Risk on the roads: A male problem?

The role of gender in road safety

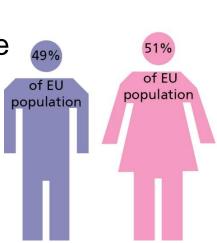




Heather Ward

Different road risk

- Men have a higher rate of collisions than women.
- Men have their first collision earlier in their driving career and are more likely than women to be held to blame for the incident.
- Female drivers are less prone to risky driving behaviour, in particular speeding.
- Also have more positive attitudes towards traffic regulations and safety.









The road safety gender gap

- 358,000 males and 113,000 females have been killed in the EU27 in the past decade.
- Female deaths have declined faster than male deaths in both the group of pre-2004 EU Member States (EU15) and the 10 countries that joined in 2004 (EU10).
- Males have 3 times the death rate of females.



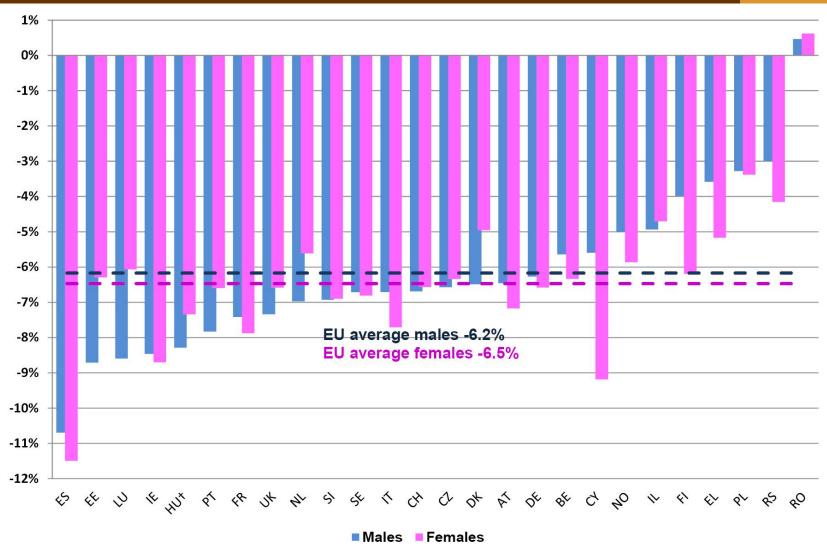
Reduction in female and male road deaths between 2001 and 2011

	People killed in 2001		People killed in 2011		Reduction 2001-2011	
	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males
EU27	13,475	40,867	7,204	23,171	47%	43%
EU15	10,121	30,085	5,019	15,842	50%	47%
EU10	2,179	6,948	1,366	4,723	37%	32%

Reduction in female and male road deaths between 2001 and 2011



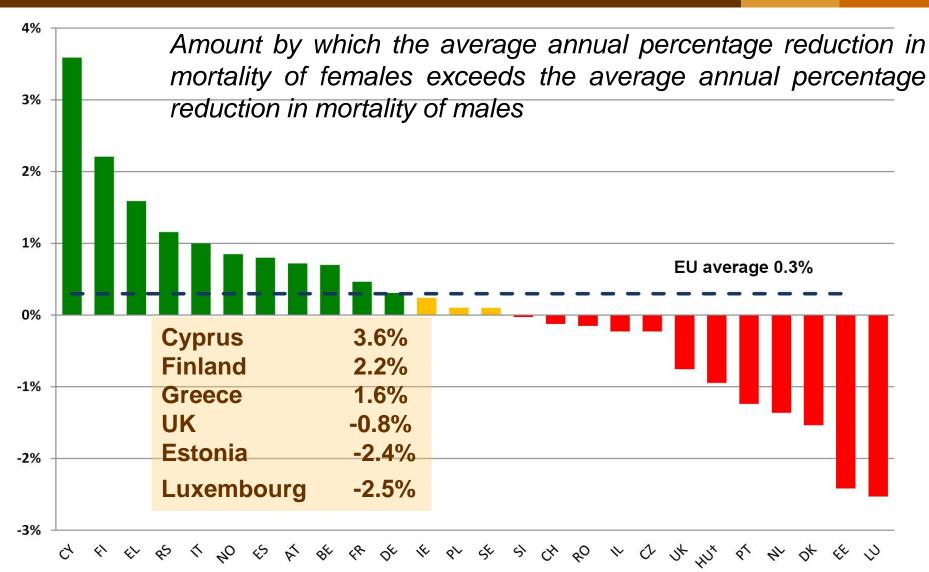
Progress since 2001





Percentage change in female and male road mortality

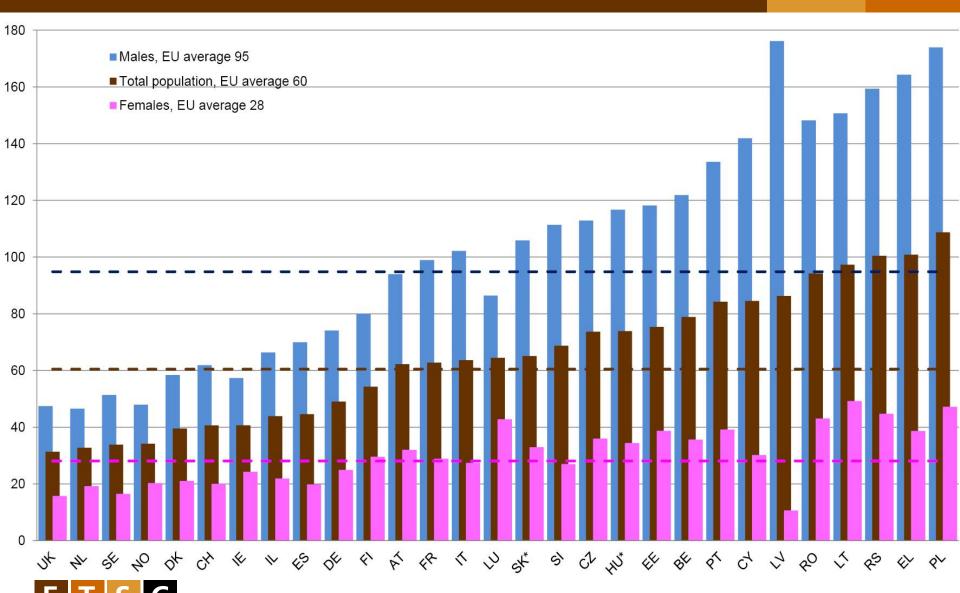
Reduction in mortality





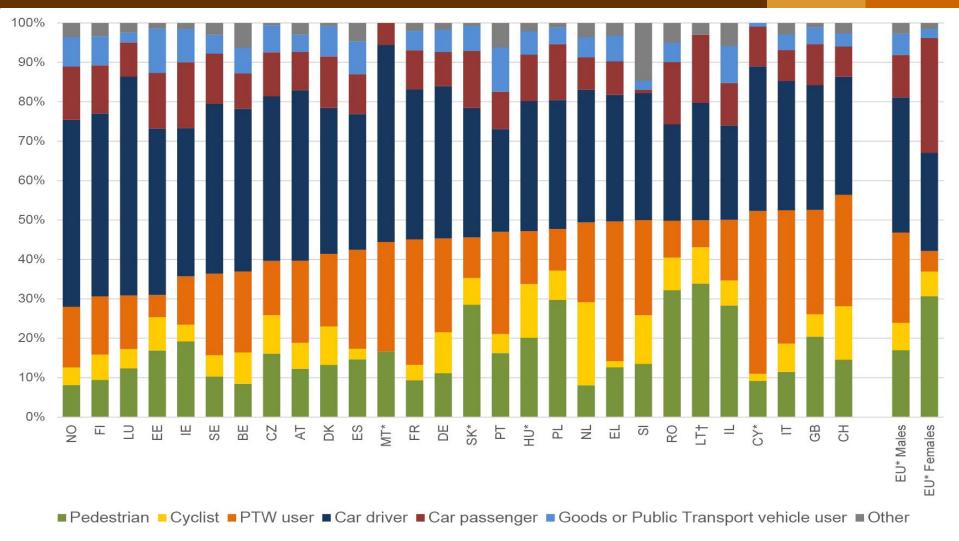
Men are more at risk than women

European Transport Safety Council



Mortality in total and by gender in 2011

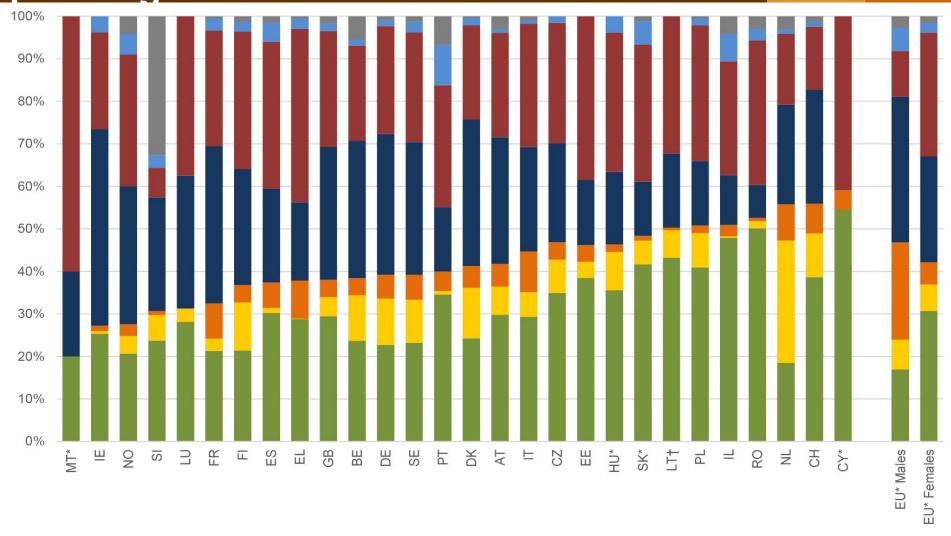
Males mainly killed as car drivers and motorcycle users





Share of different types of road user, among male road deaths ranked by VRU

Females mainly killed as pedestrians and car passengers





■ Pedestrian ■ Cyclist ■ PTW user ■ Car driver ■ Car passenger ■ Goods or Public Transport vehicle user ■ Other Share of different types of road user, among female road deaths ranked by VRU

Recommendations

- Gender differences should be recognised when developing policies.
- Improve training systems to take account of the different trajectories of learning and gaining experience among young male and female drivers.



Recommendations

- Support research on the adaptability of occupant protection devices to the biomechanical characteristics of the occupant.
- Promote, encourage and disseminate the results of research into the effects of prescription drugs, especially among older women, on driving.



Thank you for your attention!

