

BESAFETOGETHER

Fact Sheet: The Tolling Industry's Commitment to Road Safety

When we're on the road, small decisions can have a big impact on everyone's safety. That's why IBTTA has launched its Be Safe Together campaign. When you're on the road, the little things add up.

Did you know...

Road Accidents are a Global Emergency. Globally, road accidents are the leading cause of death for 5-to-29-year-olds and the 12th leading cause of death when all ages are considered. ([Centers for Disease Control](#))

There were 1.19 million worldwide road traffic deaths in 2021. ([World Health Organization](#)) Approximately 66 percent of fatalities are among people aged 18–59 years and 19 percent are aged 60 years or above.

Road traffic deaths continue to disproportionately impact men, with overall fatalities three times higher for men than for women.

In high-income countries it is estimated that about 20 percent of fatally injured drivers have blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels above the legal limit.

In low- and middle-income countries, between 33 and 69 percent of fatally injured drivers and between 8 and 29 percent of nonfatally injured drivers had consumed alcohol before their crash.

In the United States, road deaths are increasing. There were 40,990 road deaths in 2023 ([NHTSA](#)), while in 2010 there were 32,999 fatalities from road accidents nationwide, marking a 24 percent increase over 13 years.

Over the last decade, more than 370,000 people died in transportation incidents in the US. ([USDOT](#))

Causes of Road Fatalities. (USDOT) The rise in the highway fatality rate during 2020 and 2021 was caused by many factors, including increased speeding, alcohol use, and failure to wear safety belts. ([USDOT Transportation Statistics Annual Report](#))

Speeding. Speeding-related deaths were less than 10,000 before the pandemic in 2019, but increased to 12,330 (23 percent) in 2021.

Males, especially young males, account for a high proportion of speeding drivers in fatal crashes. In 2021, 35 percent of male drivers involved in fatal crashes in the 15- to 20-year-old age groups were speeding at the time of the crashes, compared to 21 percent of the female drivers in the same age group. This difference among the sexes was evident in all age groups, even for those 75 and older, albeit the difference narrows with age

Impaired Driving. There were 13,524 fatalities from drunk driving in 2022. ([NHTSA](#))

A 2016 study by the Governors Highway Safety Association found that among drivers in fatal crashes who were tested for drugs and/or alcohol, about 44 percent tested positive for drugs.

Distractions Driving. The number of fatalities in distraction-affected highway crashes rose to 3,522 or 8 percent of total motor vehicle-related fatalities in 2021. ([NHTSA](#))

The Scale of Global Toll Roads

United States. There are 6,700 miles of US toll roads across America. ([IBTTA](#))

33 US states and territories have at least one toll facility. ([IBTTA](#))

Americans made 5.7 billion toll trips in 2015. ([IBTTA](#))

50 million transponders are used for electronic tolling. ([IBTTA](#))

The top 40 US toll operators made \$14 billion in capital investments in their facilities from 2009-2011. ([IBTTA](#))

Tolls represent 5 percent of highway revenues. ([IBTTA](#))

The top 40 US toll facilities made \$14 billion in capital investment over the period 2009 to 2011. ([IBTTA](#))

Europe. 48,265 kilometers of network represented by ASECAP members. ([IBTTA](#))

26,660,884: Number of electronic toll collection subscribers across the ASECAP members' network. ([IBTTA](#))

187: Number of companies represented by ASECAP members. ([IBTTA](#))

Interstates. ([Federal Highway Administration](#)) There are 3.9 million miles of roadway in the US, with 3 million miles being rural roads.

The Interstate System accounts for only 1.2 percent of total mileage but carries 24.1% of total travel.

Toll Road Investment in Safety. IBTTA's member organizations have made safety a priority. Here are some of their investments:

The [North Texas Tollway Authority](#) established a Traffic and Incident Management Department to enhance the agency's ability to address safety issues. This department consolidated all management and operations functions, including responsibility for the Safety Operations Center (SOC), and provides input on larger planning issues, such as roadway facility design. The SOC is also the focal point for operational integration with State Trooper Patrols.

[Elizabeth River Crossings](#) in Virginia emphasizes safety throughout its operations, with a systematic process to identify and treat safety at two levels: road safety (infrastructure and behavior), and health and safety of workers.

The [Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority](#) is updating its infrastructure to increase mobility access and physical safety features. THEA also closely integrates data into their safety work, enabling them to flag deficiencies, understand how its assets affect crashes, and pinpoint mitigation measures that will prevent future crashes.

[Attikes Diadromes](#), the [Attica Tollway in Greece](#), features rapid response from safety patrols, which respond to accidents within 6 minutes. Infrastructure has been upgraded with better lighting, guard rail extensions, and more detailed signage. Attikes Diadromes reaches students at all ages with awareness campaigns targeted in kindergarten, elementary and high schools.

The [Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission \(PTC\)](#) is committed to work zone safety. To reduce incidents, in 2015, it began convening a Work Zone Safety Subcommittee, with representatives from PTC departments and external stakeholders. Since the Subcommittee began meeting in 2015, over 50 separate innovations and initiatives have

been introduced, and PTC has seen a steady decline of more than 30% in work zone crashes since 2016.

Road safety is one of [ASFINAG's](#) core values, and they are working to become a "Safe System." ASFINAG has developed 13 safety strategies, grouped into 1) Vehicle, 2) Infrastructure, and 3) Driver/human. It utilizes collaborations with all participants in the traffic network, such as emergency response organizations, policymakers, and technology providers. These efforts have reduced fatalities by 50% from 2010 to 2020. Additionally, the organization deploys forty-two "traffic managers" who work around the clock. ASFINAG has also launched public-facing campaigns, including, "The street is my workplace. Thank you for paying attention."

IBTTA Award Winners Each year, IBTTA honors a member organization with the Toll Excellence Award for safety. Recent winners are:

2023: [Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission - Roadway Debris Removal Device.](#) This project involved the creation of a system for safely removing debris from the roadway while protecting Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission employees from being struck by vehicles while working on the roadway. The Commission collaborated with J-Tech Industries to develop LaneBlade, a roadway debris-clearing system that solves the problem of having employees remove roadway debris by hand while dodging heavy traffic.

2022: [Indiana Toll Road \(ITR\) – Creating a Wrong-Way Driver Detection and Alert System.](#) The system has safely identified 65 separate incidents of a patron traveling the wrong way on a mainline ramp through active and concentrated alerts to wrong-way drivers, advanced warning to patrons on the road, immediate alarming into ITR's Traffic Management Center and Indiana State Police, and alerts to all management staff. All 65 wrong-way drivers safely corrected their travel and continued in the proper direction without a single accident.