**Public Health** 



# Knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accidents: a descriptive cross-sectional study in Kashmir

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# **Abstract**

**Background:** Road traffic accidents (RTAs) are a major global health concern, and young adults are one group that is especially at risk. Approximately 1.3 million people die in road accidents each year, and another 20 to 50 million get non-fatal injuries that result in lifelong disability. Among those aged 5 to 29, these accidents are the leading cause of death. The purpose of this study is to evaluate university-bound students' awareness of how to prevent traffic accidents.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional analytical research design using a quantitative approach was used to gauge students' understanding of how to prevent road traffic accidents (RTAs). Data collection took place at the Islamic University of Science and Technology, specifically focusing on students from various departments. A multi-stage cluster-level sampling technique was employed, resulting in a sample size of 613 participants.

**Results:** Findings indicated that university students exhibited a moderate level of knowledge regarding road safety (77%), with scope for enhancement. The average knowledge score stood at 16.18 out of 30. On average, participants correctly answered around 54% of the questions. Educational attainment significantly influenced knowledge levels, while factors such as age, gender, family status, economic standing, and locality demonstrated no significant correlations with road safety awareness.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion, the study finds that most of the participants had a moderate understanding of how to prevent road traffic accidents. Additionally, educational background emerged as a significant determinant of participants' awareness levels.

**Keywords:** road traffic accidents, prevention knowledge, university students, Kashmir, cross-sectional study, traffic safety awareness, educational impact

# Introduction

Road traffic accidents constitute a prominent and pervasive global concern within the realm of public health, engendering substantial morbidity and mortality outcomes [1]. They incur a considerable loss of human lives, incite economic detriment, and impose a burden upon healthcare infrastructures [2]. Approximately 1.3 million people die in road accidents each year, and another 20 to 50 million get non-fatal injuries that result in lifelong disability. The United Nations (UN) aims to halve these incidents



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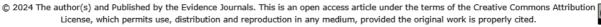
### **Evidence in Context**

Assesses awareness among university students in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir.
 Finds moderate road safety knowledge with an average score of 16.18 out of 30.
 Education level significantly impacts knowledge; age, gender, and economic status do not.
 Suggests that improved educational programs could enhance road safety awareness.
 Recommends further research to develop targeted educational interventions.

To view Article









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