





Summary of evidence*

Slower speeds are a key part of our goal to create Healthy Streets. Reducing vehicle speeds makes the street feel safer and more relaxed, which is likely to attract more people to walk, cycle and socialise in the street. London's boroughs and Transport for London (TfL) have implemented 20 miles per hour (mph) limits and zones on more than half of the capital's roads. There is strong evidence to support the introduction of 20mph roads in London and across the country:

Collisions are less likely at 20mph

There has been a

25%↓

reduction in road collisions on TfL's strategic roads since the introduction of 20mph limits, using data from 2020 to 2022



20mph limit helps to prevent the most severe injuries when collisions do occur

A person is

5x

more likely to be killed if hit by a vehicle travelling at 30mph, than at 20mph



Travelling at excess speed is one of the main causes of collisions

Around

half

of collisions identified speed as a contributory factor in fatal collisions in 2022



Children are safer



The number of children killed or seriously injured was reduced

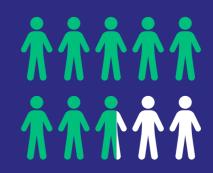
by half

after 20mph schemes were introduced between 1986-2006

20mph limit does not increase journey times



Residents are in favour of these changes



78%

agree that 20mph is the right speed for the area in which they live

20mph limit enables more active travel as people feel safer

There is an

increase

in walking and cycling where 20mph limits have been implemented



No adverse impact on air pollution

There has been



in exhaust emissions on 20mph roads



Streets are quieter and driving style improves

There is

reduced noise

when car speeds decrease from 30mph to 20mph, and driving style is smoother with less braking in 20mph areas in London



^{*}This infographic uses statistics from research into 20mph limits and 20mph zones by TfL, DfT, independent academics, city councils and transport consultancies



Available evidence

As more 20mph limits and zones have been introduced in London and internationally, the amount of evidence and research relating to their impacts has grown. This data has been collected by independent academics, the Department for Transport (DfT), as well as TfL.

Further research

TfL is continuing to implement 20mph limits on the roads it deems suitable and encouraging boroughs to do the same. An increasing number of cities are adopting 20mph limits in urban areas, with Wales recently introducing a default 20mph limit on restricted roads. As more data becomes available, we will continue to track the impacts of 20mph limits and zones.

Positive outcomes

Evidence to date consistently demonstrates that 20mph limits and zones are having a range of positive impacts on the lives of people living and working in London, while supporting the Vision Zero goal of eradicating all deaths and serious injuries from our roads by 2041. Lowering speed limits to 20mph not only makes our streets safer by reducing the number of road casualties, but also has been shown to improve the quality of life for residents and enhance communities by supporting social cohesion and promoting increased physical activity, which faster speeds might otherwise inhibit.

Maximising the benefits

To maximise the benefits of lowering speed limits to 20mph, physical measures, new technologies and enforcement can support compliance. The DfT, the Metropolitan Police Service and academic literature suggest that roads need to 'look and feel' like the speed limit set, so road speeds are 'self-enforcing'. Similarly, as Intelligent Speed Assistance (ISA) becomes more widely available as standard in cars, drivers will not be able to exceed the speed limit. Behaviour change is supported through speed enforcement in London, led by the police using a combination of on-street officers, fixed-site and mobile cameras, and mobile speed enforcement vans.

Sources:

Collisions are less likely Safe Speeds

Children are safer

Effect of 20 mph traffic speed zones on road injuries in London, 1986-2006

20mph limit enables more active travel as people feel safer

South Edinburgh 20mph

20mph helps to prevent the most severe injuries when collisions do occur

20mph does not increase journey times Research into the impacts of 20mph speed limits and zones

No adverse impact on air pollution

An evaluation of the estimated impacts on vehicle emissions of a 20mph speed restriction in central London.

Excess speed is one of the main causes of collisions

Casualties in Greater London in 2022

Residents are in favour of these changes 20mph Research Study

Streets are quieter

Noise Reduction by Urban Traffic Management

Driving style improves in urban areas
An evaluation of the estimated impacts
on vehicle emissions of a 20mph speed
restriction in central London

Enhanced communities
<u>Transport</u>, health and wellbeing