

DRINK-DRIVING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

SMART Policies in Tackling Drink Driving in Bulgaria

Sofia, 4 July 2019

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European Transport Safety Council



- ✓ A science based approach to road safety
- ✓ Secretariat in Brussels
- ✓ 57 member organisations from across Europe
- ✓ More than 200 experts contributing to ETSC's work
- ✓ The European Commission, Member Organisations, Member States and corporate sponsors are funding our work

ETSC ACTIVITIES



Monitoring EU
transport
safety policy



Road Safety
Performance
Index (PIN)



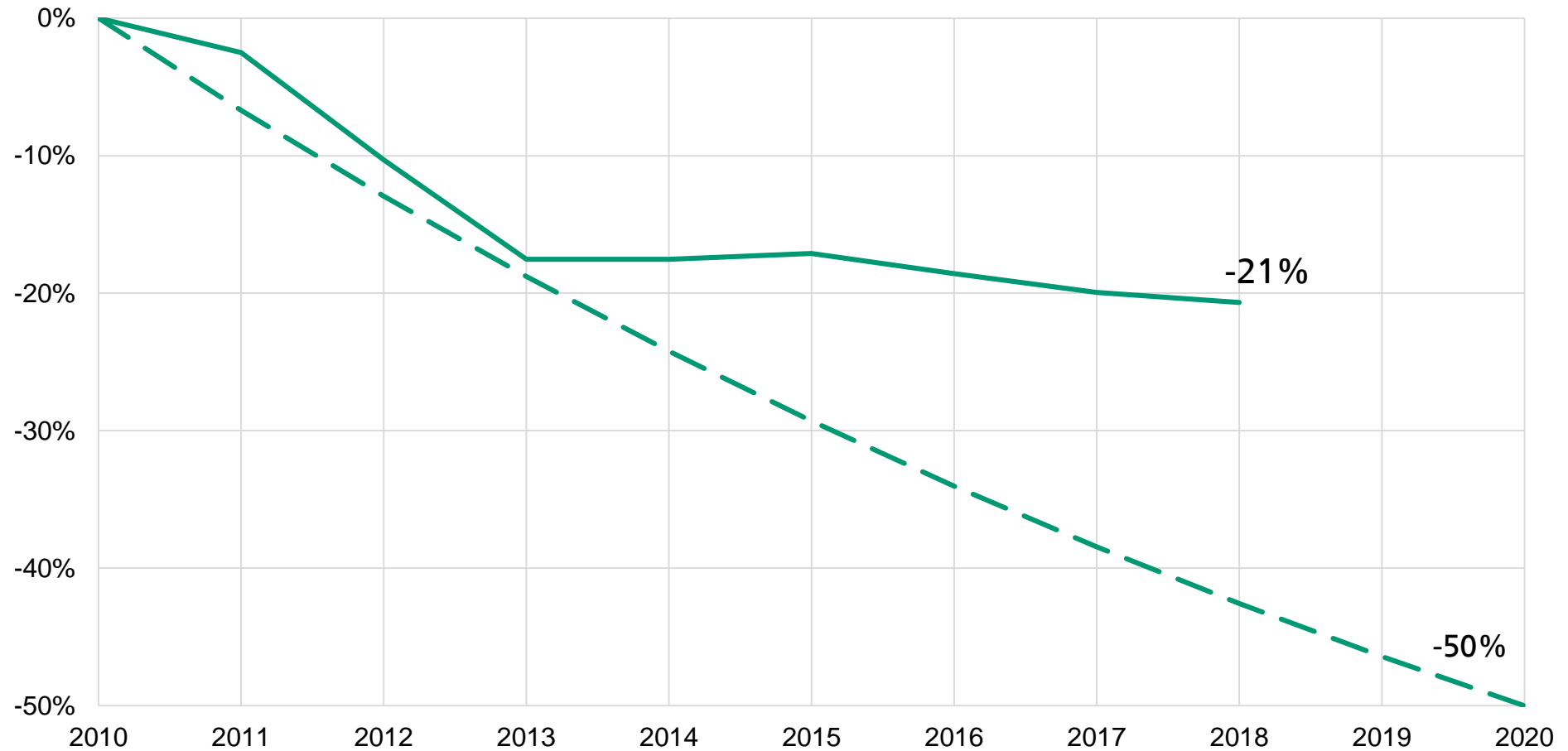


**2014-2018
bad years
for road
safety**

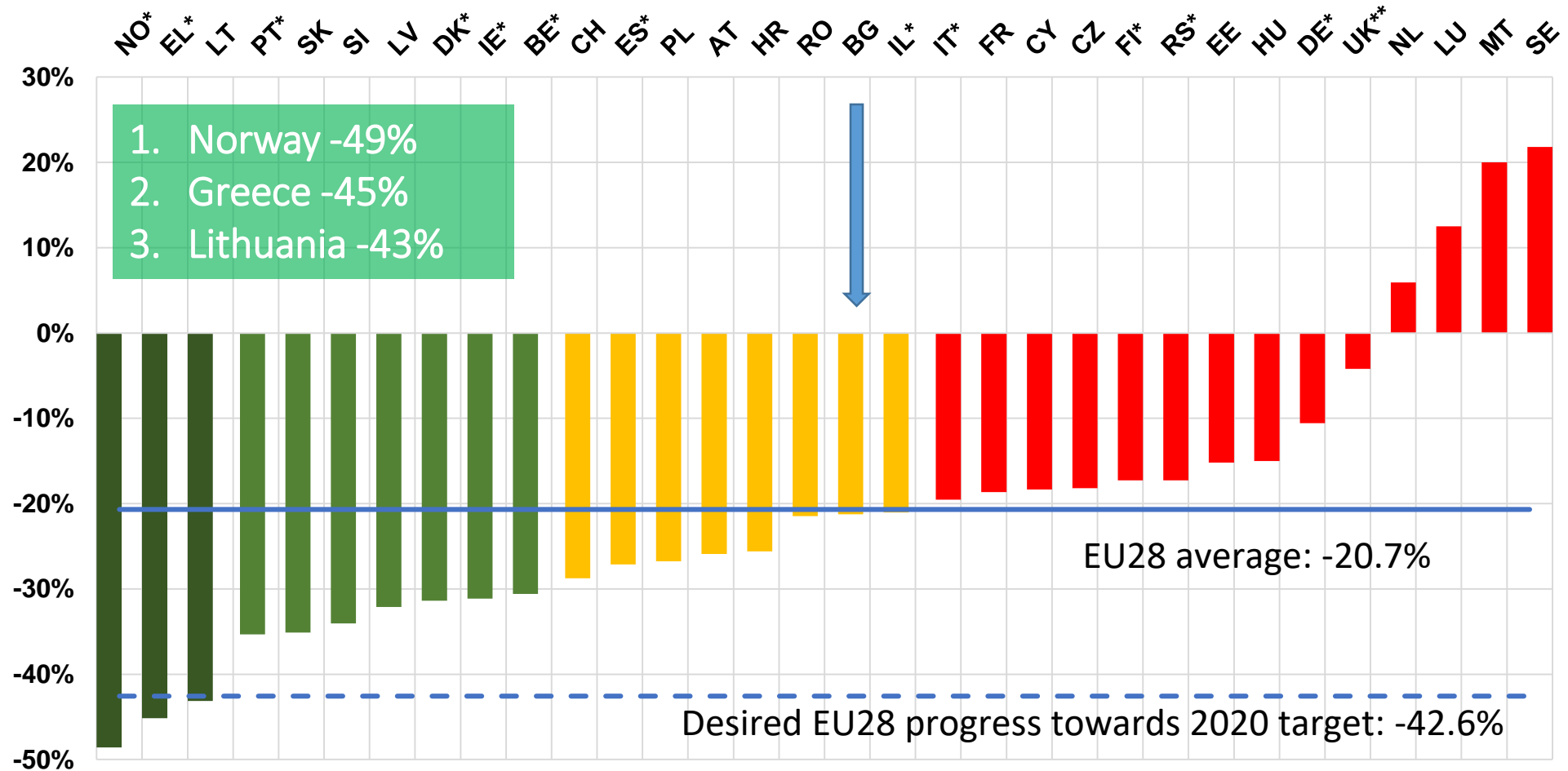
25,047

people died in road
traffic in the EU in 2018

A WIDENING GAP BETWEEN THE ACTUAL AND DESIRED PROGRESS



RELATIVE CHANGE (%) IN ROAD DEATHS 2010-2018



DRINK-DRIVING FROM MYTH TO SCIENCE



DRINK-DRIVING IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

While the dangers linked to drink driving are fairly well understood, the phenomenon is still widespread in the EU:

- Up to 1.5 - 2% of KM driven in the EU are driven with an illegal Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC);
- According to the SARTRE survey, 31% of car drivers in Europe reported to have driven after consuming some amount of alcohol;
- Alcohol related crashes are the leading cause of death in the age group 16-25.



25%

of all road deaths in the EU are
alcohol-related

Source: EC

DRINK-DRIVING DATA COLLECTION

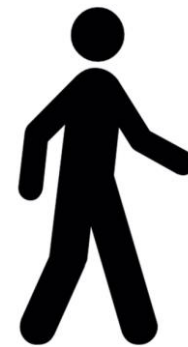


- **Different definitions**
- **Road users not tested systematically**
- **Legal constraints**
- **Police data does not give a full picture**



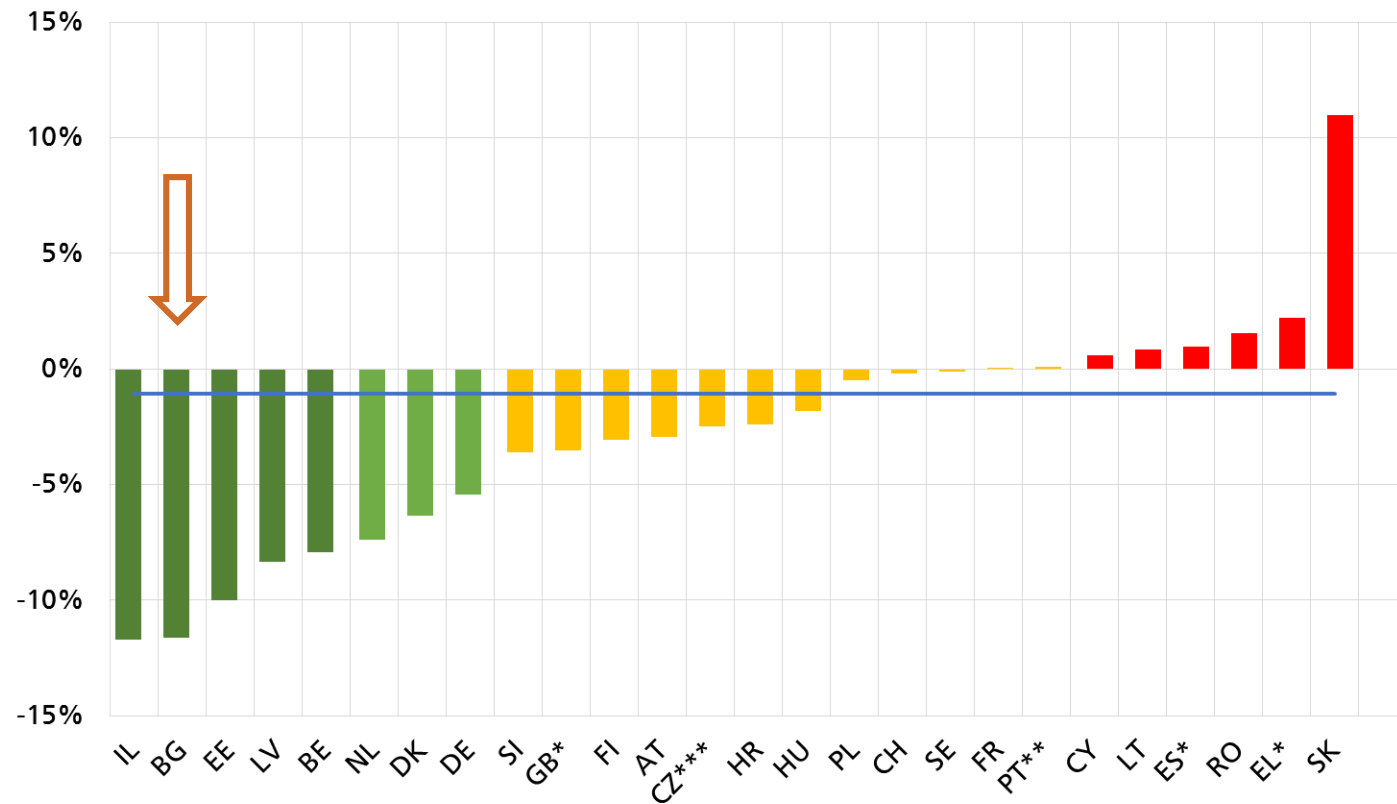
DRINK-DRIVING DATA COLLECTION

Every driver, rider and walker involved in a fatal and serious collision should be tested systematically



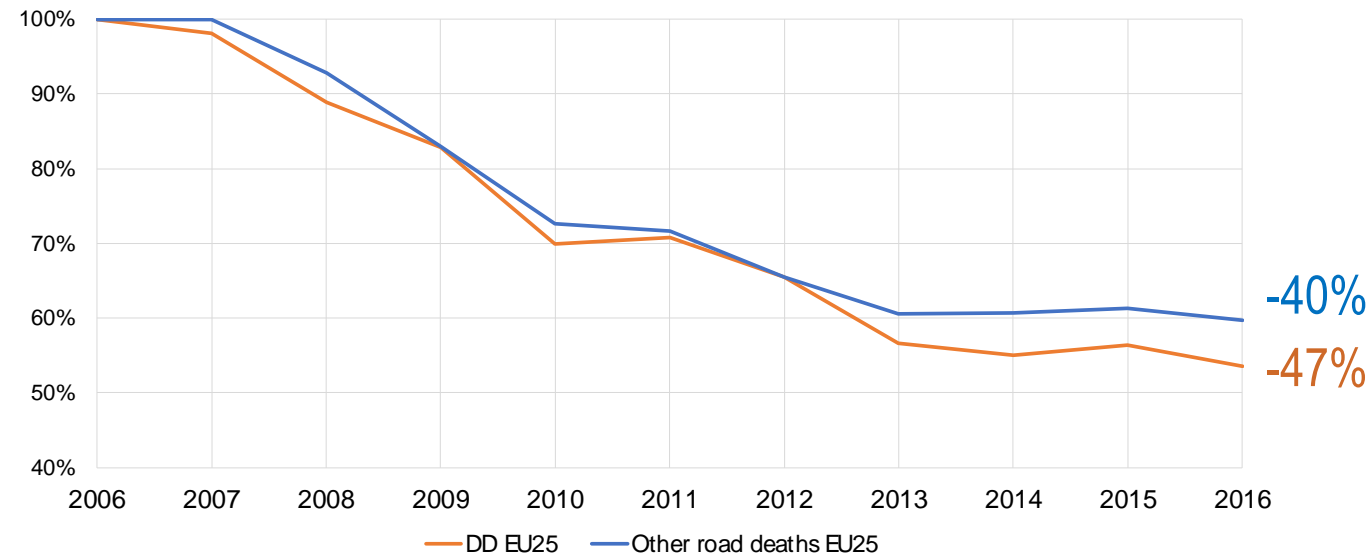
PROGRESS IN TACKLING DRINK DRIVING 2006 - 2016

Difference between the average annual percentage change in deaths attributed to drink driving and corresponding change in other road deaths



PROGRESS IN TACKLING DRINK DRIVING 2006 - 2016

Relative developments in road deaths attributed to alcohol and other road deaths in 25 EU Countries 2006-2016



BAC LIMITS ACROSS THE EU

- An increasing number of countries are lowering their BAC limits to be in line with EU recommendation 2001 on maximum BAC legal limit
- 22 EU countries apply lower BAC for novice drivers (0.0 – 0.2)
- 20 EU countries apply lower BAC for professional drivers (0.0 to 0.2 BAC)



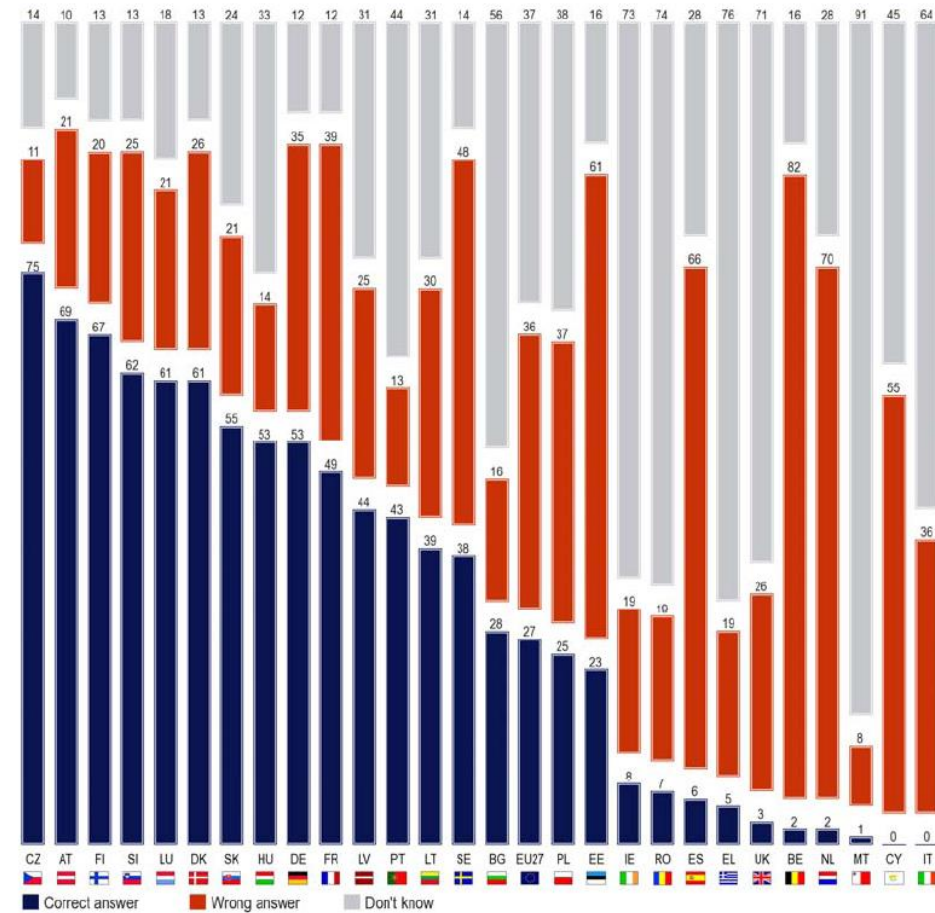
	Standard BAC	BAC Commercial drivers	BAC Novice Drivers
Czech Republic	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia	0.2	0.2	0.2
Poland	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sweden	0.2	0.2	0.2
Lithuania	0.4	0.0	0.0
Croatia	0.5	0.0	0.0
Germany	0.5	0.0	0.0
Italy	0.5	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	0.5	0.0	0.0
Austria	0.5	0.1	0.1
Belgium	0.5	0.2	0.5
Cyprus	0.5	0.2	0.2
Greece	0.5	0.2	0.2
Malta	0,5	0,2	0,2
Ireland	0.5	0.2	0.2
Luxembourg	0.5	0.2	0.2
Portugal	0.5	0.2	0.2
Spain	0.5	0.3	0.3
Latvia	0.5	0.5 (0.2 bus/tram drivers)	0.2
France	0.5	0.5 (0.2 bus drivers)	0.2
Netherlands	0.5	0.5	0.2
Bulgaria	0.5	0.5	0.5
Denmark	0.5	0.5	0.5
Finland	0,5	0,5	0,5

AWARENESS NEEDS TO BE REINFORCED

- On average only 27% of respondents knew the legal BAC limit
- 36% gave a wrong answer
- 37% did not know



Eurobarometer, Oct. 2010



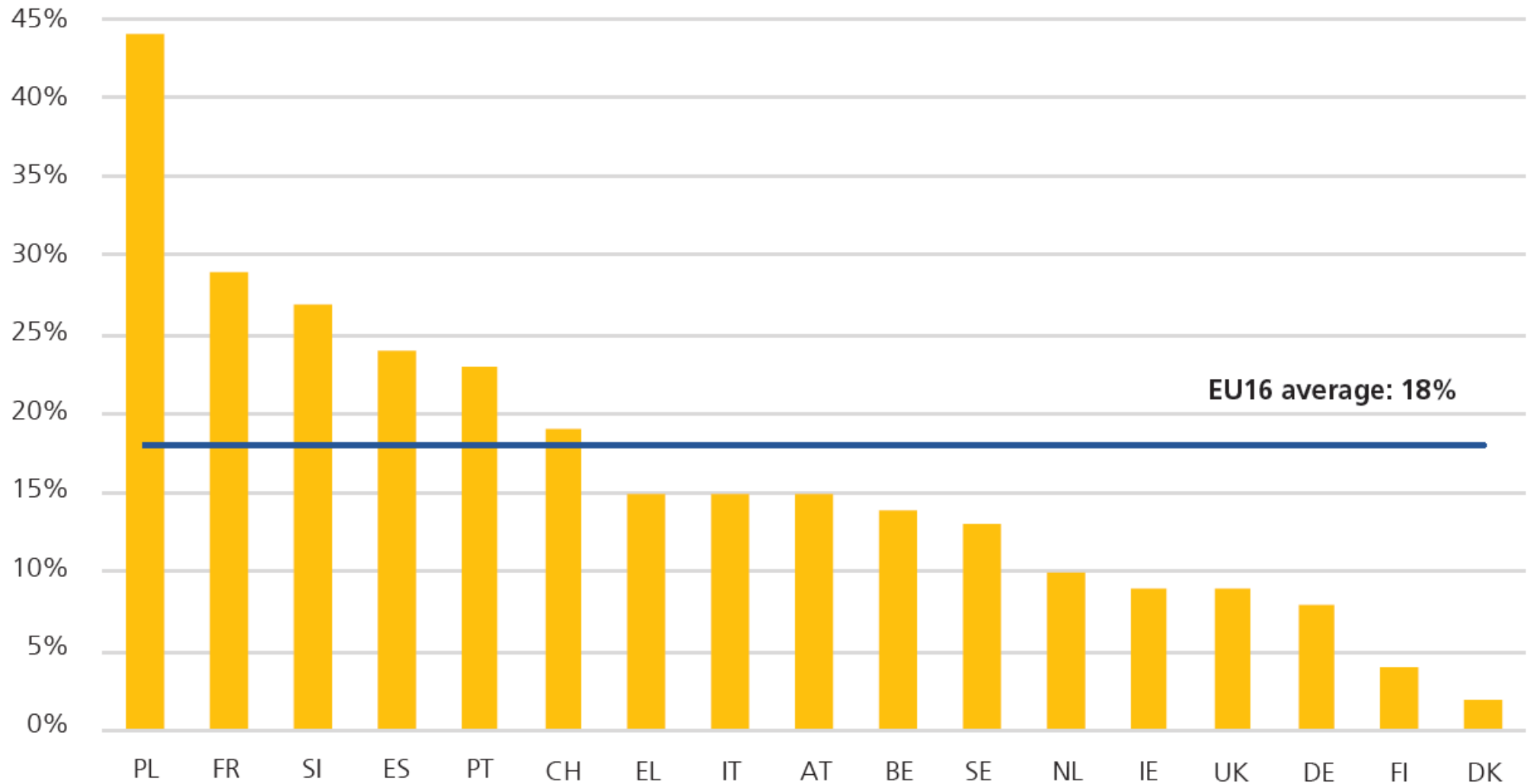
DRINK-DRIVING CHECKS/1000 INHABITANTS (2015)

	2015	2014	2013
Estonia	677	572	470
Poland	466	405	234
Finland	279	286	149
Austria	189	214	209
Slovenia	156	186	184
Greece	n/a	166	163
France	152	164	160
Hungary	135	124	121
Cyprus	135	138	146
Sweden	130	205	234
Romania	72	73	75
Eng/Wales	n/a	11	12



Not available in
 Belgium
 Czech Rep.
 Germany
 Denmark
 Croatia
 Luxembourg
 Latvia
 Netherlands
 Slovakia

ONLY 18% OF ROAD USERS THINK THEY ARE VERY LIKELY TO BE TESTED FOR DRINK-DRIVING ON A REGULAR JOURNEY



ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS & REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES

As part of rehabilitation programs imposed as a condition for driver's license recovery

Studies repeatedly shown alcohol interlocks combined with **rehabilitation programmes** cut reoffending rates



ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS

ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS IN THE EU



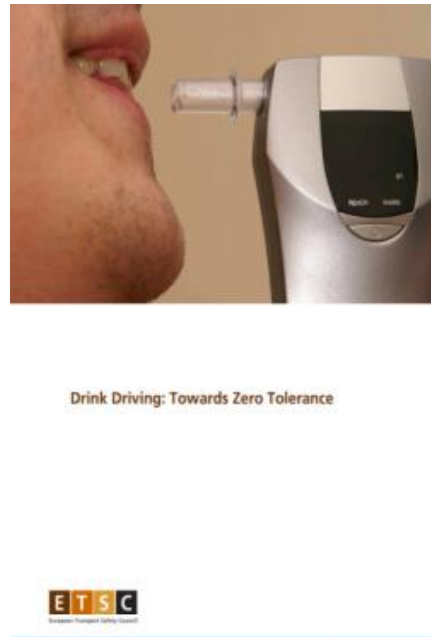
Increasingly used across Europe for professional drivers and in rehabilitation programs for drink driving offenders



RECOMMENDATIONS

Member States

- Zero tolerance
- Minimum targets for alcohol checks
- Systematic breath-testing in all Police checks
- Rehabilitation programmes for DUI offenders and higher penalties to address recidivism
- Campaigns raising awareness of drink-driving risk
- Alcohol interlocks to repeat offenders and professional drivers



European Union

- Zero tolerance for commercial and novice drivers
- Adoption of standardized definitions of alcohol-related collisions
- Uniform standards for alcohol interlocks in Europe
- Legislate for a consistently high level of reliability of alcohol interlock devices
- Legislate their use for professional drivers

FIND OUT MORE



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PROGRESS IN REDUCING DRINK DRIVING IN EUROPE

February 2018



ALCOHOL INTERLOCKS AND DRINK DRIVING REHABILITATION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Best practice and guidelines for Member States

