

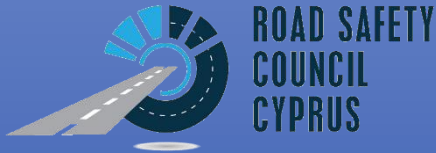


REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT,
COMMUNICATIONS AND
WORKS



PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT



ROAD SAFETY
COUNCIL
CYPRUS

REDUCING CHILD DEATHS ON EUROPEAN ROADS

AN ETSC ONLINE EVENT

Panel Discussion:

**Promoting the safe mobility of children on
European roads; the perspective of Cyprus**

14 DECEMBER 2022

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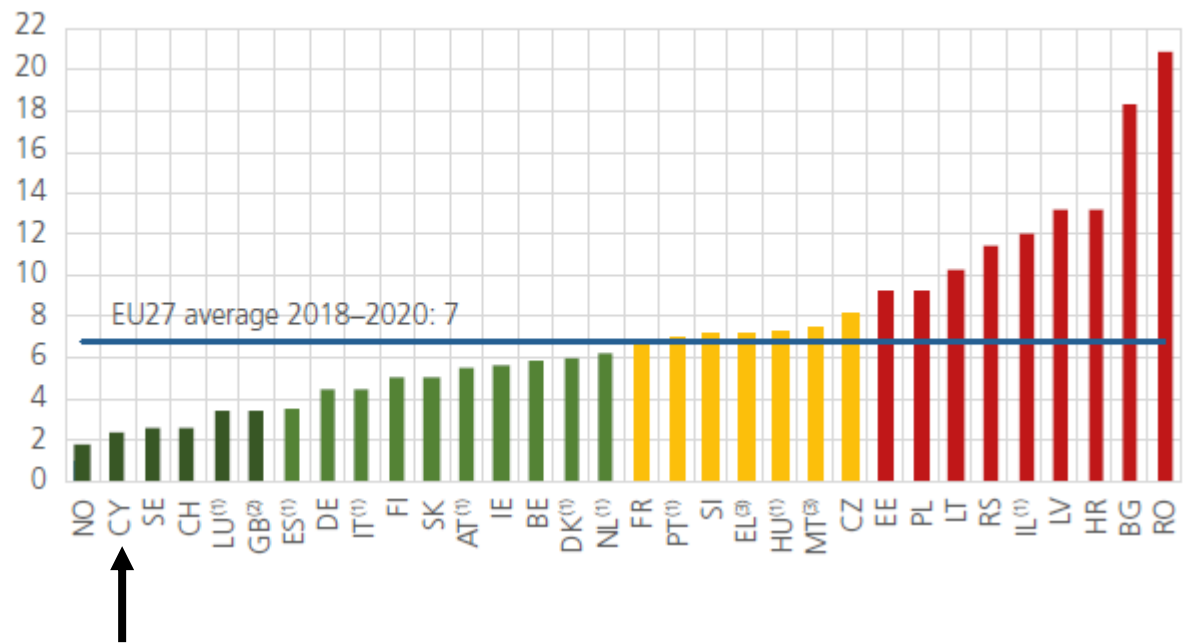
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Panel Discussion: Promoting the safe mobility of children on European roads; the perspective of Cyprus

PIN Flash Report 43 “Reducing child deaths on European Roads”

Figure 3 Child road deaths per million child population. Average number for 2019–2021 or the last three years available.
 (1)2018–2020
 (2)2017–2019
 (3)2018–2019



CY has the second lowest among EU in child road deaths per million of child population (average for 2019-2021 period)



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The above result may be attributed to (1/3):

- **Culture** – children being driven by their parents/ guardians to school rather than walking and cycling; especially the case for primary school students (under 12 years old).
- Special **school bus routes** for public school students aged 12-18, between area of residence and school.
- **Infrastructure:**
 - **Traffic calming** on roads surrounding school areas (raised pedestrian crossings, road humps, 30 km/h speed).
 - Introduction of **30km/h zones** and **20km/h zones** (shared space) in sensitive areas (e.g. in old town centres and conservation areas, areas with reduced road widths), combined with surface treatment.
 - Design of road network surrounding schools: pick-up/ drop-off areas, school bus stops & bays, footways, pedestrian crossings, guard railing where appropriate etc.
 - **Maintenance of signage** on roads surrounding school areas ahead of the autumn school start.



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The above result may be attributed to (2/3):

- **Enforcement:** traffic management personnel ('lollipop man/lady') stationed on busy roads and outside school entrance, to aid children en route to school during the busy school run period (AM and PM).
- **Road safety/ traffic education:**
 - Road safety education part of the curriculum of primary and lower secondary schools (also part of year 2 of upper secondary schools.)
 - In addition, road safety seminars in schools delivered by representatives of the Police and/or Road Safety Ambassadors and expert volunteers, on an annual basis in each school.
 - Students visit the Traffic Education Park in Nicosia; structured training programme run by the Police according to age; simulates the real road network conditions.



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- **Governance: All school-related road safety issues are reviewed at a national level by a Committee of national experts** consisting of the representatives of the Governmental Departments involved in the planning and design/ construction of the road network (DTPH and PWD), the Police (responsible for enforcing of the Traffic Code) and the Department of Education that is overseeing the public schools' operation, nationally. The committee meets every 3 months. Local authorities and parents' associations are also invited to participate to raise specific issues. The Committee examines aspects related to:
 - Proposing solutions to road safety problems at existing schools
 - Design guidance for new schools at the final design stage, where road safety measures are incorporated in the final construction drawings.
- **Other measures we are working on:**
 - Donating child helmets and child restraint systems;
 - Reduced VAT on child restraint systems;
 - Public awareness campaigns run by the CY Road Safety Council;
 - Expanding footways and cycle tracks/ lanes around schools.



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Planned future steps:

- Implement the actions that form part of our national Strategic Road Safety Plan 2021-2030.
- Make road safety education part of the curriculum across all educational levels and ensure a minimum number of teaching hours devoted to road safety education.
- Establish Traffic Education Parks in all main urban centres (under discussion with local authorities).
- Continue and enhance the media campaigns on road safety.
- Increase awareness and motivation through competitions, simulations, games and other informal education methods.



Thank You

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