

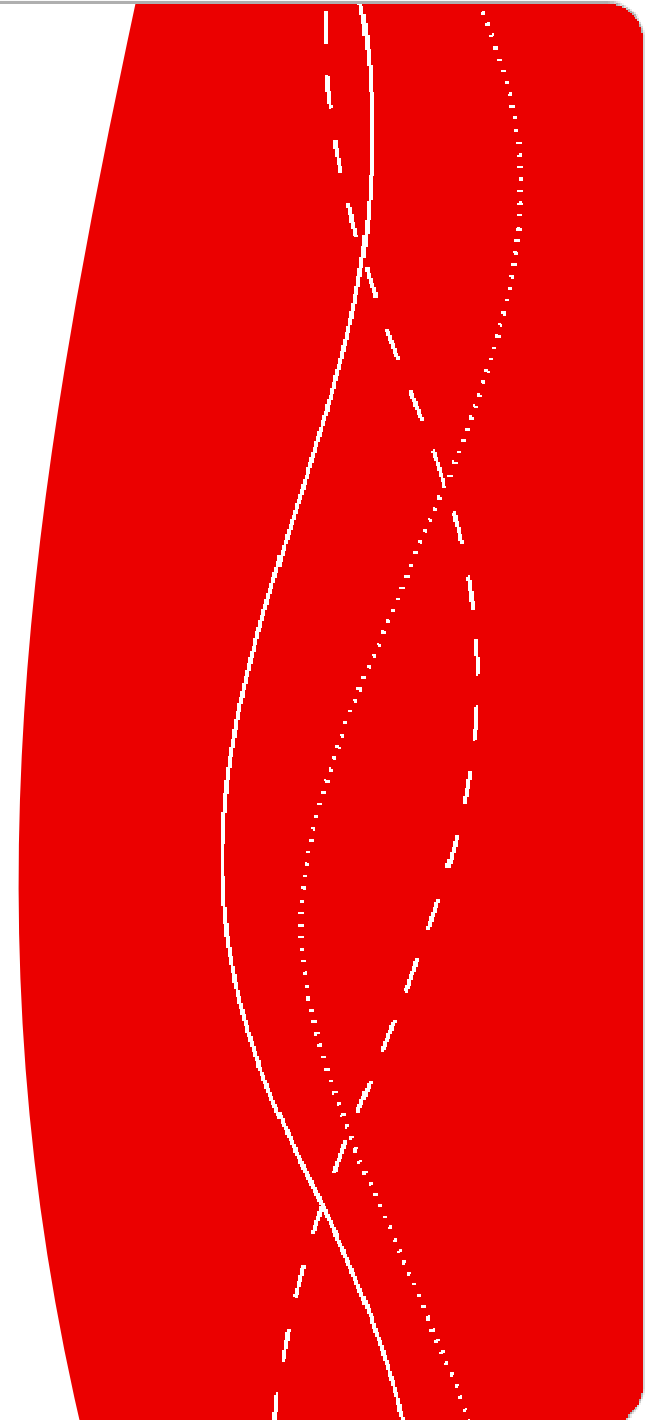


## **Speed management in a new scenario**

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Chalmers University of Technology, 19 April 2016



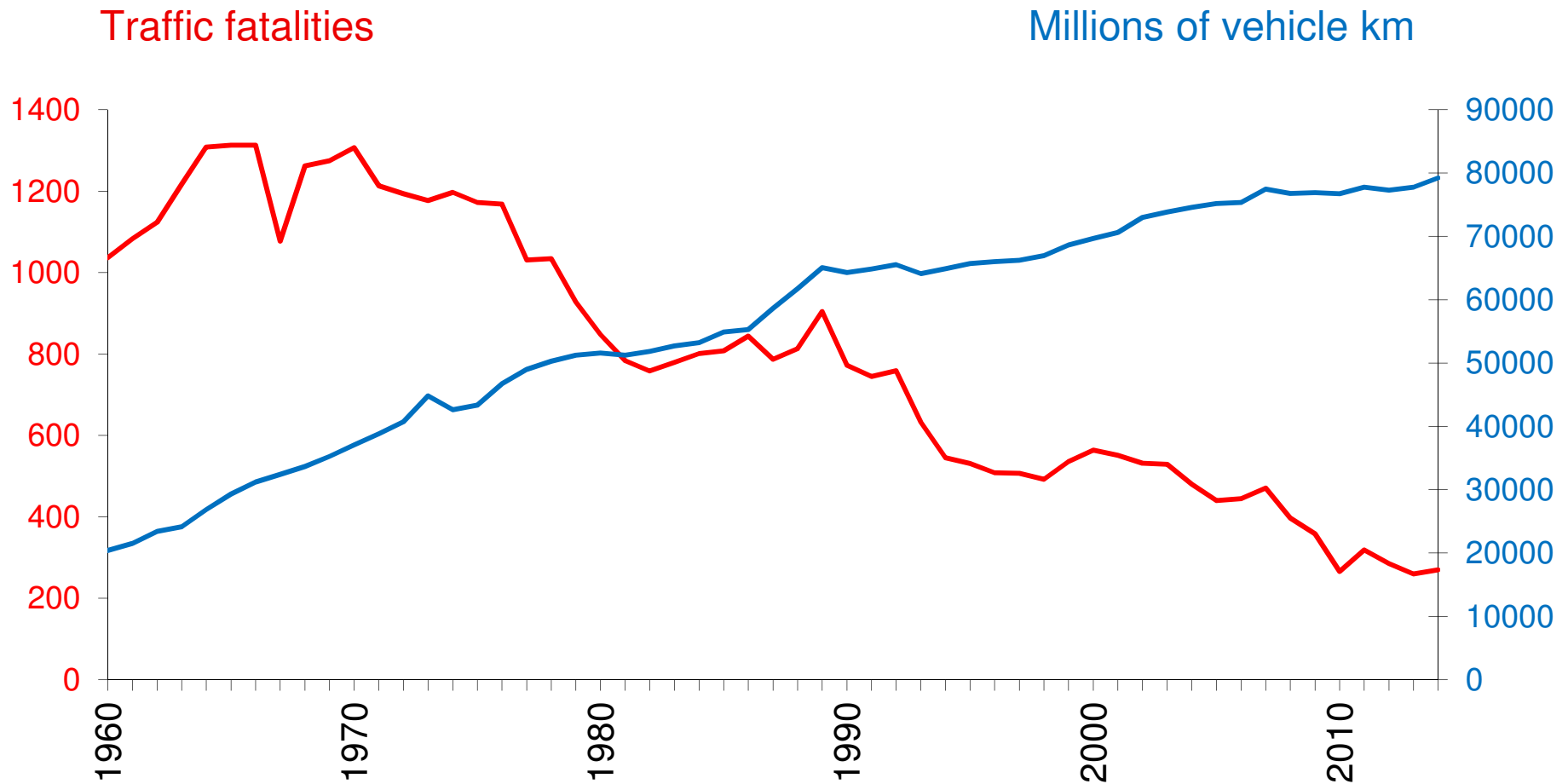
# Content

- Vision Zero and consequences
- New speed limits
- Safety cameras

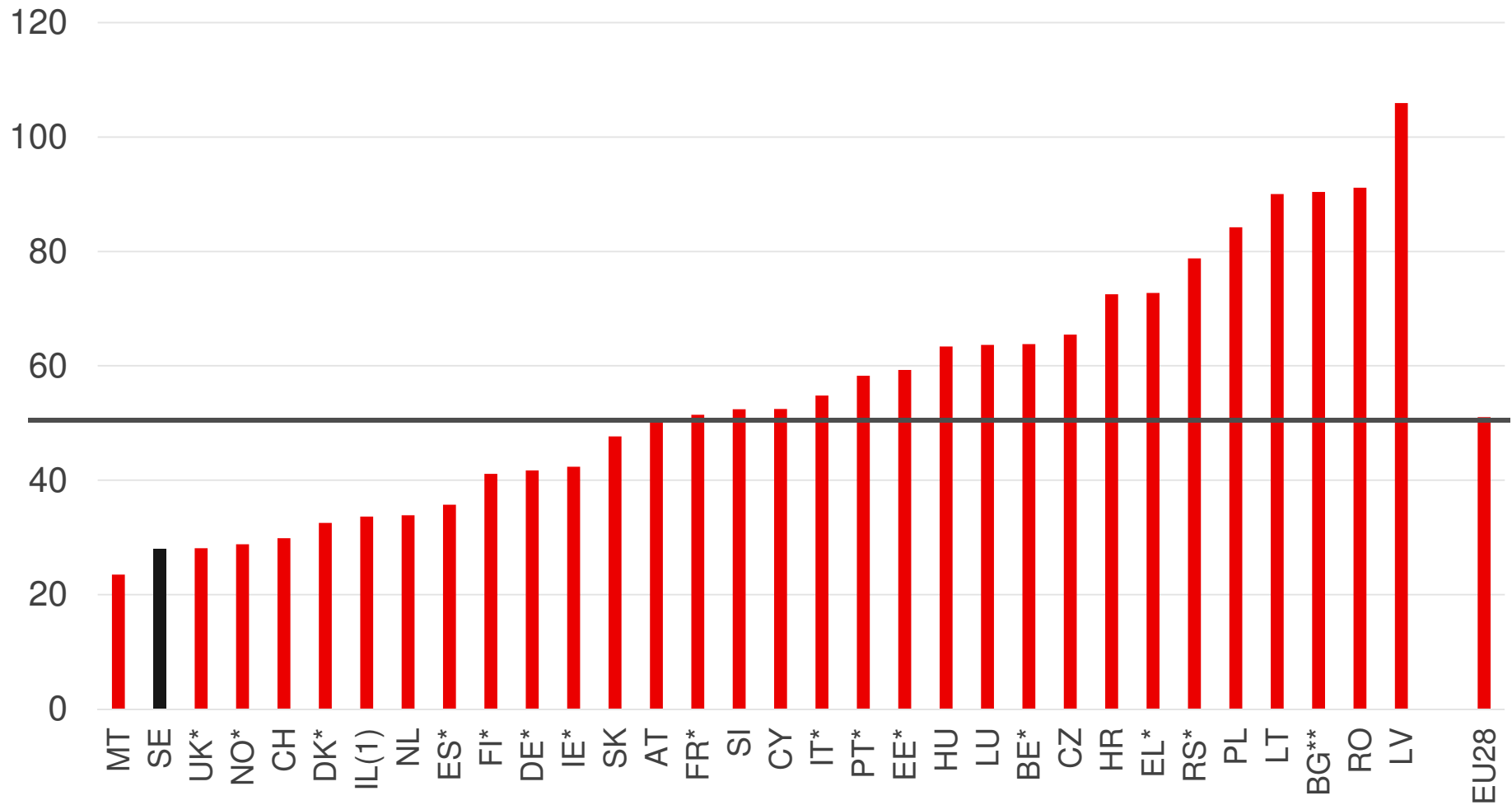


# Traffic safety development In Sweden

Road mortality  
(deaths/million pop.)  
2015: 26



## 2014 Road deaths per million inhabitants



Source: ETSC report

## Vision Zero

In 1997, Swedish government pledged:  
**That no one should die or be seriously injured in traffic due to common human error.**

1. One vision for many stakeholders
2. Ethical platform (right to survive)
3. Shared accountability
4. Safety philosophy (failing human)
5. Driving force for change



## Crash and injury data is a key element

- Since 2000, Sweden has been including hospital and police data in a national programme for traffic safety investigations.
- Gothenburg (2000–2007), 24 471 people injured in the road network.

**Only  
Police Reported**  
8 255

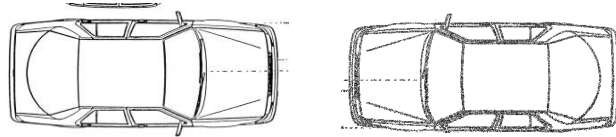
**Reported in  
both databases**  
9 660

**Only Hospital  
Reported**  
3665

**Single collisions  
only reported by the hospital**  
2891

# Guiding principle when designing the road system: Human biomechanical tolerance levels

80



$$\frac{mv^2}{2} = mgh$$

Velocity  
(km/h)

Height  
(m)

40

6

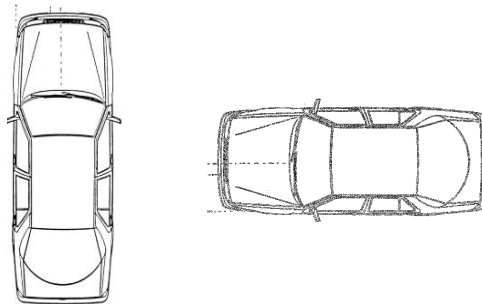
70

19

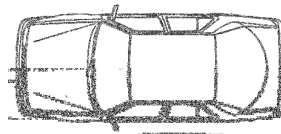
80

25

70



40



## Why is speed so important?

The double attribute of speed

The speed of a vehicle will influence both:

- the likelihood of a crash
- the injury severity





# Speed limit, road design and car design goes hand in hand



Crash test 90km/h into guard rail



Crash test 90km/h into tree

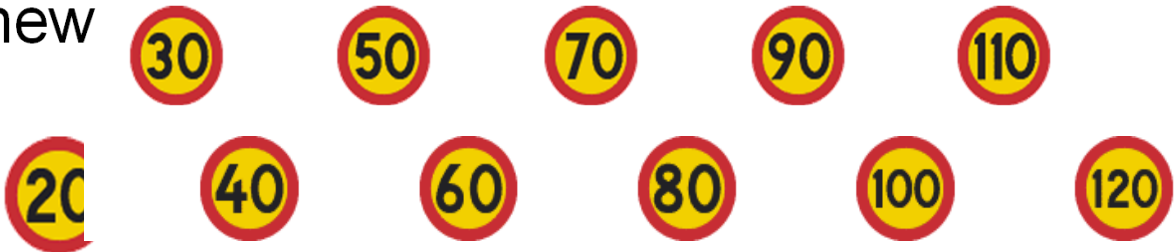


# Suitable speed limits

Vehicles, roads and speeds must match



Introduction of new  
speed limits  
(Sept 2008)



## Long term goal; speed limits on rural roads

**70 km/h:** default speed limit on rural roads

**80 (90) km/h:** 2-lane roads (milled rumble strips in middle of road)

**100 km/h:** 2+1 roads with median barrier

**110 km/h:** motorways

**120 km/h:** motorways with high standard and low traffic flow

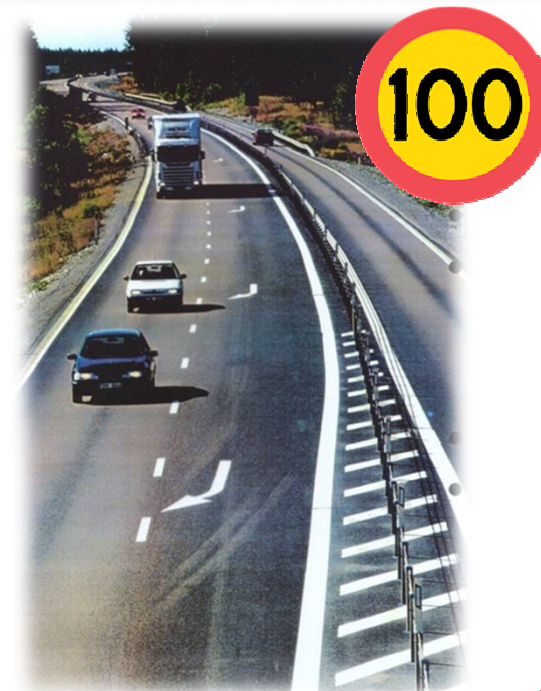


## Implementation 2008 and 2009

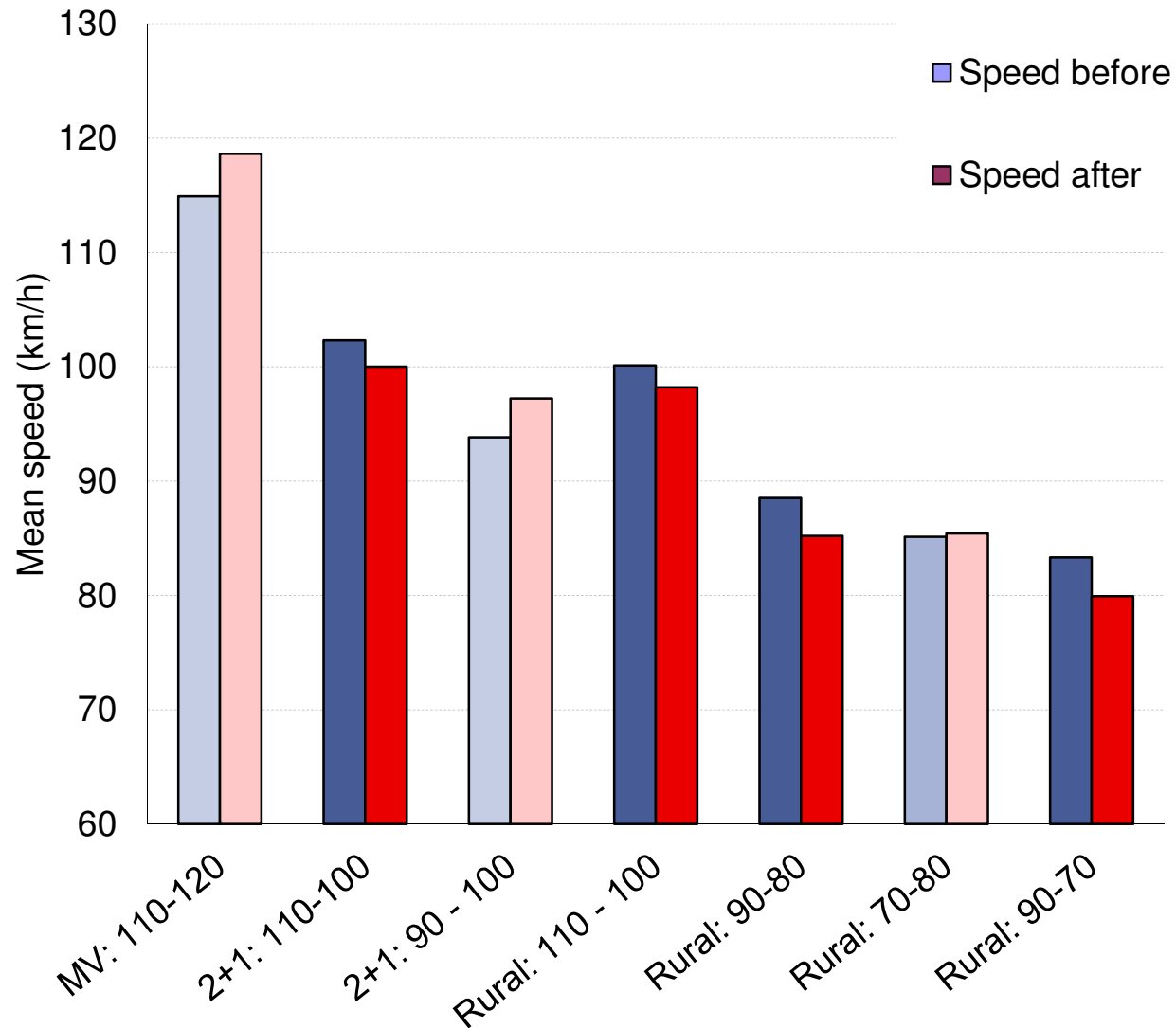
Reductions mainly at 2-lane roads with poor safety standard



Increases mainly on 2+1 roads to 100 km/h, and on motorways with high standard to 120 km/h

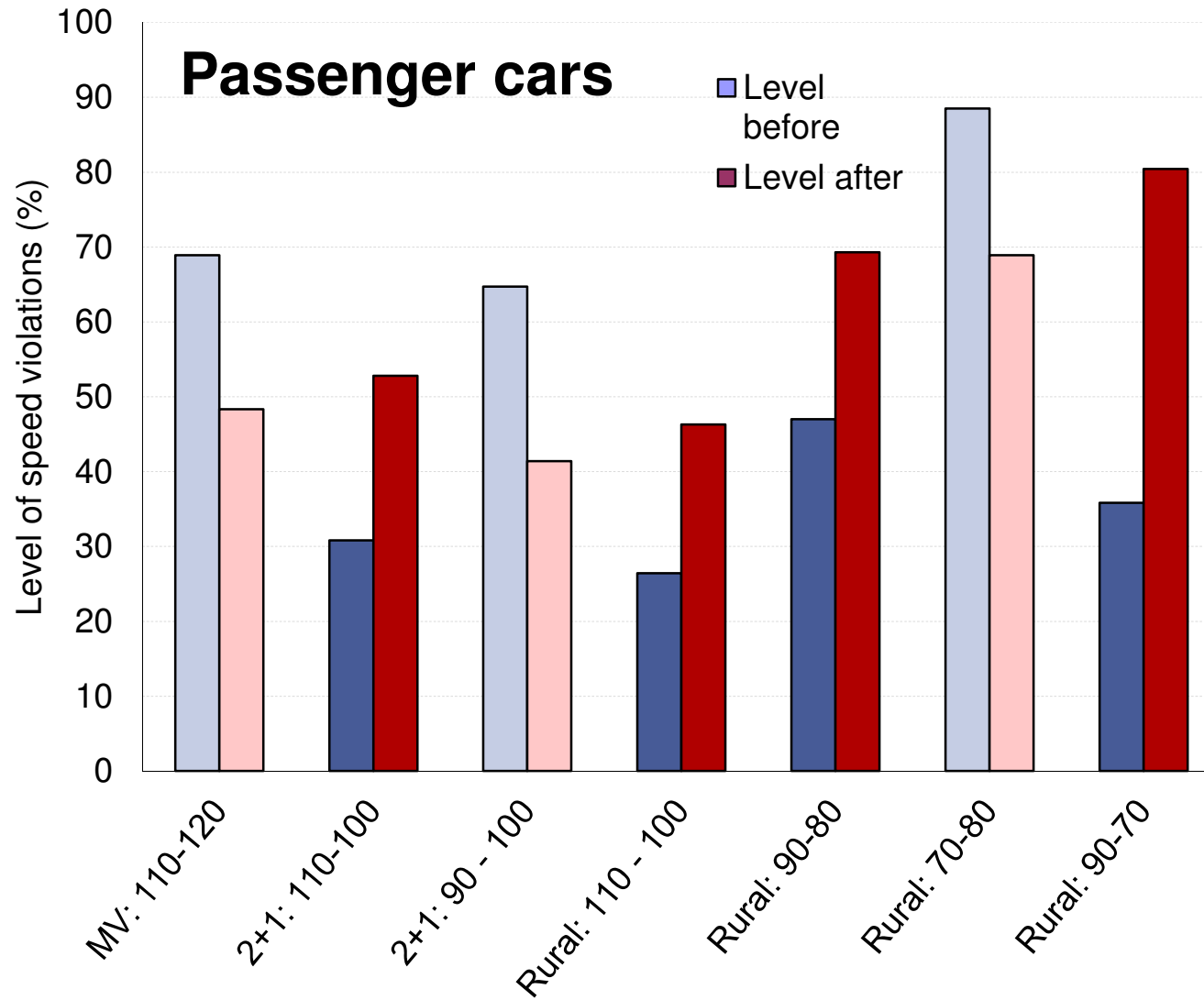


## Results: Mean speed passenger cars



- All changes (except 70-80) statistically significant
- No significant changes for trucks with trailers
- No significant changes in mean speed on controls

# Results: percentage of speed violations



## Results: Traffic Safety

- Reduction of 17 fatalities per year.
- Main reduction of traffic deaths on rural roads 90 - 80 km/h (no other traffic safety measures are performed).
- Severely injured on motorways 110 – 120 km/h increased by 15 per year.





# Speed limits in urban areas



## Guidelines considers:

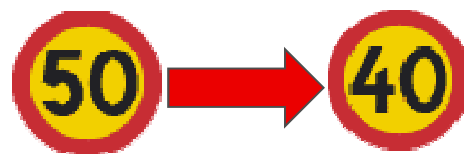
1. City's character
2. Accessibility
3. Security
4. Traffic Safety
5. Health and Environment



## Example: Recommendations Traffic Safety

Safety Level	Conflicts VRU-car	Conflicts car-car (intersections)	Conflicts car-obstacle	Conflicts car-car (oncoming traffic)
High	$\leq 30$ km/h	$\leq 50$ km/h	$\leq 60$ km/h	70 km/h
Medium	40 km/h	60 km/h	70km/h	80 km/h
Low	$\geq 50$ km/h	$\geq 70$ km/h	$\geq 80$ km/h	$\geq 90$ km/h

## Evaluations of new speed limits in urban areas



- Mean speed decreased: 2 – 3 km/h
- Mean speed before the change: 43 km/h
- P85 decreased: 2 km/h
- An increase of speed violations in the short term
- Long term?

# Traffic Safety Cameras

## New system 2006

- 1300 cameras 2015
- 15 mobile cameras
- 3000 km covered
- 260 000 offenders/year
- Highly automatic
- Sign before the camera



## Evaluation: Speed effects

- Mean speeds decreased by 4 - 5 %
- Largest impact on roads with 70 km/h
- Percentage drivers exceeding speed limit decreased by 35%

## Traffic safety effects

- Number of fatalities decreased by 30%
- Number of seriously injured and fatalities decreased by 25%

### Publication:

The effects of automated road safety cameras on speed and road safety- *Road safety cameras installed during 2006*, Swedish Road Administration (Vägverket) publication 2009:162



**Thank you for your attention!**  
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