



DRINK-DRIVING FACT FILE

February 2023



INTRODUCTION

The number of road deaths in Slovakia was reduced by 30% between 2011 and 2021, a figure that is close to the EU average. Slovakia also follows the EU average in terms of road mortality, with 41 road deaths per million population registered in 2021.

Figure 1. Relative change in road deaths between 2011 and 2021. *National provisional estimates used for 2021, as final figures for 2021 are not yet available at the time this report went to print.

**UK data for 2021 are the provisional total for Great Britain for the year ending June 2021 combined with the total for Northern Ireland for the calendar year 2021. The annual number of deaths in LU and MT are particularly small and, therefore, subject to substantial annual fluctuations. The annual numbers of deaths in CY and EE are also relatively small and may be subject to annual fluctuations.

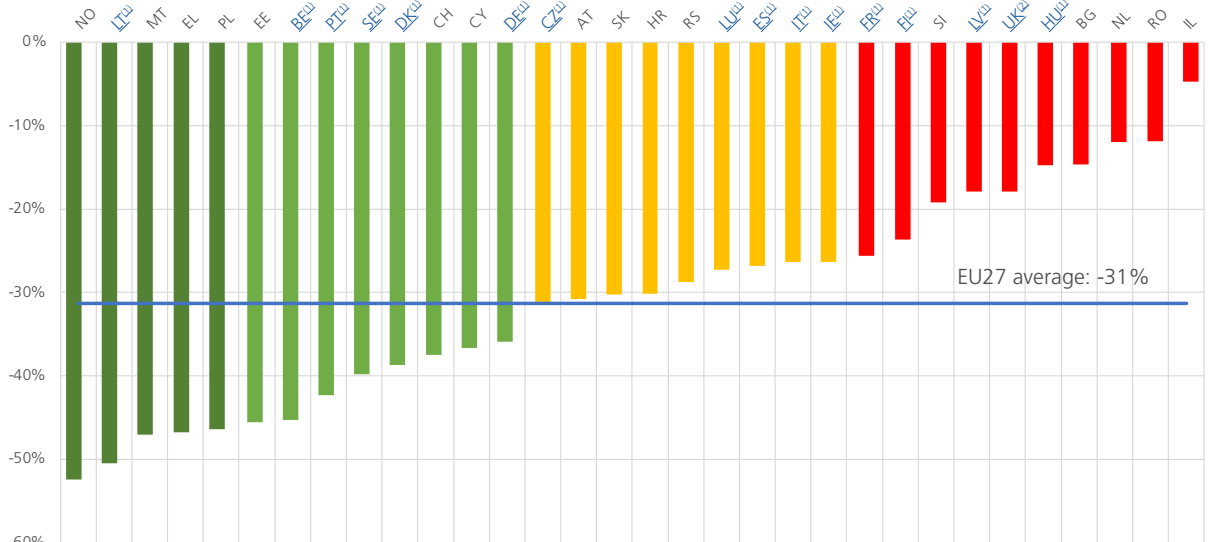
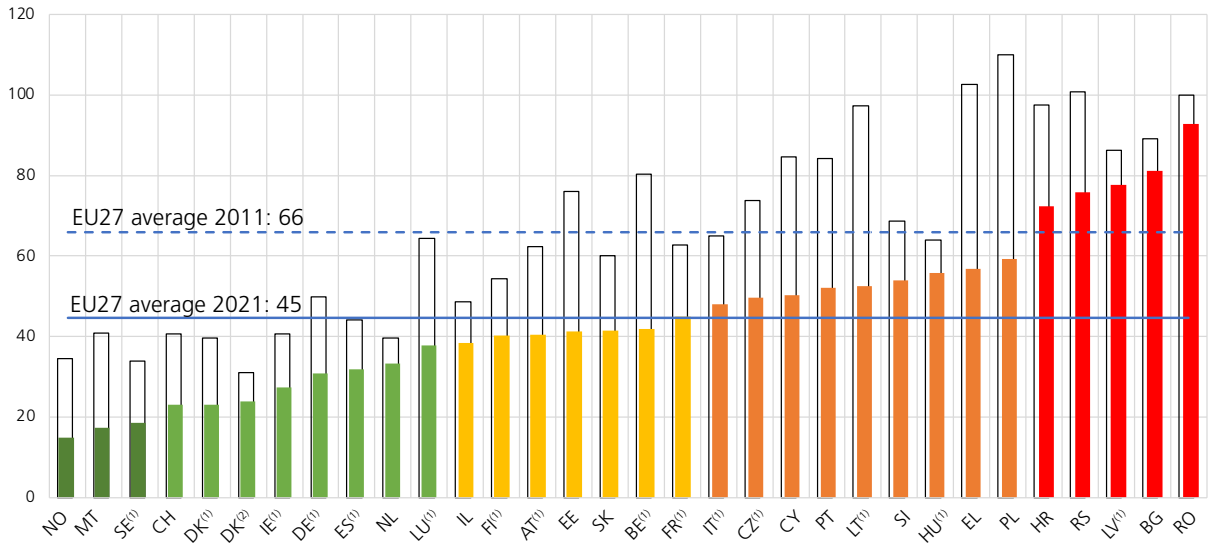


Figure 2. Mortality (road deaths per million inhabitants) in 2021 (with mortality in 2011 for comparison).

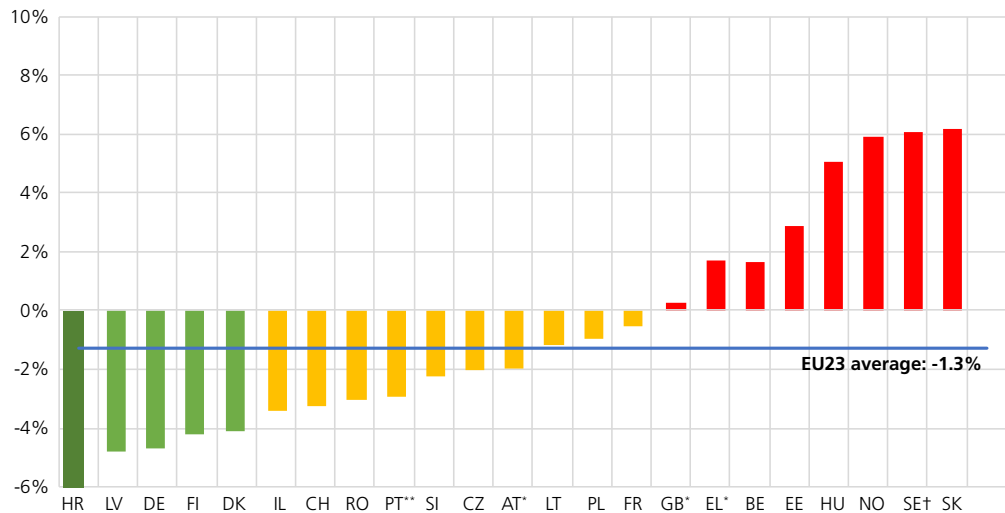
(1) National provisional estimates used for 2021, as final figures for 2021 were not available at the time this report went to print. The annual number of deaths in LU and MT are particularly small and, therefore, subject to substantial annual fluctuations. (2) UK 2021 estimate is based on GB provisional total for the year 2021 and the provisional data for Northern Ireland for the calendar year 2021, population data is an estimate for the year 2021.



All other road deaths decreased more quickly than those related to alcohol for the period 2010-2019, as shown in the graph below. In Slovakia the number of alcohol-related road deaths increased by 1.4% over the period 2010-2018, while the number of other road deaths decreased on average by 4.8% annually, leading to the 6.2 percentage point difference seen in Fig. 3.

Figure 3. Difference between the average annual change in the number of road deaths attributed to alcohol and the corresponding change for other road deaths over the period 2010-2019

(1) PT: Number of road deaths attributed to alcohol are not available, so numbers of positive forensic post-mortem tests of drivers, passengers and pedestrians were used instead.
 (2) ES: data for Catalonia and the Basque Country are not available.
 (3) RS: data collection methodology changed in 2016. Serbia is working to improve alcohol-related fatal collision data collection according to the EU guidelines on the Common Accident and Injury Database (CaDas).
 EU 23: EU 27 Member States minus Ireland, Italy, Malta and the Netherlands due to insufficient data.



In 2020, Slovakia recorded 30 road deaths caused by driving under the influence of alcohol, while in 2021 the figure increased to 35. However, alcohol tests are only carried out when alcohol is considered to be the main contributory factor of the fatal collision. Therefore it is difficult to determine the scale of the problem due to a high level of underreporting.



NATIONAL POLICIES

Timeline of national measures to tackle drink-driving:

1953

A zero blood alcohol limit was adopted for all drivers

2011

Amendment to the Criminal Code: "alcohol in the blood over 1.0g/l" was reclassified as a criminal offence

2023 (forthcoming)

Penalties for drink-driving offences resulting in serious road crashes are expected to be strengthened. The Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic has also announced the introduction of a penalty points system, which will also directly affect the way drink-driving offences are sanctioned.

1953

2011

2023

A national road safety strategy for the period 2021 – 2030 is in force with the following drink-driving measures planned to be introduced/enforced:





- Effective supervision of compliance with road traffic rules on alcohol and other addictive substances
- Awareness-raising activities focused on the risks of alcohol and other addictive substances in road traffic
- Collection and evaluation of road safety indicators in line with EU recommendations
- A sufficient number of technical devices for detecting the consumption of alcohol and other addictive substances when monitoring compliance with road traffic rules



BAC LIMITS AND SANCTIONS

The legal limit for **All drivers** is: **0.0g/l** —

Sanctions for drivers under the influence of alcohol are shown in the table below:

 BAC level (g/L)	 Fine	 Driving ban	 Imprisonment
Up to 0.5 g/l	€ 150 - € 800	Up to three years	-
Above 0.5g/l	€ 160 up to € 330 thousand*(depending on personal /economical situation)	One to 10 years + for life (depending on the severity of the offence)	Up to 12 years **(depending on the severity of the offence)

* The range of 160 euros – 330 thousand euros is a general provision for the amount of the financial penalty for any crime for which a financial penalty can be imposed as an alternative type of penalty. A financial penalty may be imposed for an offence if it is not punishable by imprisonment. When imposing a financial penalty, the court must take into account the personal situation of the offender. A financial penalty shall not be imposed by the court if it is clear that the convicted person will not be able to pay it.

**Imprisonment for up to one year for a criminal drink-driving offence (over 1.0g/l). The highest punishment (up to 12 years in prison) is imposed on a driver who has negligently killed two or more people under the influence of an addictive substance.



ENFORCEMENT

The total number of alcohol checks done by the police is not available in Slovakia.

'Systematic' breath testing is done regularly throughout the whole year (cars, motorbikes and also bicycles). Traffic police checks in 2021 found 9,307 drivers with a positive blood alcohol level. In 2020, 8,900 drivers tested positive.



REHABILITATION AND ALCOHOL INTERLOCK PROGRAMMES

No alcohol interlock programme is in force in Slovakia nor are any specific drink-driving rehabilitation courses.

A more general rehabilitation programme addressed to all offenders is in place. The police can decide on the obligation to undergo a rehabilitation program. The rehabilitation program is carried out by an assessing psychologist. The rehabilitation program for drivers consists of three group meetings and is completed within six weeks.

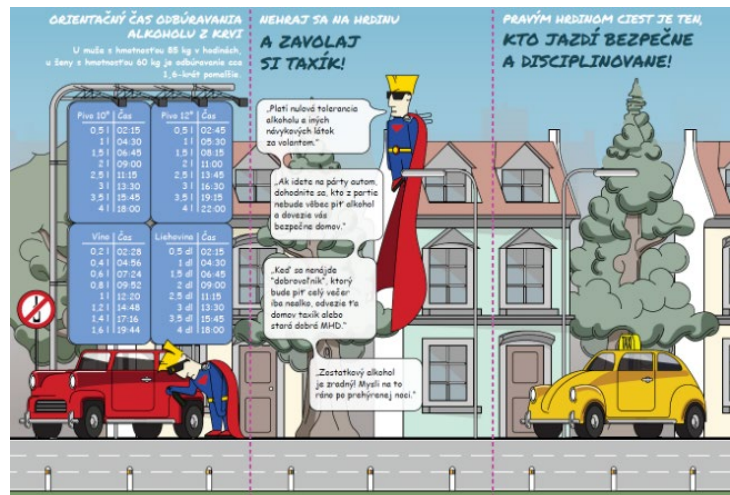


CAMPAIGNS



In 2022, a campaign was launched in major national magazines called "The future is in your hands... to return home safely" (Budúcnosť je vo Vašich rukách...aby ste sa bezpečne vrátili domov). Every month a different topic was addressed, including drink-driving.

As part of its educational activities, the Road Safety department of the Ministry of Transport (BECEP) regularly raises the public's attention to the risks associated with drinking and driving. A new flyer campaign (in the format of a comic flyer) for students and young drivers entitled "Don't play hero..." („Nehraj sa na hrdinu...“) was distributed to secondary schools.



The Don't Drink and Drive campaign was carried out in 2022 by the Slovak Police and the Slovak Beer and Malt Association. It was focused on the general public and young drivers and was launched in the national press and on social media.



BUĎTE ZODPOVEDNÍ, ŽIVOT ZA TO STOJÍ!

Skôr, ako sa pôjdete von zabaviť, porozmysľajte, ako sa budete vracat domov!

Dohodnite sa vopred, kto bude sošérovať pri návrate z zábavy a nebude piť alkohol!

DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!

BECEP
CESTA PRE ŽIVOT

www.becep.sk

ORIENTAČNÝ ČAS ODBŮRÁVANIA ALKOHOLU Z KRVI

U muža s hmotnosťou 85 kg v hodinách
*U ženy s hmotnosťou 60 kg je odčítavanie ocmu 1,6-litri pamätajte.

Pivo 10*	Čas	Pivo 12*	Čas
0,5 l	2:15	0,5 l	2:45
1 l	4:30	1 l	5:30
1,5 l	6:45	1,5 l	8:15
2 l	9:00	2 l	11:00
2,5 l	11:15	2,5 l	13:45
3 l	13:30	3 l	16:30
3,5 l	15:45	3,5 l	19:15
4 l	18:00	4 l	22:00

Vino	Čas	Liehovina	Čas
0,2 l	2:28	0,5 dl	2:15
0,4 l	4:56	1 dl	4:30
0,6 l	7:24	1,5 dl	6:45
0,8 l	9:52	2 dl	9:00
1 l	12:20	2,5 dl	11:15
1,2 l	14:48	3 dl	13:30
1,4 l	17:16	3,5 dl	15:45
1,6 l	19:44	4 dl	18:00

Soférovanie pod vplyvom alkoholu spôsobuje smrť a utrpenie častejšie, ako si myslíte!

ALKOHOL ZABÍJA!

VOĎIČI POZOR!
PLATÍ NULOVÁ TOLERANCIA!

MINISTERSTVO
DOPRAVY A VÝSTAVBY
SLOVENSKEJ REPUBLIKY

BECEP
CESTA PRE ŽIVOT



SOURCES

Sanctions:

<https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/1990/372/20220801>

<https://www.slov-lex.sk/pravne-predpisy/SK/ZZ/2005/300/20220717>

National road Safety programme:

<https://www.mindop.sk/ministerstvo-1/doprava-3/bezpecnost-cestnej-premavky>

ETSC, 16th PIN Annual Report (2022):

<https://etsc.eu/16th-annual-road-safety-performance-index-pin-report/>

ETSC, How traffic law enforcement can contribute to safer roads (2022):

<https://etsc.eu/how-traffic-law-enforcement-can-contribute-to-safer-roads-pin-flash-42/>

Campaigns:

<https://www.becep.sk/aktuality/vodici?id=299&name=buducnost-je-vo-vasich-rukach>