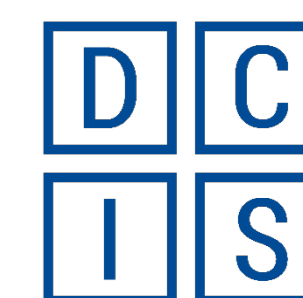


# RISKY DRIVER BEHAVIOR BEHIND THE WHEEL



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One driver's process of getting tired

## INTRODUCTION

Road Transport includes transportation of a significant segment in terms of transport and regarding the increasingly high accident rate and the formation of large material damage, it is necessary to think about the factors that positively affect the accident rate and thereby contribute to greater safety of the transport segment. Road safety can be characterized by direct and indirect safety indicators. Direct indicator of road safety is the number of traffic accidents and their consequences and economic consequences. Indirect indicators are circumstances or events which enable assessment of the safety of experimentally validated relationships between behavior and road safety (compliance with the rate of drive vehicles, the use of safety systems, compliance with the safety clearance vehicles, judgment and anticipating mistakes of others in real operation).

High traffic intensity on roads currently places great demands on the drivers of motor vehicles. Their overload corresponds with the level of accidents in the Czech Republic, which, despite various measures for its reduction in comparison with other European countries, is still very high. Traffic accidents are a major social problem and is socially monitored.

Year	Number of accidents	Killed persons	Severely injured persons	Slightly injured persons
2010	75 522	753	2 823	21 610
2011	75 137	707	3 092	22 519
2012	81 404	681	2 986	22 590
2013	84 398	583	2 782	22 577
2014	85 859	571	2 409	18 074
2015	93 067	660	2 540	24 426

Table 1: Evolution of basic indicators of accidents in 2010-2015  
Source: ŘSD DP [1]

The table shows a noticeable increase in the number of deaths (nebo death toll) in traffic accidents, when the figure reached number 660. Likewise, the number of light and heavy injuries increase.

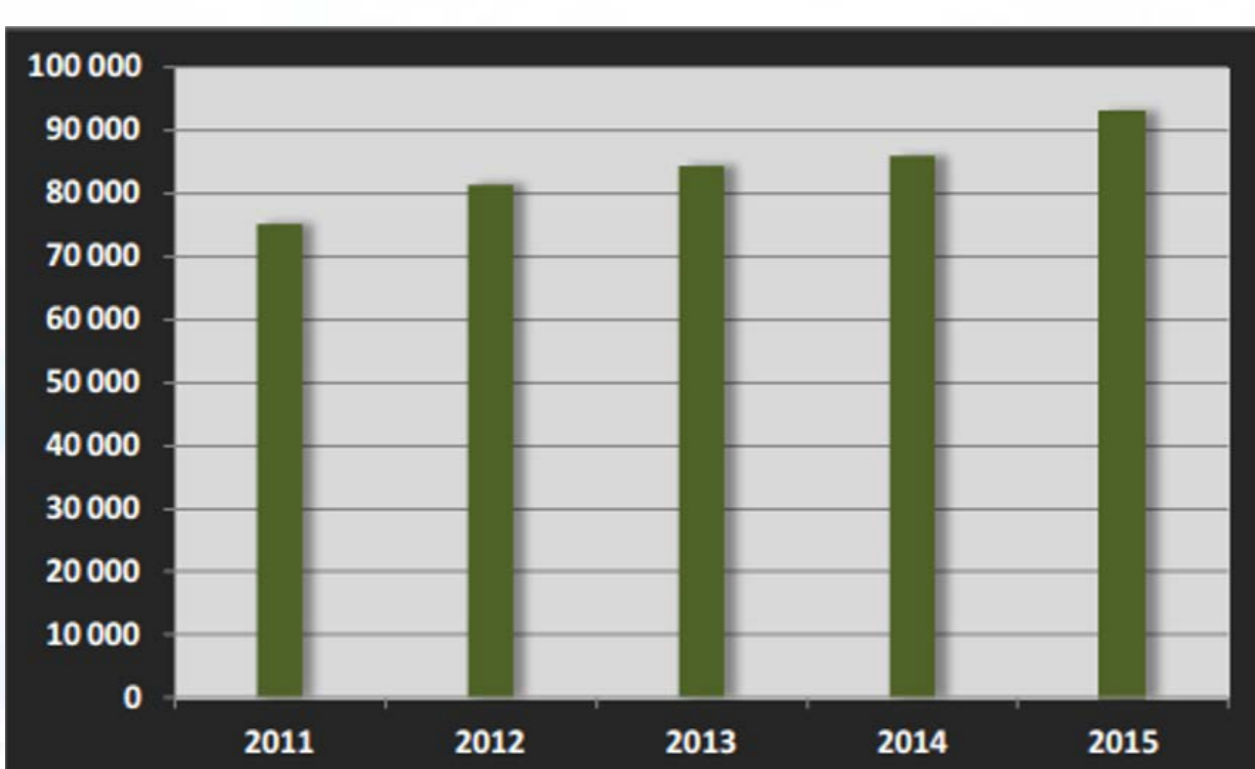


Figure 1: Evolution of the total number of recorded accidents in the Czech Republic in 2011-2015  
Source: ŘSD DP [1]

The graph shows the steady increase in the total number of accidents. In 2015 total of 93,067 accidents was reported and investigated. Compared to 2014, it's about 7,208 more accidents.

Every day the Czech Police investigated an average of 255 accidents. That makes 14.901.712,00 CZK total estimated property damage each day. [1]

## RISKY DRIVING BEHAVIOR

One factor that significantly contributes to traffic accidents are aggressive drivers. According to statistics ÚAMK 91% of us experienced aggression behind the wheel.

Risk behavior [3] in transport mean behavior that is contrary to the official and unofficial rules, it can be aggressive behavior or unexpected, unusual behavior on

the road.

Risky driving behavior can be divided into several groups according to the perspective you choose. Risky driving behavior can be found in transport statistics as inattentive driving. This is the most common cause of traffic accidents, except for speeding. All secondary activities not related to driving can be also included here. These are eg. smoking, talking on the phone while driving, eating, drinking, talking to passengers and the like. The risk can itself be a driver's personality, psychological and medical condition at the moment, ignorance of traffic laws etc. Likewise, we can distribute high-risk behavior by age or management experience. The driver committing traffic violations can occur both as a result of negligence, and intentionally.

Young drivers [2] in the age group up to 24 years are considered the highest risk group of drivers in terms of age. They lack the capacity to recognize danger, overestimate their own competence, have little experience with driving and thus less skill at controlling it. Drivers beginners are often subject to influence and opinions of fellow travelers, often drive vehicles in poor condition, also drive faster, more powerful and more modern cars, which multiplies the feeling of fearlessness. The highest risk group includes young inexperienced male drivers. Of all the risk groups, this group most often exceeds the speed limit, overtakes on unauthorized and confusing sections, passes through the intersection at a red signal. It is also the group that most often gets under the influence of alcohol or other addictive substances.

Young girls, on the contrary, behave erratically and uncertainly while driving, without intention to be aggressive. They are less focused on the road signs, less skilful in parking and have slower reactions resulting in traffic situations.

Driving schools teachers in many European countries agree that young drivers behave on the road more hazardously nowadays, not realizing the potential threat of accidents and their consequences. Especially speeding is associated with masculinity. Young drivers attention, compared with the past, removes today a lot of the surrounding disturbing stimuli, which the drivers did not meet previously, for example trailers, commercials, billboards along the roads, loud music in a vehicle, mobile phones. Teachers believe that it is necessary to change the approach to training to obtain a driving license for young drivers especially long training, which should also include intensive training on the simulator.

## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS OF YOUNG DRIVERS FROM PRACTICE

Picture 1 shows a traffic accident of the AUDI A6 - you can see how the vehicle is destroyed. [4]

Early morning, the Audi was approaching a circular intersection at very high speed, the driver was not able to control his car, hit the vehicle on the center island and the vehicle jumped into detention tank, where he ended up in position on the roof.

Look at the driver's seat and note the distance between the steering wheel and the seat. The impact was so strong that the vehicle has been shortened by about 800 mm, the engine got torn etc. There were 5 people in the vehicle, returning home early in the morning from from a night entertainment, 3 of them did not survive the accident.



which again happened in the morning, on a straight road the driver ran in the opposite direction at high speed, skidded and crashed right into the side of an oncoming vehicle KIA Sportage. [4] There were 7 passengers inside the car, that is 2 passengers over the allowed number of passengers in this car.



Fig. 2: view of damage to vehicles Suzuki Swift

On Czech roads there are more and more aggressive drivers, and what is worse, they are responsible for casualties of innocent drivers. An example: a policewoman killed by a twenty two year old driver of Škoda Octavia, who was banned from driving. He ignored the police call to stop and ran into the policewoman. Other cases may be mentioned, in which, fortunately, nobody died. A Chevrolet driver in Zlín wanted to change lanes, and when a driver of another car did not allow him this manoeuvre, the Chevrolet driver approached the other one threatened him with a gun. Well known are also cases of displacement from the road and "breaking".

## CONCLUSION

There are many factors which affect our ability, skills and opportunities while driving. Anyone who wants to get behind the wheel of a motor vehicle, he must first realize that a motor vehicle can under the influence of circumstances turn into a lethal weapon. One should take this seriously, without taking vehicle as commonplace and everyday of our lives, but thinking about it, what would happen if. . .

Every day we are witnessing a dangerous, risky and aggressive behavior of drivers of motor vehicles on the roads. When one walks down the sidewalk and crosses the pedestrian crossing, or goes on bike or himself drives his vehicle. Almost every time our attention is attracted by someone who is breaking the rules of the road and is near a traffic accident.

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