

SPEEDING

FATAL 5

Speeding is one of the major causes of death and serious injury on South Australian roads. The speed of a vehicle affects the risk of a crash happening and the severity of injuries likely to be sustained in a crash. Research shows that even a small change in speed can make a big difference in road trauma.

The facts

- The risk of a casualty crash almost doubles with every 5 km/h increase in speed on a 60 km/h speed limited road, or with every 10 km/h increase in speed on a 110 km/h speed limited road.
- Travelling 65 km/h in a 60 km/h speed limited road will only save 46 seconds on a 10 km journey.
- For a fit and alert driver, in good driving conditions, at 60 km/h it takes about 1½ seconds or 12 metres of travel for you to realise that you have to brake and at least another 20 metres to stop. At higher speeds, the distance will be even greater.

What the law says

In South Australia, the maximum default speed limit in a built-up area is 50 km/h and the maximum default speed limit outside a built-up area is 100 km/h. Unless a road sign or a licence condition indicates otherwise, these are the maximum speeds permitted on a road.

Drivers should always:

- **Monitor their speed and stay within the speed limit.**
- **Adjust the speed to suit weather, traffic and road conditions.**
- **Be alert for pedestrians, especially children who may behave unpredictably.**
- **Be aware of other road users such as cyclists, whose safety on the road may be affected by drivers passing or overtaking them at high speed.**
- **Increase the distance between the vehicle in front when travelling at high speeds.**
- **Drive at speeds that are safe for the drivers own ability.**

The penalties

The penalties for speeding include fines up to \$1700, imprisonment, licence disqualification, loss of demerit points, vehicle impoundment and forfeiture.

For information on expiable offences and fees, visit www.police.sa.gov.au/services-and-events/expiations



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