

African Continent Profile

Population:
1,391,823,318 ▲

WHO Regions:
AFR & EMR

Income group:
1 High, 7 Upper middle, 22 Lower middle, 24 Low

GSRRS participation:
51/54 in GSRRS 2023, 48/54 in GSRRS 2013

BURDEN

Reported fatalities (year)	82,865 (2020 or 2021, 51/54)	▲
Reported fatalities sex distribution (Male; Female)	75%; 25%	N/A
Reported fatalities user distribution ¹	31% 4W; 18% 2/3W; 31% P; 4% C; 18%O	↻
WHO estimated road traffic fatalities (95%CI) (year)	256,601 (95%CI 220,888 - 298,308) (2021)	▲
WHO estimated rate per 100 000 population (year)	19.6 (2021)	▲

SAFE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Total paved kilometres (year)	1,188,734 (2021)/37	N/A
Presence of technical standards for new roads that take account of all road-user safety, or align with relevant UN Conventions and regulate compliance with them ²	38/51	N/A
Presence of systematic approaches to assess/audit new roads ²	38/51	↻
National law requiring a formal road safety inspection/assessment	9/51	N/A
Target for roads to meet technical safety standards for all users (year)	12/51	N/A
Investments to upgrade high risk locations	25/51	▼

POST-CRASH RESPONSE

National law on universal access to emergency care	14/51	N/A
National law guaranteeing free-of-charge access to rehabilitative care for all injured	4/51	N/A
National law guaranteeing free-of-charge access to psychological services to road crash victims and their families	3/51	N/A
National good Samaritan law	0/51	N/A
National emergency care access number	35/51	▼
National target for time between serious crash and initial provision of professional emergency care (year)	12/51	N/A

SAFE VEHICLES

Total registered vehicles [rate per 100 000 pop] (year)	87,724,608 [9.2] (2021)/37	▲
4-wheel vehicles	20,122,458/21	▲
Powered 2- and 3-wheelers	7,810,822/21	▲
Heavy trucks	2,785,166/23	▲
Buses	853,711/21	▲
Other	2,125,209/12	▲
Legislation on periodic vehicle technical inspection ²	42/51	N/A
National laws on front and side impact protection	3/51	N/A
National laws on seat-belt and seat-belt anchorages	10/51	N/A
National law on electronic stability control	1/51	N/A
National law on pedestrian protection	1/51	N/A
National law on anti-lock braking systems	0/51	N/A
Government vehicle procurement practices include safety prerequisites	30/51	N/A
Presence of high-quality safety standards for used-vehicle imports ²	31/51	N/A

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Presence of strategies to promote alternatives to individuals' use of powered vehicles	25/51	N/A
National road safety strategy²	38/51	▼
Fatality reduction target (year)	24/51	N/A
Non fatal reduction target (year)	17/51	N/A
Funding to implement strategy	33/51	↻
National law mandating third-party liability insurance for powered vehicles	42/51	N/A
National law on driving time and rest periods for professional drivers ²	16/51	N/A
Adherence to one or more of the 7 UN road safety conventions ²	31/378 (i.e.,7*54)	▲
Presence of national lead agency to implement national road safety strategy ²	49/51	▼
Presence of agencies that coordinate pre-hospital and emergency medical services ²	40/51	N/A
(AFR-specific) Deposited AFR Road Safety Charter (by Mar 31, 2025)	13/54	N/A

ROAD USER BEHAVIOUR			E
Legislation on urban speed limits for passenger cars and motorcycles ²	<div><div></div></div> 15/51		▲
National law setting a speed limit	48/51		▲
Maximum urban speed limit	48/5		▼
Maximum rural speed limit	44/51		▼
Maximum motorway speed limit	34/51		=
Local authorities can modify limits	24/51		=
Presence of targets to reduce speeds nationally (year) ²	13/51		N/A
Available types of enforcement	45/51		▼
Legislation on drink driving ²	<div><div></div></div> 7/51		▲
National law on drink driving	48/51		▲
BAC limit – general population	41/51; in 15 ≤0.05 g/dl		▲
BAC limit – young or novice drivers	7/51; ≤0,.02 g/dl		▲
Random breath testing carried out	7/51		▼
Presence of targets to reduce driving after drinking nationally (year) ²	11/51		N/A
Testing carried out in case of fatal crash	6/51		▼
Legislation on drug driving	41/51		▲
Legislation on distracted driving (mobile phones)	46/51		N/A
Ban on mobile phone use ²	41/51		▲
Presence of targets to reduce distracted driving nationally (year) ²	10/51		N/A
Legislation on helmets for motorcycle riders ²	<div><div></div></div> 8/51		▲
National motorcycle helmet law	47/51		▲
Legislation requires helmet fastening	10/51		▼
Legislation applies to:	46 D & P/51		▼
Legislation applies to all road types	48/51		▼
Legislation applies to all engine types	39/51		▼
Legislation refers to and/or specifies helmet standard ²	20/51		▼
Presence of targets to increase helmet use	15/51		N/A
Helmet wearing rate ² (Driver; Passenger)	9-100% D; 2-100% P 23/51		N/A
Minimum age/height children are allowed as passengers	13/51		↻
Legislation on seat-belts for motor vehicle occupants ²	<div><div></div></div> 21/51		▲
National seat-belt law	45/51		▲
Legislation applies to front and rear seat occupants	22/51		▼
Presence of targets to increase seat-belt use (year)	17/51		N/A*
Seat-belt wearing rate ² (Driver; Other front seat; Rear seat)	11/51 (age), 1/51 (height)		N/A

ROAD USER BEHAVIOUR			E
Legislation on child restraint systems ²	<div><div></div></div> 1/51		=
National child restraints use law	14/51		▲
Children seated in front seat	26/51		▼
Age or height specified for children requiring child restraint	11/51 (age), 1/51 (height)		↻
Child restraint standard referred to and/or specified	11/51		=
Presence of targets to increase child restraint use (year)	10/51		N/A

NATIONAL DATA SYSTEMS ON...			E
Civil Registration and Vital Statistics 2021	3 G1, 5 G2, 1 G3, 42 G4, 3UK/54		▼
Frequency and distribution of journeys by modal type	10/51		N/A
Speeding violations and speeding-related injuries and fatalities ²	45/51		N/A
Driving under the influence of alcohol and related road traffic-related fatalities and injuries ²	24/51		N/A
Seat-belt and child restraint systems use ²	40/51		N/A
Powered 2- and 3-wheeler helmet use ²	42/51		N/A
Mobile phone use while driving ²	41/51		N/A

Stronger Moderate Weak-/None

▲ Increase ▼ Decrease = No change ↻ No change ▼ Advancement

⊖ None or unknown — Not provided N/A Not applicable

E Evolution since 2010 or closest year possible

1 4W = 4-wheel vehicles, 2/3W = powered 2/3 wheelers, P = pedestrian, C = cyclist; O = other & unknown

2 UN voluntary target indicator

* Alcohol consumption prohibited in country

† Country adheres to corresponding UN or equivalent international safety regulation

‡ Corresponding EU regulation mandatory for country

Legislative review and mortality estimations conducted by WHO. International regulation, population and income level from external sources. All other data collected by WHO via survey and cleared by government designated National Data Focal Points. See methods for more detail.

Source: Africa Transport Policy Program (SSATP). Africa Status Report on Road Safety 2025. Washington, DC: World Bank, 2025. https://www.ssatp.org/sites/default/files/publication/SSATP_Africa%20Status%20Report%20on%20Road%20Safety%202025_single.pdf

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