

# Measures for young drivers in Austria

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# Long history of measures for young drivers...

- Driving Licence on probation (1992)
- L17 accompanied driving education (1999)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase driver education (2003)
- Graduated access to motorbikes
- Close-To Peer Approach
- Measures in the new RSP...



# Driving Licence on Probation (since 1992)

- First two years after receiving a driving licence
- Tightened max. BAC level of 0.1 (normally: 0.5)
- Drink driving or another severe offence
  - red light running
  - +21km/h in urban areas
  - +41km/h rural
  - dangerous overtaking or breaking an overtaking restriction
  - ...
- **Driver Improvement Course** (group discussion led by a traffic psychologist)
- The measures is believed to **reduce accidents** of drivers aged 18-24 **by 30%**.



# L17 Accompanied Driving Education (since 1999)

- Education starts not earlier than 16
- Driving school (26h theory/ 12h practice)
- Accompanied driving (3x1.000km, usually with a family member)
- Accompanying education in driving school,
- Solo driving from age 17
- The measures **saves 15% of accidents** of drivers aged 17-19, as increased driving practice during education reduces accidents.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase Education (since 2003)

Within the first year after obtaining a licence:

- 1<sup>st</sup> feedback drive in real traffic with trainer
- Technical track training
- Psychological group discussion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> feedback drive in real traffic

### Results:

- Entrance risk significantly lower
- Especially for young male drivers
- Reduced accidents by around 30% for beginner drivers in their first three years
- **34% reduction in single vehicle accidents**



# Graduated access to motorbikes

(currently in the adoption phase)



24 years

(or 20 when 2 years practice A2; 21 years when 3wheeled vehicles from 15 kW)



18 years

Up to 35 kW and up to 0,2 kW/kg



16 years

Up to 125cm<sup>3</sup>, up to 11 kW  
3wheelers: 15 kW) and 0,1 kW/kg



15 years

2- or 3wheel motor vehicles up to 45 km/h;  
4wheeled light vehicles

Class AM

Class A1



Class A2

Class A

“Big” transition:

- 24 years
- 4 years A1
- Practical exam
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase training passed

Transition:

- Practical exam or 7h education
- 2 years possession of the previous class
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase training passed

- **Risk-competence training** integrated in practical training (model taken from the AdRisk EU project),
- **Risk perception training** in the course of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase training for class A,
- Specific training for **instructors**

# Close-To Peer Education Approach (since 2008)

- Trainers and pupils are of **same age group**
- **Traffic offender** tells about a self-caused severe accident and the legal, economic and social consequences
- In **driving schools** (predominantly)
- **Re-socialising** impact for the offender
- Reduction of fines possible
- **Preventive effect** for the whole group (?)





# Measures of the Austrian Road Safety Programme 2011-2020

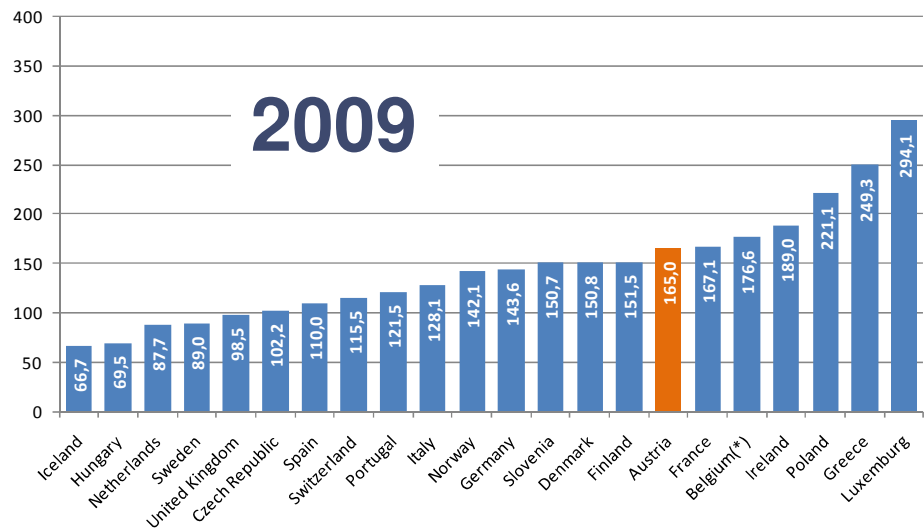
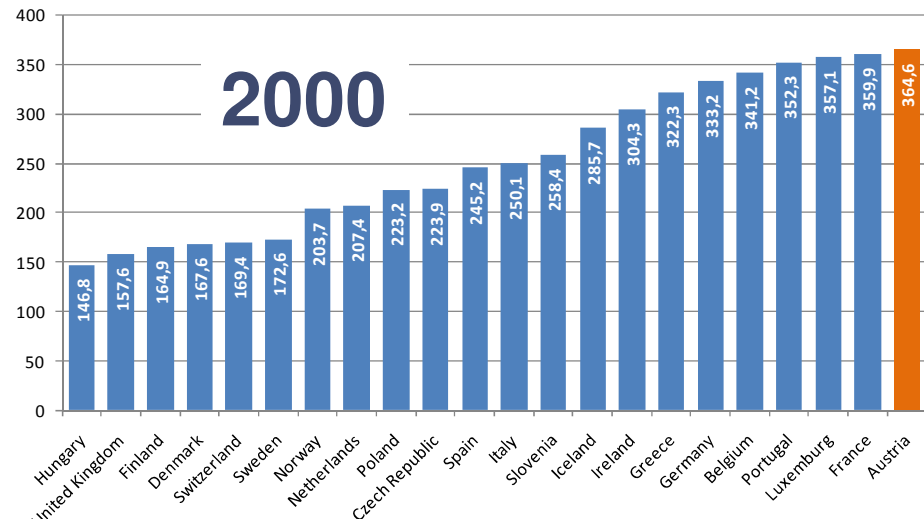
- **Alcohol and drug prevention**, preparing a best practice collection for municipalities
- Safe way home from **discos, bars and events**
- Attractive pricing of **non-alcoholic beverages**
- **Traffic education**
  - Integration at all school grade levels
  - Training of teachers
  - Mobility and risk competences
- **3<sup>rd</sup> driving licence directive**
  - quality assurance in education and examination
  - more practical training
  - experience based learning
  - use of simulators
- **Extended probation period** for driving licence
- Evaluation and improvement of **moped licence** education
- ...





## ...and the impact?

- Car occupant fatalities per population (age group 18-20) decreased by >50%
- Still a long way to reaching the best in Europe!



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**Thank you  
for the attention!**

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