

Improving Road Safety for Young Drivers

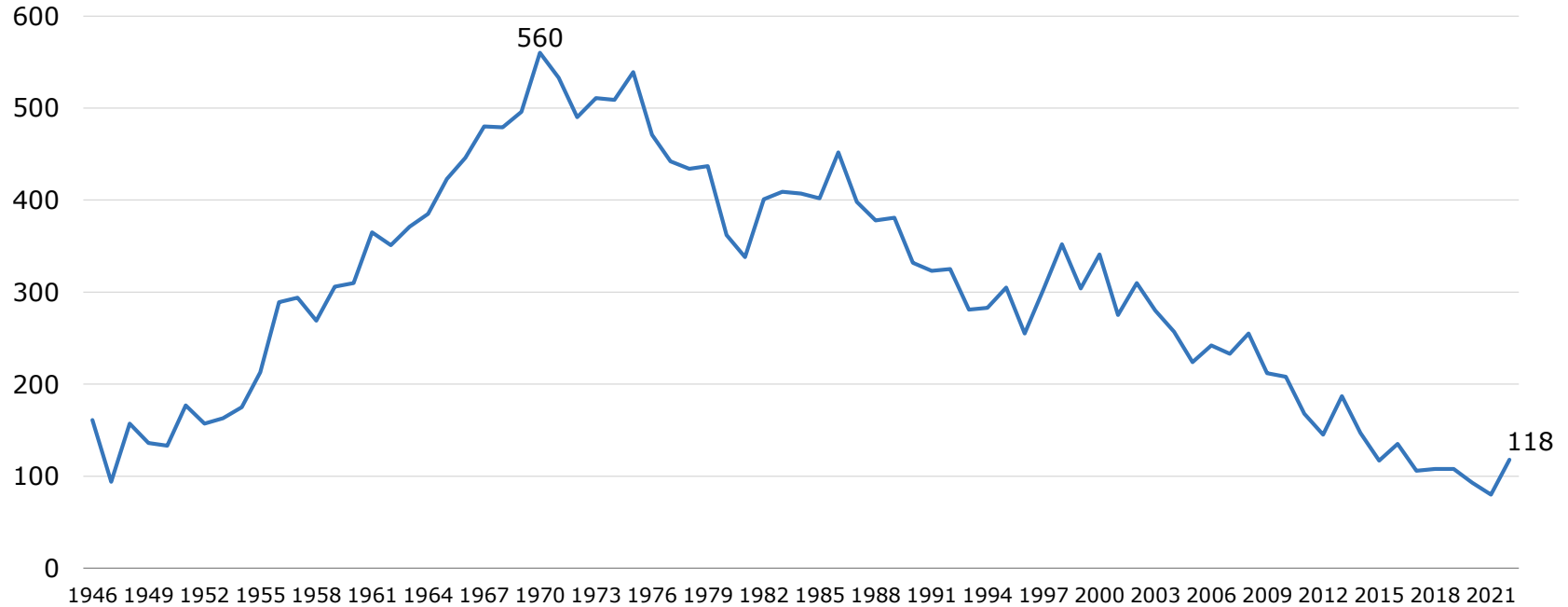
Norwegian Police's road safety work to improve road safety for young drivers?

Roar Skjelbred Larsen

Deputy Head

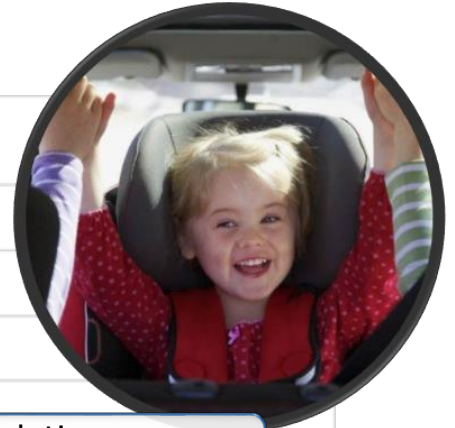
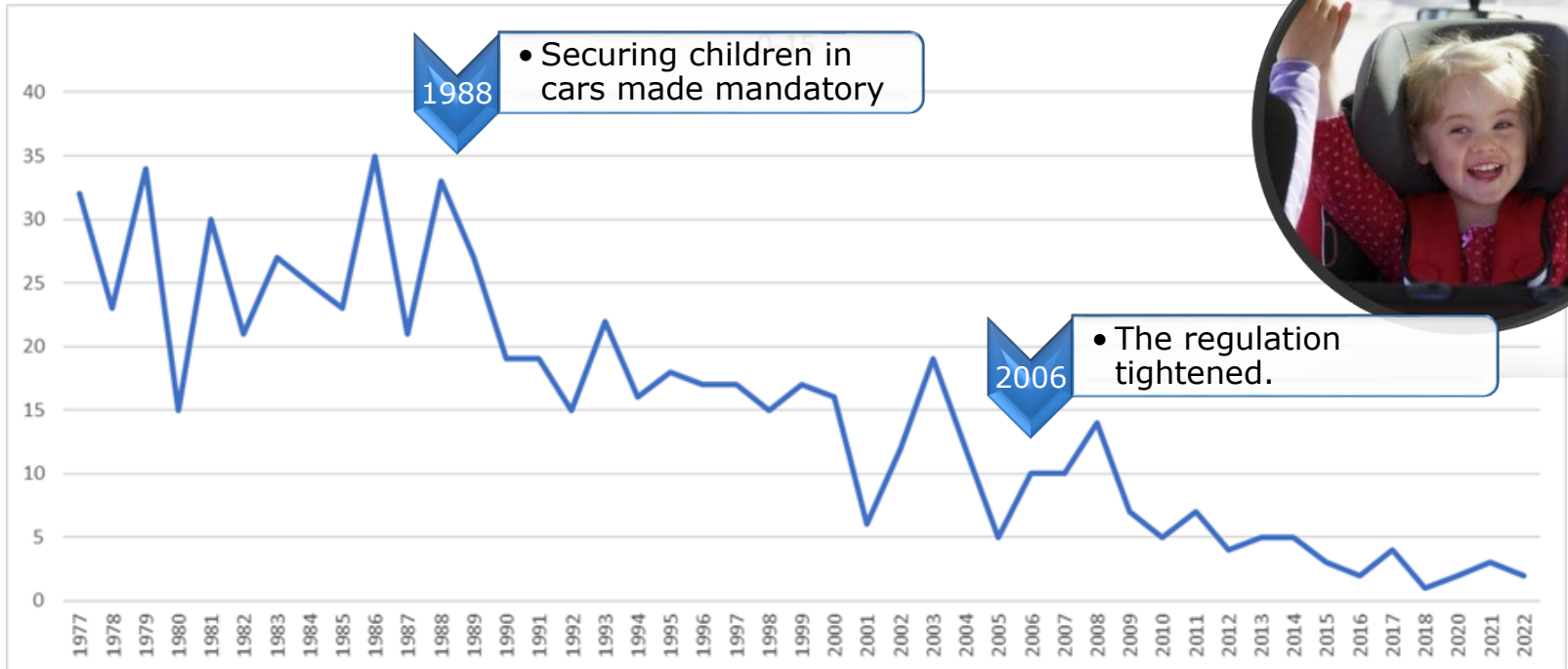
Norwegian National Road Policing Service

ANNUAL ROAD FATALITIES 1946 - 2022





Children, down from approx. 100 to "0"



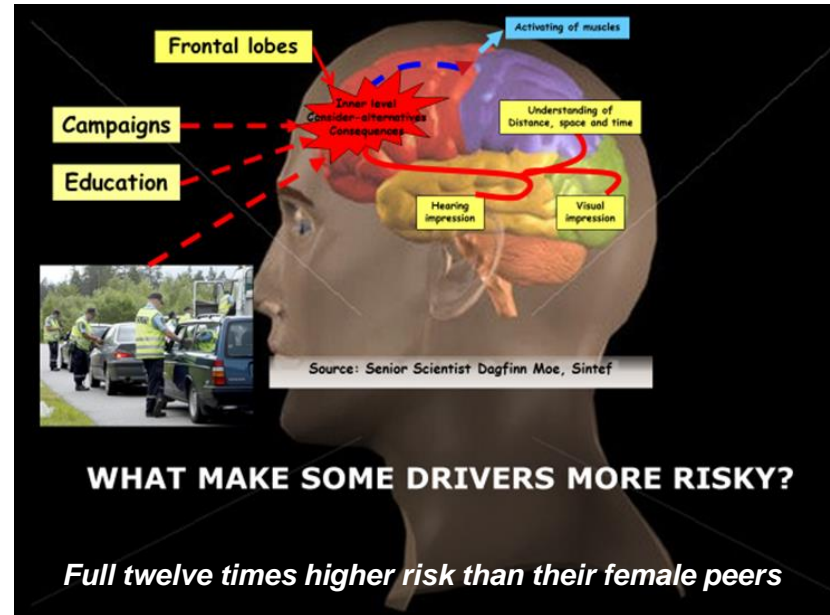


YOUNG (MALE) DRIVERS

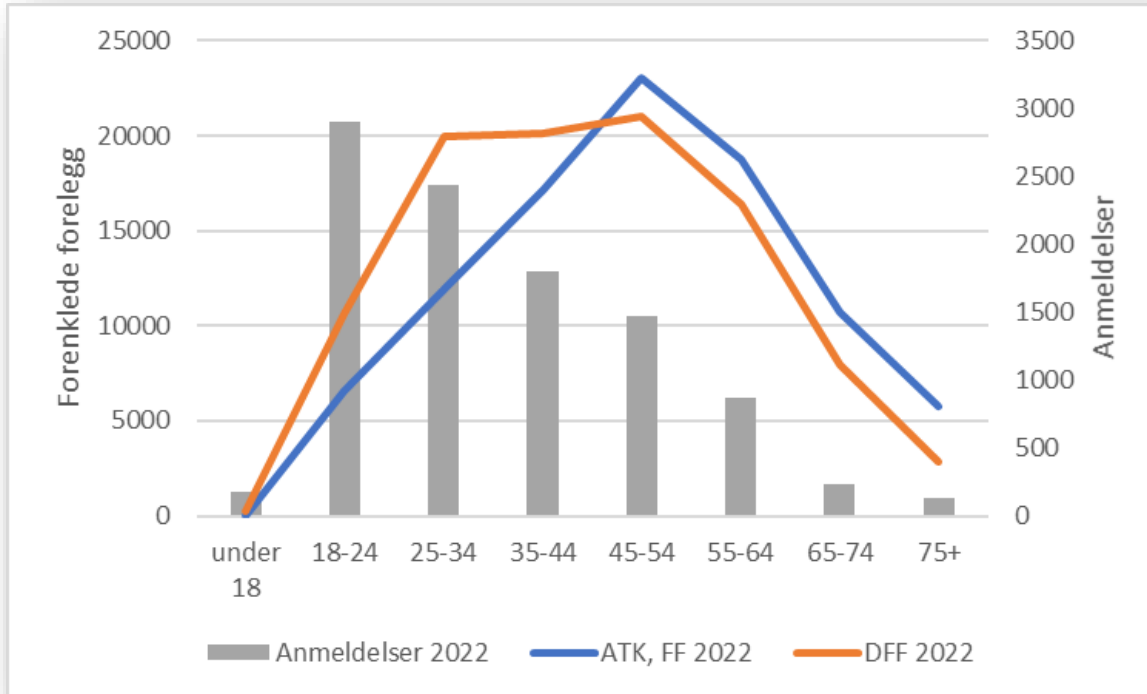
INTELLIGENCE SHOWS THAT THIS AGE GROUP IS VERY VULNERABLE IN ROAD TRAFFIC SITUATIONS AND DEMAND ADDITIONAL ATTENTION FROM THE POLICE

Risk perception and decision making in young drivers

- The development of the brain and the pre-frontal cortex (used for planning, judgement and risk perception), and how this affects young drivers.
- The human brain does not reach full maturity until at least the mid-20s.

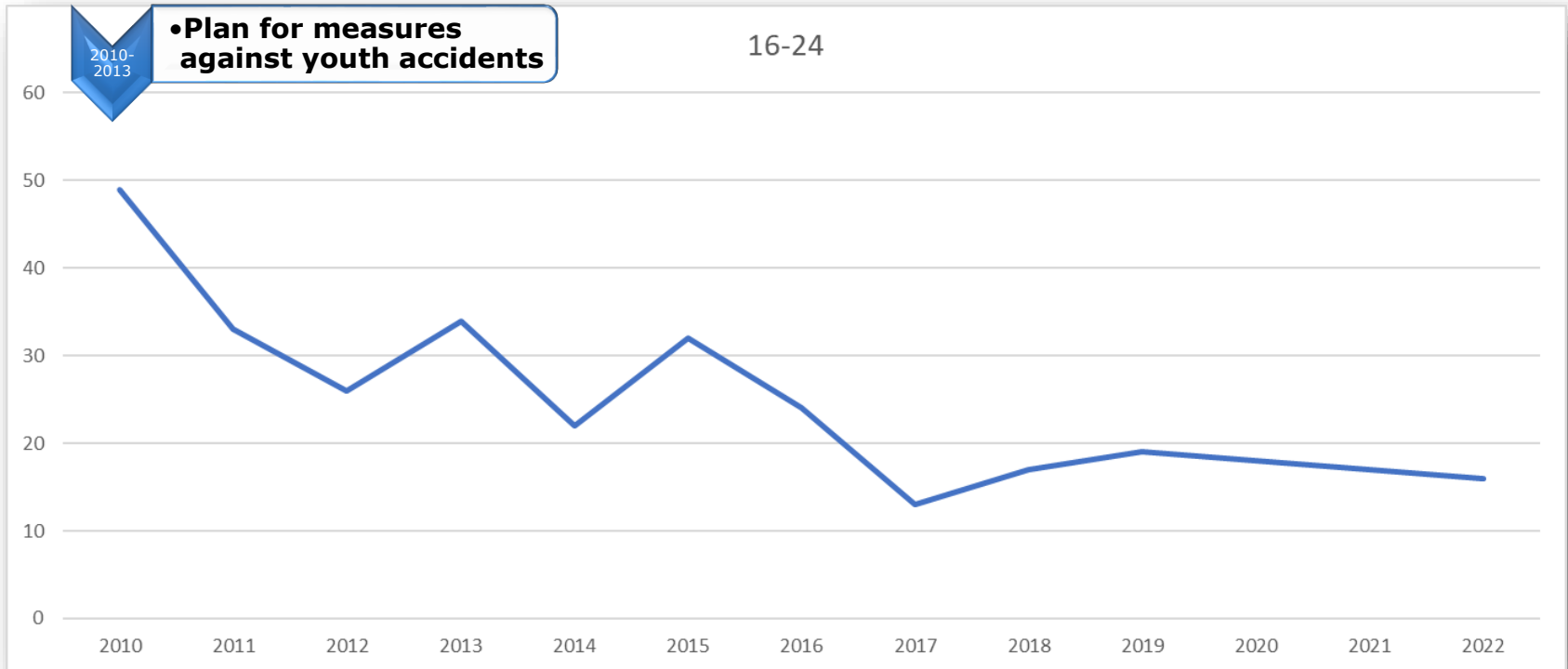


Speed Enforcement 2022 by age group





Killed 2010-2022 by age group 16-24 (from 71 to 16)



Increased number of youth drivers fatalities

- In 2008, the number of people killed in the 16-25 age group increased from 43 in 2007 to 71. Such an increase required measures to be introduced to reverse the trend.



OECD report (2006) Young drivers. The road to safety.

The measures are prioritized in this order:

A. Effect of ordinary traffic safety measures.

- These are measures such as control activities in connection with drug/drunk driving, non-use of seat belts, speed monitoring, road measures etc.

B. Extensive training before taking a driver's licence.

C. Measures in connection with young people driving alone.

- This applies to stricter penalties etc. in the first years after you have obtained your driving licence.

D. Increased focus on risk understanding.

E. New technology.

- This includes, for example, speed limit systems, driving with a behavior recorder (black box), breathalyzer lock, smart card, and intelligent driver support systems.

The accident risk for novice drivers

- The accident risk for novice drivers falls sharply during the first few months of driving (ref. Figure 1).
- The experience gained during the first months of driving is a common explanation for this reduction.
- Candidates could potentially gain this experience during driver training, thereby commencing their driving career with a much lower accident risk.

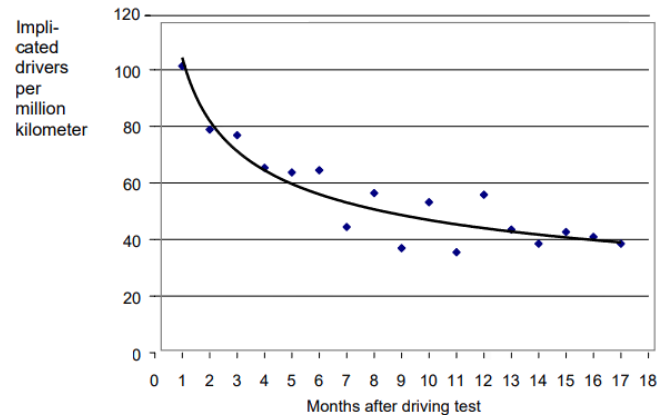
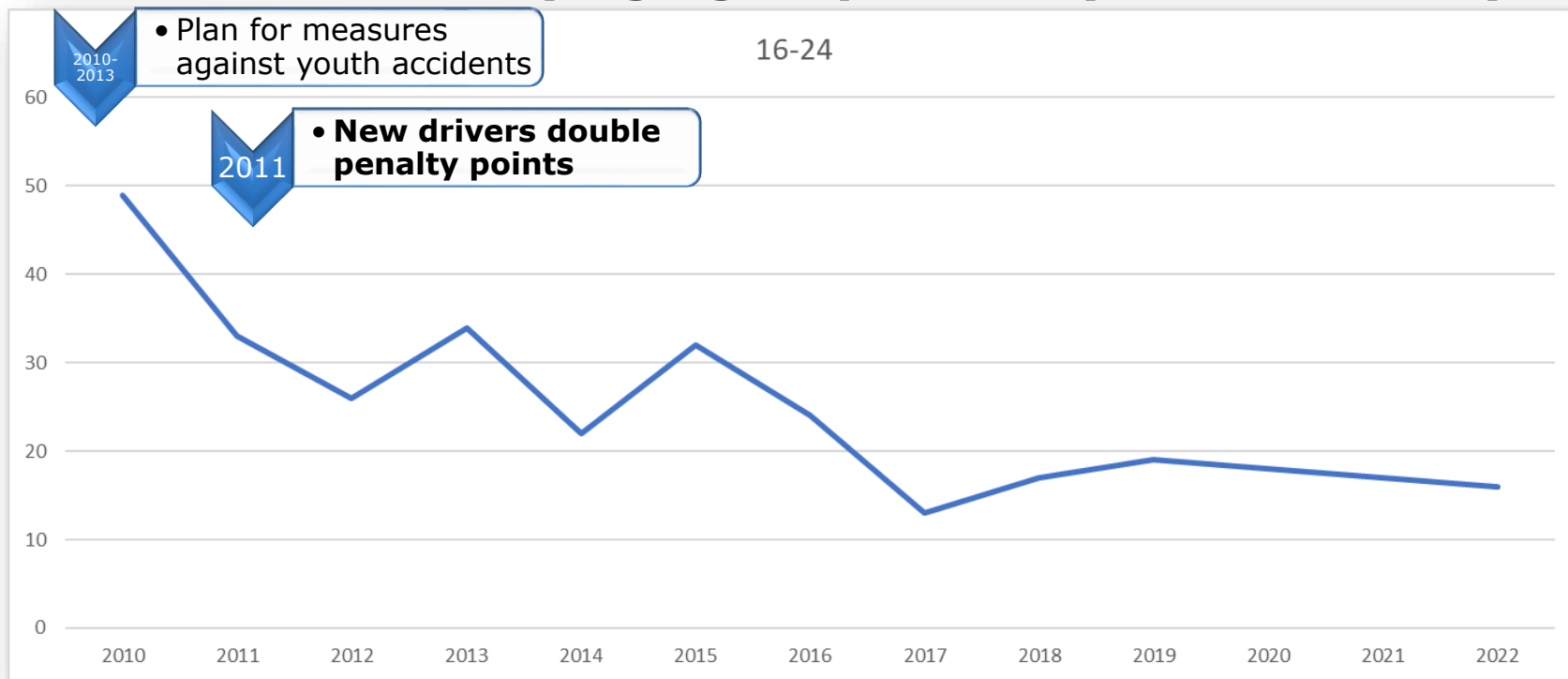


Figure 1 18-20 year old drivers' accident involvement against months with driving license. From Sagberg, 2000.



Killed 2010-2022 by age group 16-24 (from 71 to 16)





Novice drivers (July 1, 2011)

- New Class B driver's of the Trial License Period (two years), will be recorded with **double the number of points for each violation committed during the trial period.**
- The trial period applies regardless of age.
- New drivers run the risk of getting up to six points in the event of a single traffic violation.
- Written notice when received 4 point instead of 6 points
- As for other drivers, after a number of **eight penalty points** within a period of three years will results in suspension of the driving license for a period of **six months.**
- When you get back the driving right, you will get deleted those points that were considered by the suspension of the driving license
- New drivers must apply and pay for a new provisional licence and **pass both theory and practical** parts of the driving test again to get a full licence.



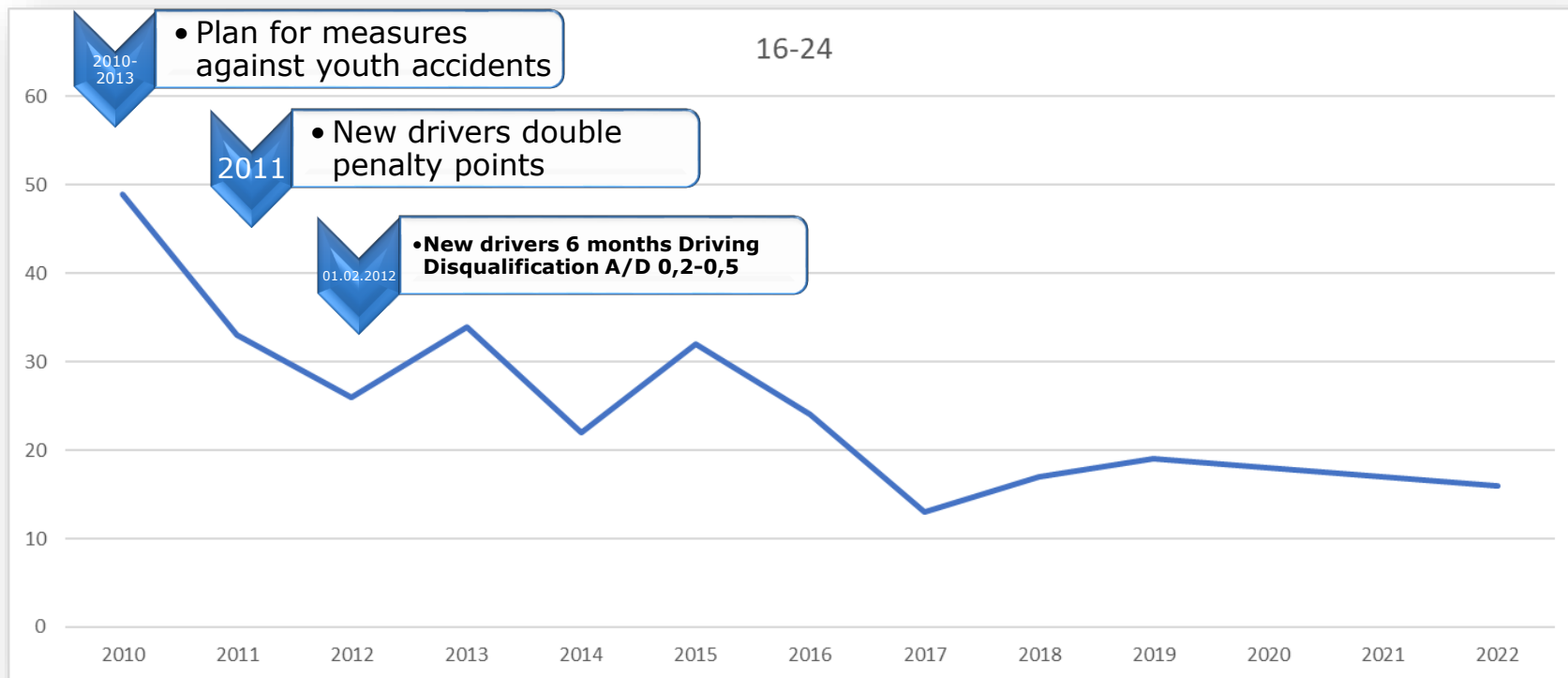
Evaluation of Norway's driver demerit point system

- The analyses of crash involvement **show a larger risk decrease from before to after 2011 among probationary-license drivers** compared to full-license drivers. Introduction of **double demerit points for novice drivers from 2011 is a possible explanation of this finding.**





Killed 2010-2022 by age group 16-24 (from 71 to 16)



Roadside Alcohol and legal or illegal Drugs Testing

- Alcohol Breath Tester (screening)
- Drug Screening Devices (saliva)
- Evidential Breath Tester (alcohol)
- Drug Impairment Signs & Symptoms Test
- Evidential Blood Test





The Drug Driving Regulation

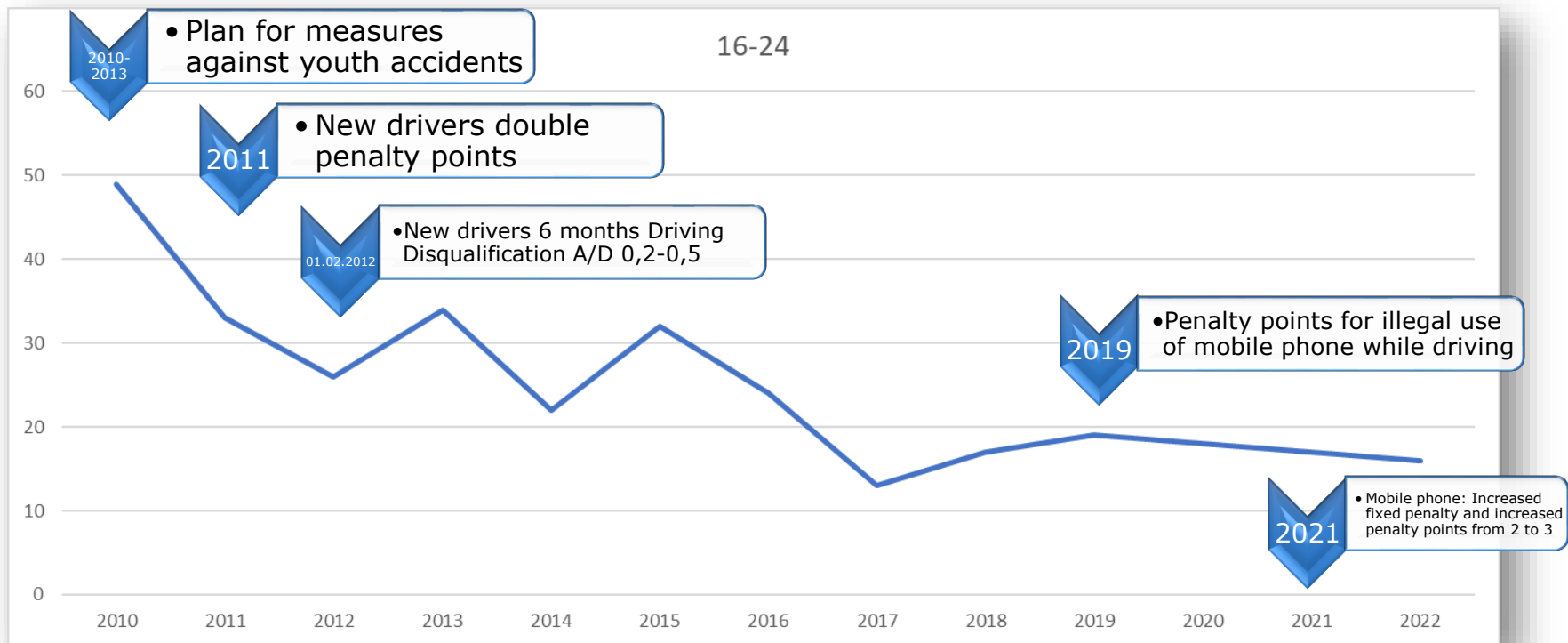
- As the first country in the world, a fixed blood concentration legal limit for 29 drugs similar to BAC limits for alcohol; 0,2, 0,5 and 1,2 was introduced in 2011.
- *Since 1959, the police have been allowed, if drug influence is suspected, to request blood analysis for illegal and prescribed drugs affecting driving performance.*

Stoff	Straffbarhetsgrense (µM fullblod)	Straffeutmålingsgrense svarende til 0,5 promille (µM fullblod)	Straffeutmålingsgrense svarende til 1,2 promille (µM fullblod)
Benzodiazepiner og lignende stoffer			
Alprazolam	0,010	0,020	0,050
Bromazepam	0,100	0,250	0,600
Desmetildiazepam	0,400	1,000	2,400
Diazepam	0,200	0,500	1,200
Etizolam	0,040	0,100	0,240
Fenazepam	0,005	0,015	0,030
Flunitrazepam	0,005	0,010	0,025
Klobazam	0,600	1,500	3,600
Klonazepam	0,004	0,010	0,025
Lorazepam	0,030	0,075	0,180
Nitrazepam	0,060	0,150	0,350
Oksazepam	0,600	1,500	3,000
Triazolam	0,001	0,0025	0,006
Zolpidem	0,100	0,250	0,600
Zopiklon	0,030	0,060	0,150
Cannabis			
THC	0,004	0,010	0,030
GHB			
GHB	100	300	1200
Hallusinogener			
Ketamin	0,200	0,500	1,200
LSD	0,003	*	*
Opioider			
Buprenorfin	0,0008	0,002	0,0048
Metadon	0,080	0,200	0,48
Morfin	0,030	0,080	0,200
Oksykodon	0,050	0,120	0,300
Sentralstimulerende stoffer			
Amfetamin	0,300	*	*
Kokain	0,080	*	*
MDMA	0,500	*	*
Metamfetamin	0,300	*	*
Metylfenidat	0,015	*	*

* Straffeutmålingsgrenser er ikke fastsatt fordi sammenhengen mellom stoffkonsentrasjon i blodet og ulykkesrisiko/prestasjonsforringelse er svært variabel, eller dårlig dokumentert.



Killed 2010-2022 by age group 16-24 (from 71 to 16)



Norway has the strictest driving fines in Europe

Up 30 % from 1st February 2023

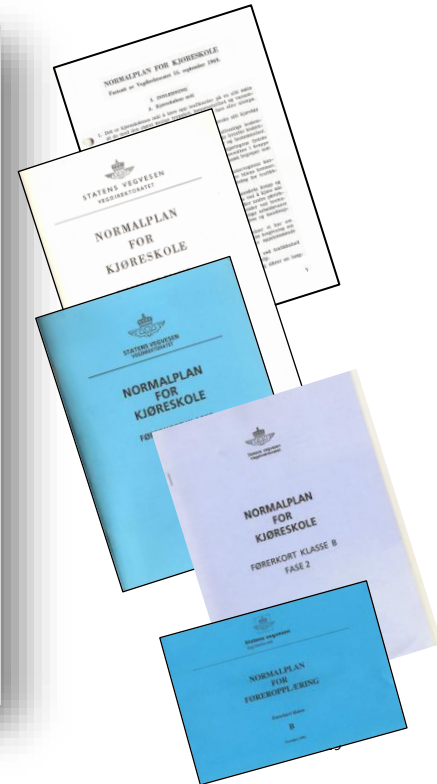
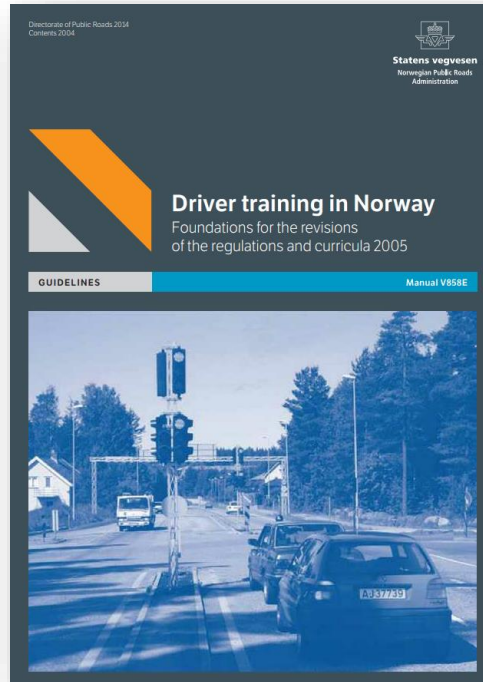
- Fixed penalty notice for speeding from €99 up to €1310
 - Fixed penalty notice for illegal use of mobile phone – €876
 - Fixed penalty notice for running red lights - €876
 - Maximum fixed penalty notice for several traffic offences - €2371
- and in addition penalty points ...





Improved Driver Training

- Driver training has **changed from instruction in technical vehicle handling and interaction** with other road users, to **guiding students to a greater extent to contribute to the right attitude and motivation for road-safety behavior**





COMMUNICATION ABOUT DRIVING



New Youth Generation (changed in thirty years)

- Commit Less Crime Than Prior Generations
 - improved conditions in childhood – families, neighborhoods, schools
 - less alcohol and more screen use
 - more homely
- Less use of Alcohol and Drugs
- Improved Safety Culture in Society

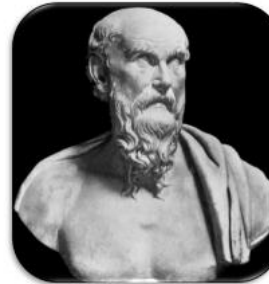




The Keys to Success



Young people have always been big risk-takers



"I see no hope for the future of our people, for certainly all youth are reckless beyond words"

Hesiod 700 bc



POLITIET

THANK YOU!

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