

# Road safety knowledge in municipal civil servants

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# Why measure knowledge in municipal civil servants?

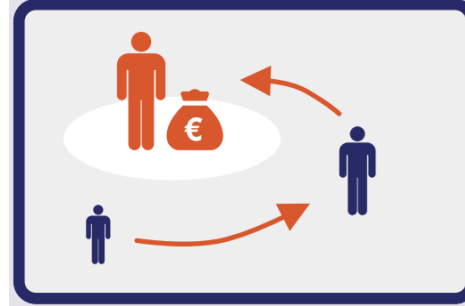
- Many Dutch roads owned by municipalities
  - Correct knowledge -> more chance of correct policies
  - Municipalities: not enough money/time for road safety
- ➔ Do municipal civil servants have sufficient knowledge on road safety?

# Research questions

- What road safety knowledge do municipal civil servants need?
- Do municipal civil servants have the necessary level of knowledge?

# 5 Knowledge types

- Situational knowledge
- Conceptual knowledge
- Procedural knowledge
- Strategic knowledge
- Cultural knowledge



# Methods

- Online survey with self-assessment and factual questions
- 135 (38%) out of all 355 municipalities responded
  
- 9 Interviews (mix of live, MS Teams and telephone) for interpretation survey results
  
- Respondents were policy makers traffic and transport
- Equally small/large municipalities

# General results

Knowledge type	Result	%
Situational knowledge	Knowledge on local situations	83-96%
Conceptual knowledge	Sustainable Safety theories	75-94%
	Correct estimation of effectivity infrastructure and enforcement	30-66%
	Correct estimation of effectivity education and mass media campaigns	4-39%
Procedural knowledge	Knowledge on underreporting	55%
	Knows how to handle underreporting	40%
Strategic knowledge	Self-assessment strategic knowledge	84-94%
Cultural knowledge	Agrees to precautionary culture	79%

# Results: Effectivity of education/campagnes











Measure	Correct answer	Most chosen answer
Bike training elderly	Effectivity not yet determined	Quite/very effective (86%)
Road safety education schools	Slightly effective	Quite/very effective (97%)
Mass media campaigns	Not effective	Quite/very effective (46%)

# Results: Underreporting in bicycle crashes

- 5% does not know what underreporting is
- 40% assumes that the % underreporting for bicycle crashes is easy to find (it's not)
- 10% finds it useless to take underreporting into account
- 40% finds it usefull, but doesn't know how



# Conclusion

Situational knowledge		
Conceptual knowledge		
Procedural knowledge		
Strategic knowledge		
Cultural knowledge		

# Limitations

- Self-selection
- No standard questionnaire: factual questions vs self-assessment
  - ➔ More desired answers on self-assessment questions
- Socially desirable answers?
- Difficult to assess own knowledge level

# Future steps: municipal civil servants

Reasons misinformation on education	2021
Knowledge on data, handling & limitations	2022
Knowledge in consultancy agencies	2023
Use of lay knowledge in municipal policies	2024
Knowledge in local politicians	2025

**SWOV**

More info?

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Link to report (English summary):

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**Thank  
you!**

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