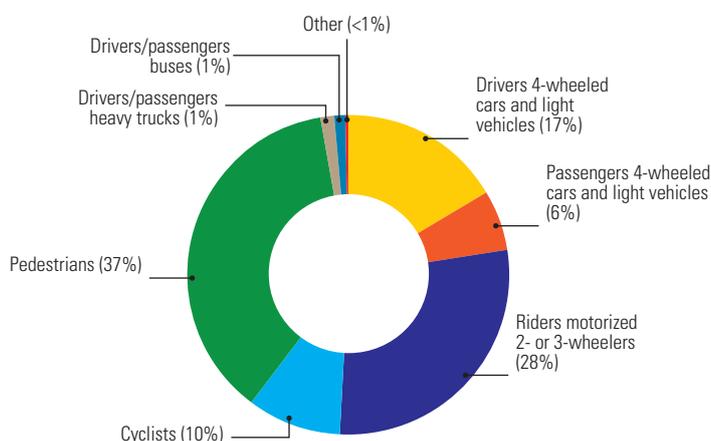
^a No car manufacturers/assemblers.

DATA

Reported road traffic fatalities (2009)	721 ^b , 87%M, 13%F
Estimated GDP lost due to road traffic crashes	—

^b Vital registration data. Defined as died within a year of crash.

DEATHS BY ROAD USER CATEGORY



Source: 2009, Judicial Branch.

SAFER ROAD USERS

Penalty/demerit point system in place	Yes
National speed limits	Yes
Local authorities can set lower limits	No
Maximum limit urban roads	40 km/h
Enforcement	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
National drink-driving law	Yes
BAC limit – general population	0.05 g/dl
BAC limit – young or novice drivers	0.05 g/dl
BAC limit – professional/commercial drivers	0.05 g/dl
Random breath testing and/or police checkpoints	Yes
Enforcement	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
% road traffic deaths involving alcohol	—
National motorcycle helmet law	Yes
Applies to drivers and passengers	Yes
Helmet standard mandated	No
Enforcement	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Helmet wearing rate	99.5% Drivers ^c 99% Passengers ^d
National seat-belt law	Yes
Applies to front and rear seat occupants	Yes
Enforcement	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Seat-belt wearing rate	79% Front seats ^d 48% Rear seats ^d
National child restraint law	Yes
Enforcement	0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
National law on mobile phones while driving	Yes
Law prohibits hand-held mobile phone use	Yes
Law also applies to hands-free mobile phones	No

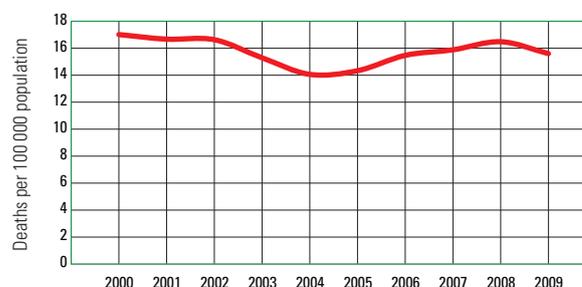
^c 2009, Helmet Study.

^d 2004, Seat-belt Survey.

POST-CRASH CARE

Vital registration system	Yes
Emergency Room based injury surveillance system	Yes
Emergency access telephone number(s)	911
Seriously injured transported by ambulance	50–74%
Permanently disabled due to road traffic crash	—
Emergency medicine training for doctors	Yes
Emergency medicine training for nurses	Yes

TRENDS IN ROAD TRAFFIC DEATHS



Source: 2009, Judicial Branch, National Institute for Statistics and Census.

Further data on each country can be found in the statistical annex.