

Are Safety Deficiencies of Young Drivers Training Gaps?

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Young drivers differ relatively little from other drivers in terms of accidents on roads *within* built-up areas. This certainly contributes to the practical driver training and driving test which substantially take place on urban roads.

On roads *outside* built-up areas, the differences between young drivers and other drivers in terms of road safety are extreme. The risk of being killed there in an accident as a young driver is 7 times as high as on urban roads.

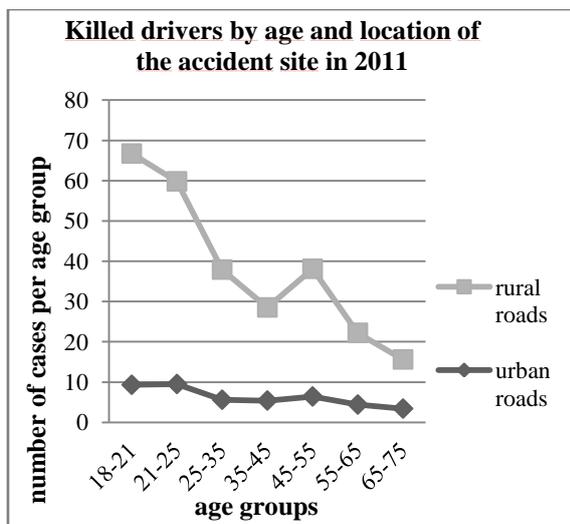


Figure 1 Number of drivers killed in 2011 in traffic accidents per age group

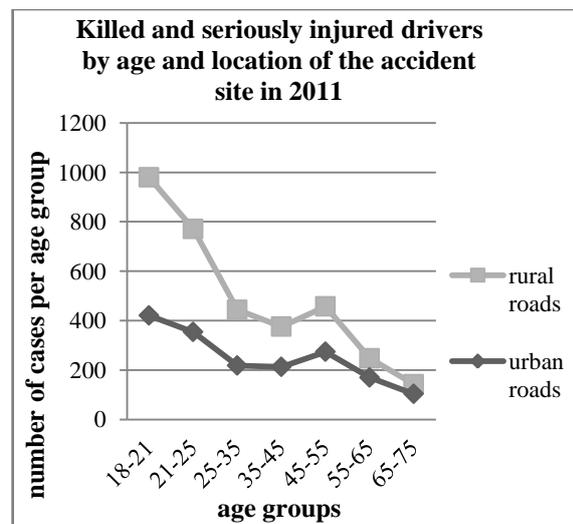


Figure 2 Number of killed and seriously injured drivers in traffic accidents in 2011 by age and location of the accident site

Are there gaps in driving training concerning rural roads?

An investigation of the misconduct of young drivers before accidents involving fatalities and serious injuries shows that the misconduct on rural roads is based essentially on only 3 of 13 misconduct ways.

The misconduct ways *non-adapted speed*, *error when overtaking* and *improper road use* are essentially spread in rural areas and among young drivers and contribute substantially to the risk of injury there. There were no mentionable differences between the sexes observed.

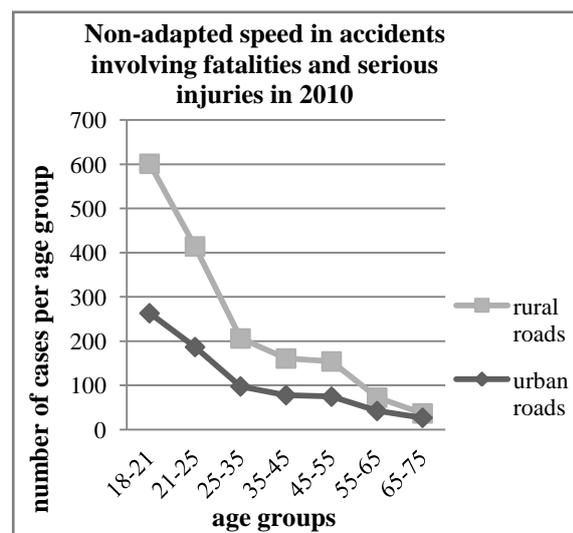


Figure 3 Accidents after non-adapted speed by age and local situation in 2010

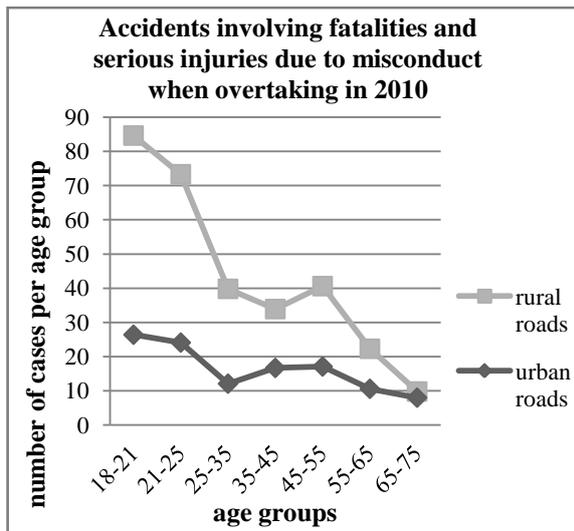


Figure 4 Accidents after misconduct in overtaking by age and local situation in 2010

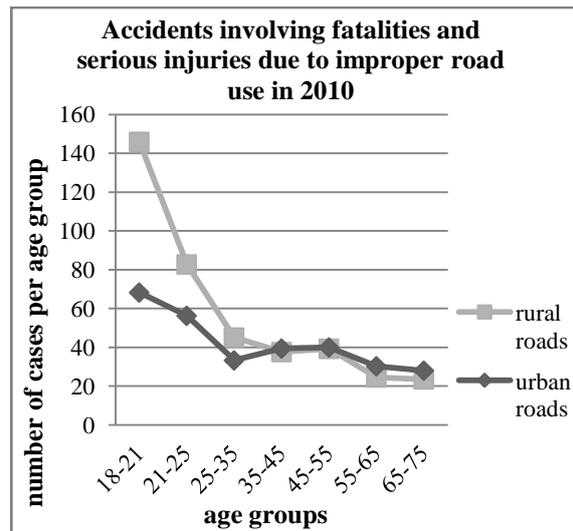


Figure 5 Accidents after improper road use by age and local situation in 2010

This situation suggests that the driver training in rural areas in its current form is far from sufficient and should be complemented by targeted education and specialized training in the same extent that it has previously been taking place only within cities.

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