

ENSURING ROAD SAFETY IN TASHKENT: ANALYSIS OF PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT

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Annotation: *With the rapid population growth and increasing vehicle fleet, ensuring road safety in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, is becoming a priority socio-economic and technical challenge. This article analyzes the current road safety situation in Tashkent, identifies key risk factors, and proposes comprehensive measures to improve the road safety system through the use of information and communication technologies and the development of safe road infrastructure.*

Key words: *traffic management, road safety, intelligent transport systems, speed cameras, penalty point system, legislative reforms.*

Road traffic accidents (RTAs) remain one of the leading causes of death and injury in Uzbekistan, highlighting the critical importance of this issue.

As the country's largest transportation hub, Tashkent faces a particularly high rate of road accidents.

According to data for the first eight months of 2025, over 4,300 RTAs were registered in Tashkent, representing a 10% increase compared to the average for previous years.

A significant portion of these accidents (over 61% in 2024) involved pedestrians.

Efforts to reduce accidents require not only stricter controls but also the implementation of scientifically based approaches to traffic management.

From 2018 to August 2025, over 32,000 RTAs occurred in Tashkent.

The distribution of accidents by district reveals the most problematic areas: Yunusabad, Chilanzar, and Yashnabad districts lead in the number of accidents.

The main causes of road accidents typically include:

- ☒ exceeding the speed limit (98 out of 1,280 accidents in 2024);
- ☒ drivers violating traffic regulations;
- ☒ pedestrians crossing the roadway in unauthorized places.

Despite the implementation of advanced international practices, urban infrastructure still does not fully meet safety requirements:

- ☒ lack of safe infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists (pedestrian zones, bike paths);

❑ incomplete implementation of smart traffic lights and adaptive traffic management systems;

❑ problems with markings and lighting in some areas.

The rapid increase in the number of vehicles leads to traffic congestion and, consequently, reduced driver attention and an increased risk of accidents. Measures being considered, such as the possible introduction of an odd-even day system for cars or restrictions on truck traffic during peak hours, are aimed at reducing this congestion.

To achieve the goals of reducing accidents and fatalities on Tashkent roads, it is necessary to implement a set of measures in the following key areas:

1. Use of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

2. The implementation of ITS is a key element of modern road safety concepts.

This includes:

❑ large-scale deployment of adaptive traffic lights that adjust their phases depending on actual traffic;

❑ use of information and analytical systems for proactive accident analysis, identifying hot spots, and predicting risks;

❑ expanding the network of photo and video recording systems for traffic violations.

3. Developing safe road infrastructure.

Priority should be given to developing infrastructure aimed at protecting the most vulnerable road users:

❑ construction of raised pedestrian crossings to reduce speed;

❑ creation of a sufficient number of dedicated and protected pedestrian and bicycle paths;

❑ providing high-quality street lighting and clear, durable road markings;

❑ using engineering solutions (e.g., traffic islands) to reduce potential conflicts.

4. Improving legal and organizational support.

Legislative and executive measures play a key role in this regard:

❑ strengthening enforcement of speed limit and pedestrian crossing rules by drivers;

❑ improving the quality of driver training and conducting regular preventative measures for all road users, including pedestrians.

Conclusion.

The road safety situation in Tashkent requires decisive and systematic action. A comprehensive approach combining the implementation of advanced ITS, the development of safe infrastructure, and strengthened legal oversight can ensure a sustainable reduction in accident and fatality rates.

The transition to the "Safe Road" concept (as stipulated by relevant Cabinet of Ministers resolutions) should become the foundation for the further development of

the capital's transportation system, guaranteeing safety and comfort for all residents and visitors.

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