



Institute of Transport Economics
Norwegian Centre for Transport Research

ENGLISH Summary

Road safety for employees who drive at work

What can the non-professionals learn from the professionals?

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Half of the traffic fatalities in Norway are work-related: 38% involve drivers at work, while 11% involve people driving to/from work. Working on work-related road safety is therefore one of the most important ways to reduce fatal accidents on the road. Previous research shows that measures are effective. Certain measures for road safety management and road safety culture can reduce accident risk by up to 60%. However, there are still many organizations that do not have such measures in place. In this study, we compare this for professional drivers at work; bus drivers (n=304) and truck drivers (n=298), and employees who drive for work but are not professional drivers ("work drivers") (n=355), based on data from a survey. Organizations with work drivers have a lower focus on road safety and have implemented far fewer measures aimed at the road safety of work drivers, compared to organizations with professional drivers at work. Interview data suggest that the low focus on road safety in organizations with work drivers is likely due to transport being secondary for work drivers. At the same time, we also find a potential for more measures among the professional drivers. Example calculations indicate that up to 26 fatal accidents a year (hypothetically) could have been avoided with the introduction of certain measures among drivers at work. This indicates the maximum potential. We discuss which management practices organizations should focus on to help reduce work-related traffic accidents. The main result, and the most important thing non-professionals can learn from professionals is that safety commitment and measures work. We also discuss measures at societal level to reduce work-related traffic accidents; measures to increase management's commitment to safety, third-party requirements, traffic safety impact, and sustainability reporting.