

Car occupant safety in Switzerland, 2001-2012

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Results

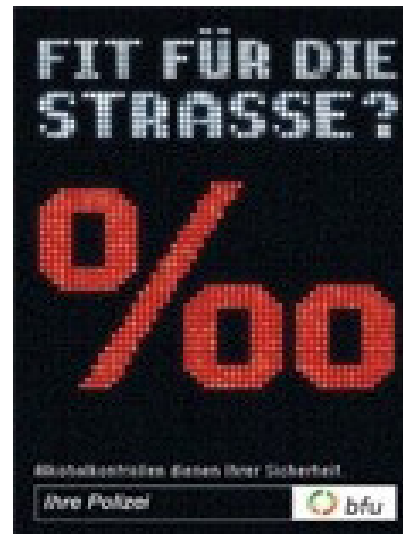
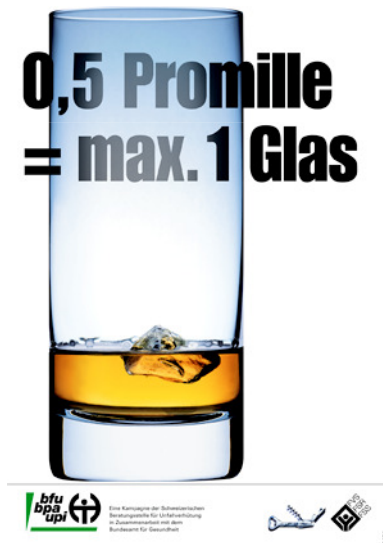
- From 2001 to 2012, the number of car occupant deaths in Switzerland fell by 8.3% per year as compared to the EU average of 7,4 % (Fig. 1)
- From 2002 to 2012, the reduction of road deaths in Switzerland is significantly higher among car occupants than among other road users (Fig. 2).
- In 2012, Switzerland recorded the lowest number of car occupant deaths per billion vehicle-kilometres travelled (Fig. 3).
- From 2010 to 2012, the number of children killed in cars per million child inhabitants was also the lowest (Fig. 12).

Most important legal measures adopted between 2001 and 2012

- Reduction of the maximum **legal BAC** from 0.8 g/l to **0.5 g/l** (2005)
- **Zero tolerance** for driving under influence of certain **illegal drugs** (2005)
- **Random alcohol breath-testing** (2005)
- **Strengthening** of administrative measures (progressive **prolongation** of **licence withdrawal period** for recidivists) (2005)
- Introduction of the **two-phase (driver)training** (2005)
- A proper **restraint device** (i.e. booster seats), which is admitted according to the ECE-Convention Nr. 44, must be used for the transport of **children** under the age of **12 years** or smaller than **150 cm** (2010)

Awareness-raising campaigns

- **Alcohol (from 2005 until today):**



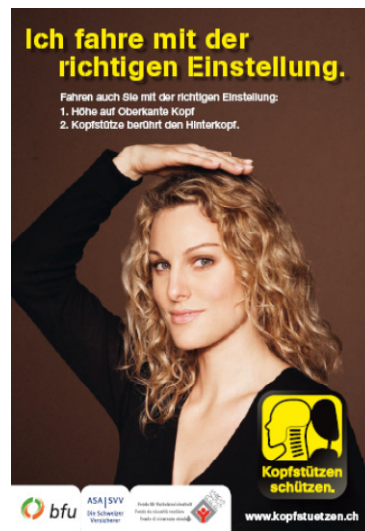
Awareness-raising campaigns

- **Seat belt (2005-2009):**



Awareness-raising campaigns

- **Head rest positioning (2007–2013):**



Awareness-raising campaigns

- **Speeding: „Slow down, take it easy“ (2009 -2012):**



Awareness-raising campaigns

- **Sleepiness „Turboschlaf“ (2011-2013) :**



Further aspects which enhanced car occupant safety in the last decade

- Increased density of safety cameras in Switzerland as well as high fines.
- Increase of the alcohol control density between 2000 and 2011 (but still less extended than in many other European countries).
- In Switzerland, many new passenger cars were bought in the last decade and newer cars cause fewer accidents and protect their passengers better than older vehicles.

Via sicura



Programme of measures aimed at enhancing road safety in Switzerland

The programme of measures puts the focus on the better implementation of existing regulation as well as standards, rather than on the creation of new regulation. For many measures, legal adaptations are necessary.

Measures

Measures which aim at the better implementation of **existing regulation**

Measures which aim at optimising the **accident statistics**



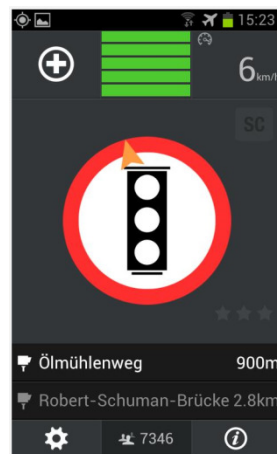
Measures which aim at influencing the **behaviour of road users**

Measures which aim at optimising the **infrastructure**

Repressive and rehabilitative measures in case of **offences**

Measures which aim at the better implementation of existing regulation:

- evidential alcohol breath tests (2015 or later)
- Interdiction of warnings of traffic controls (2013)
- Responsibility of the vehicle owner in case of fines (2014)



Measures which aim at influencing the behaviour of road users :

- Alcohol ban for novice drivers (during the probationary period) as well as for all professional drivers (2014)
- Mandatory use of lights during the day (2014)



Repressive and rehabilitative measures in case of offences:

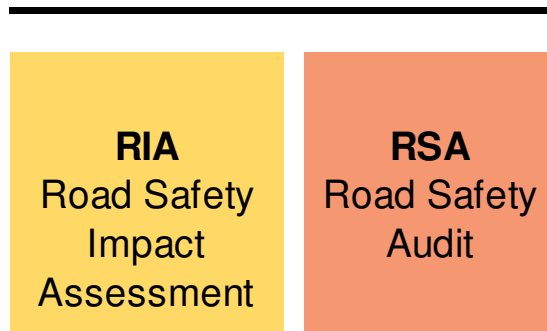
- higher fines and extension of the licence withdrawal period related to speeding (2013)
- Confiscation of vehicle (2013)
- Compulsory clarification of fitness to drive if BAC $\geq 1.6\text{‰}$ (2014)
- Installation of alcohol ignition interlock and data recording device (2015 or later)



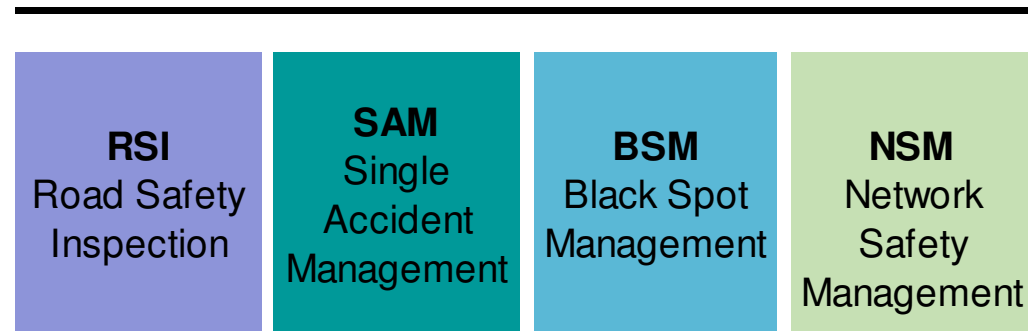
Measures which aim at optimising the infrastructure:

- The Confederation, the cantons and the communes take adequately into account the requirements of safety when planning, constructing, maintaining and exploiting the road infrastructure.
- Several infrastructural safety instruments were developed :

Road projects

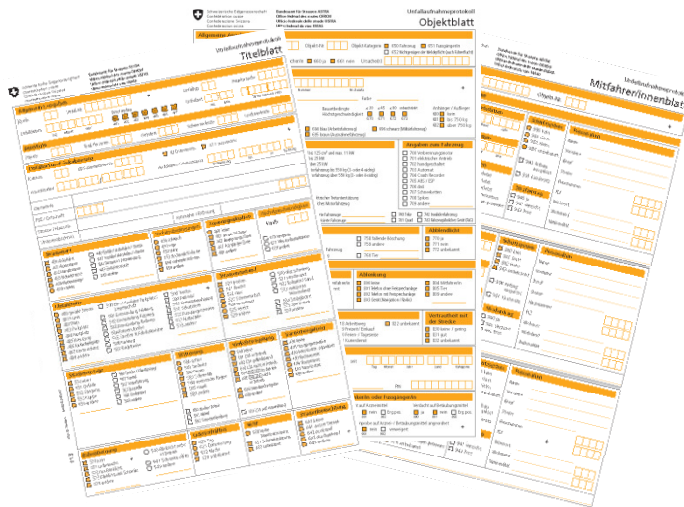


Existing roads



Measures which aim at optimising the accident statistics:

- Improved collection and analysis of accident data (2013)
- Visual representation of the accidents on a map in order to identify black spots and danger spots (2013)



Conclusion

- Important legal measures adopted in 2005 and 1010
- Several awareness-raising campaigns aiming at the safety of car occupants between 2004 and today (alcohol, seat-belt and children seats, head rest positioning, speed, tiredness)
- Increased density of safety cameras, high fines for speeding
- More alcohol controls
- Switzerland has an important percentage of newer passenger cars
- More safety measures to come with the Via sicura programme