

Corkery Community Association AGM

March 4, 2024

Traffic Calming & Road Safety Update



Traffic Calming Update

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Purpose

The purpose of this information is to provide a yearly update on traffic volume and speeding trends for the areas surrounding the Corkery Community Centre located at 3447 Old Almonte Rd and to provide awareness and promote road safety to residents in the community and surrounding areas.

Data Source

The data is captured from speed boards installed in the following locations:

1. Old Almonte Rd South-West (between Howie and Corkery)
2. Old Almonte Rd East (near fire hall #84)
3. Howie Rd North (near Manion Rd)
4. Corkery Rd North (near St-Michaels School)

Disclaimer: the speed boards are installed as a traffic calming device, to dissuade drivers from exceeding the posted speed limits. The City of Ottawa does not consider the data to be completely accurate.

Data for some of the months was not available in whole, or in part. Averages and summary information has been completed accordingly.

General Observations

For each zone, volumes on a month-to-month basis are consistent from year to year.

Average number of vehicles per month for 2023-2024:

- Old Almonte Rd South-West for Mar 2023 to Feb 2024: 11138
- Old Almonte Rd East for Feb 2023 to Feb 2024: 8604
- Howie Rd North for Feb 2023 to Feb 2024: 3143
- Corkery Rd North for Apr 2023 to Feb 2024: 6910

2023-2024 Data

Zone	Period in Days	Days speed exceeded 80 KM/H	Days speed exceeded 100 KM/H	Days speed exceeded 110 KM/H (stunt driving)	Highest Speed Recorded
Old Almonte Rd SW	322	322 (100%)	196 (60.87%)	64 (19.88%)	144
Old Almonte Rd E	362	314 (6.74%)	16 (4.42%)	5 (1.38%)	124
Howie Rd N	374	311 (83.16%)	38 (10.16%)	8 (2.14%)	122
Corkery Rd N	318	318 (100%)	197 (61.95%)	65 (20.44%)	139 (2)

Old Almonte Rd SW

- 64 days out of 322 days vehicles exceeded 110 KM/H or 50 KM/H above the posted speed limit.
- Higher speed rates are more prominent in this zone, 144 KM/H was highest recorded
- On average 75% of vehicles travel at < 69 KM/H
- On average 20% of vehicles travel between 70-79 KM/H
- On average 5% of vehicles travel > 80 KM/H

Old Almonte Rd E

- On average 94% of vehicles travel at < 69 KM/H
- On average 5% of vehicles travel between 70-79 KM/H
- On average 1% of vehicles travel > 80 KM/H

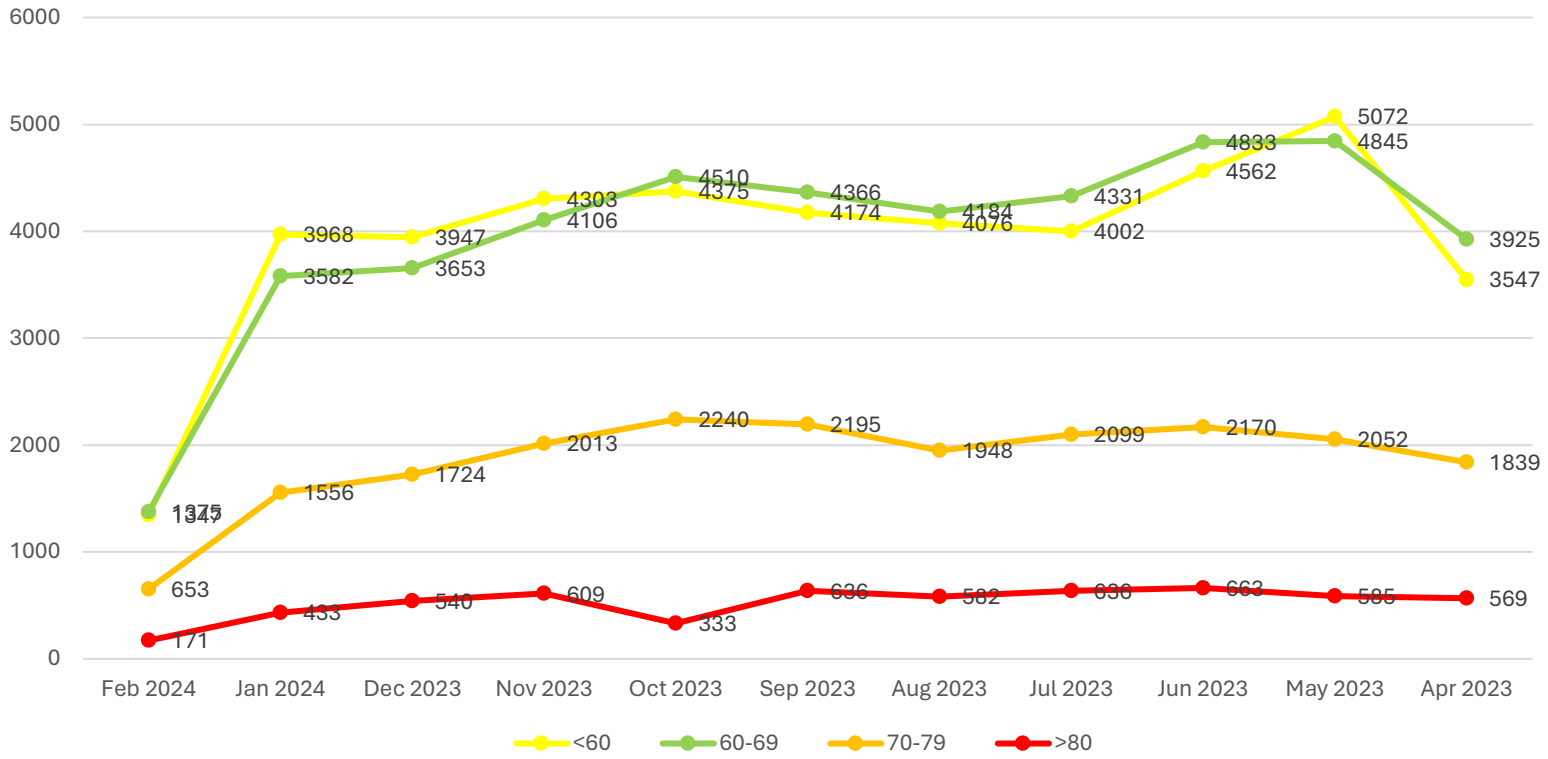
Corkery Rd

- 65 days out of 318 days vehicles exceeded 110 KM/H or 50 KM/H above the posted speed limit
- Higher speed rates are more prominent in this zone, 139 KM/H was highest recorded
- On average 71% of vehicles travel at < 69 KM/H
- On average 21% of vehicles travel between 70-79 KM/H
- On average 8% of vehicles travel > 80 KM/H

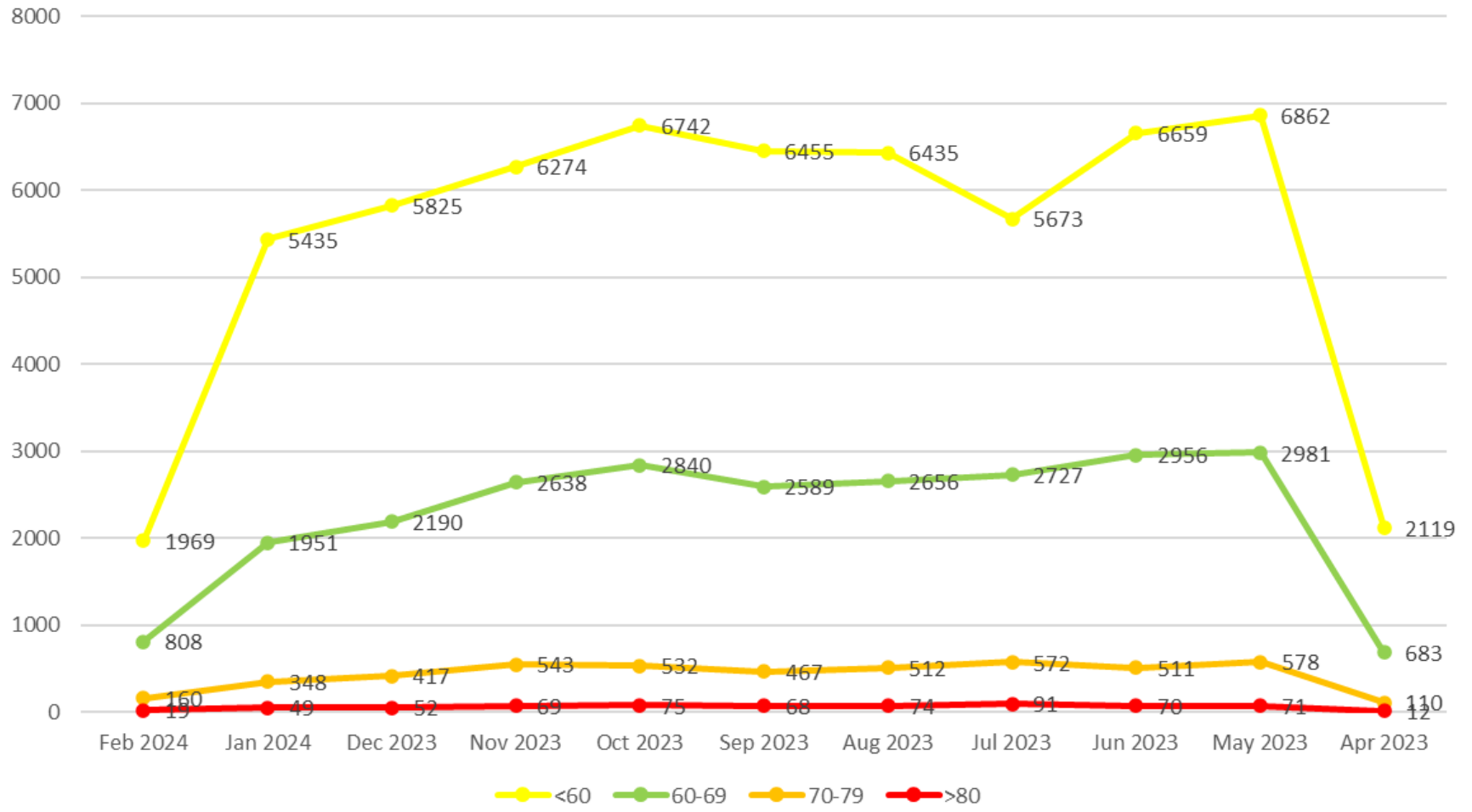
Howie Rd

- 311 days out of 374 days vehicles exceeded 80KMH compared to 336 days last year.
- 38 days out of 374 days vehicles exceeded 100 KMH compared to 50 days last year.
- 8 days out of 374 days vehicles exceeded 110 KMH compared to 11 days last year.
- On average 90% of vehicles travel at < 69 KM/H
- On average 8% of vehicles travel between 70-79 KM/H
- On average 2% of vehicles travel > 80 KM/H

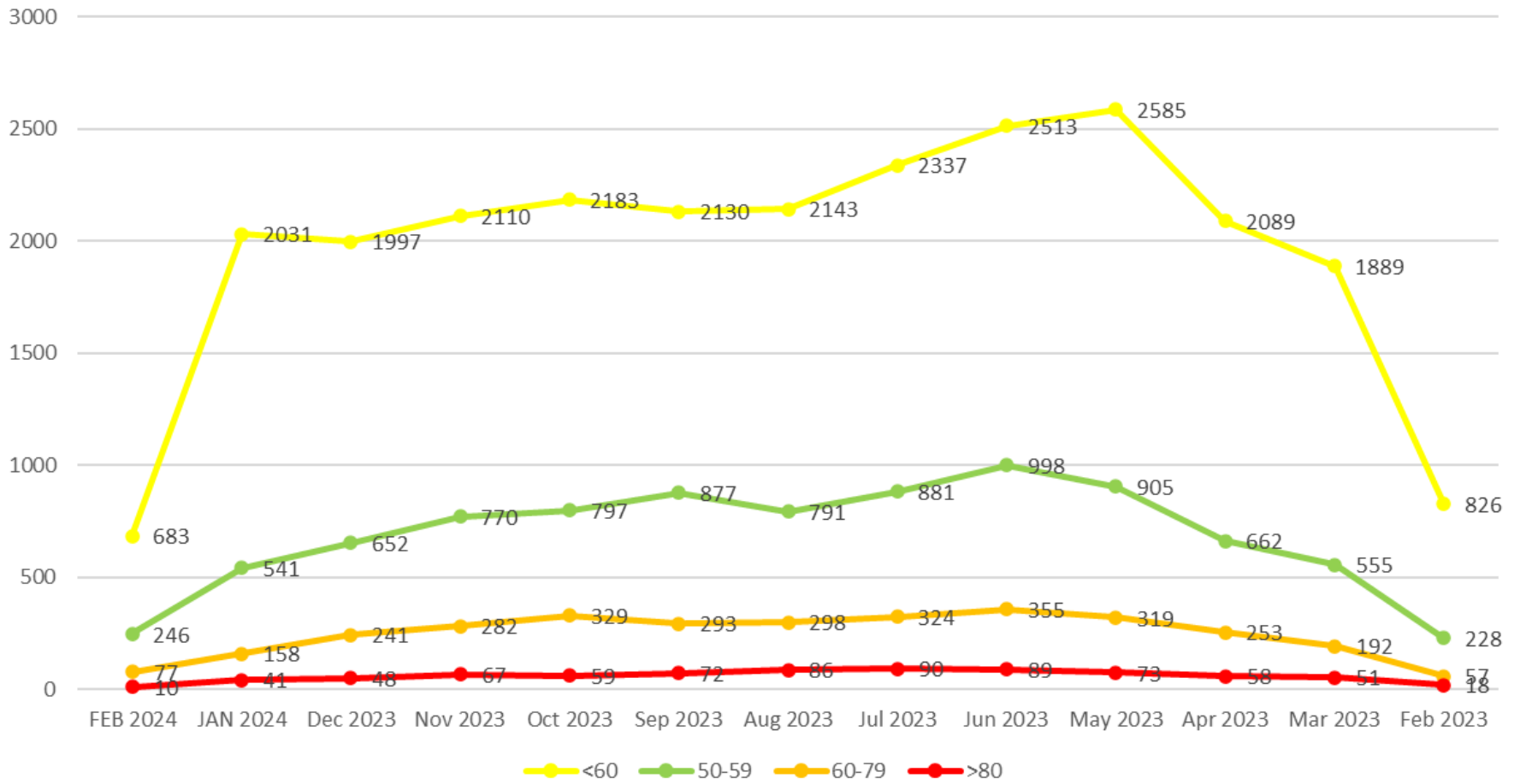
Vehicles by Speed (km/h) Category Old Almonte (SW) Apr 2023 - Feb 2024



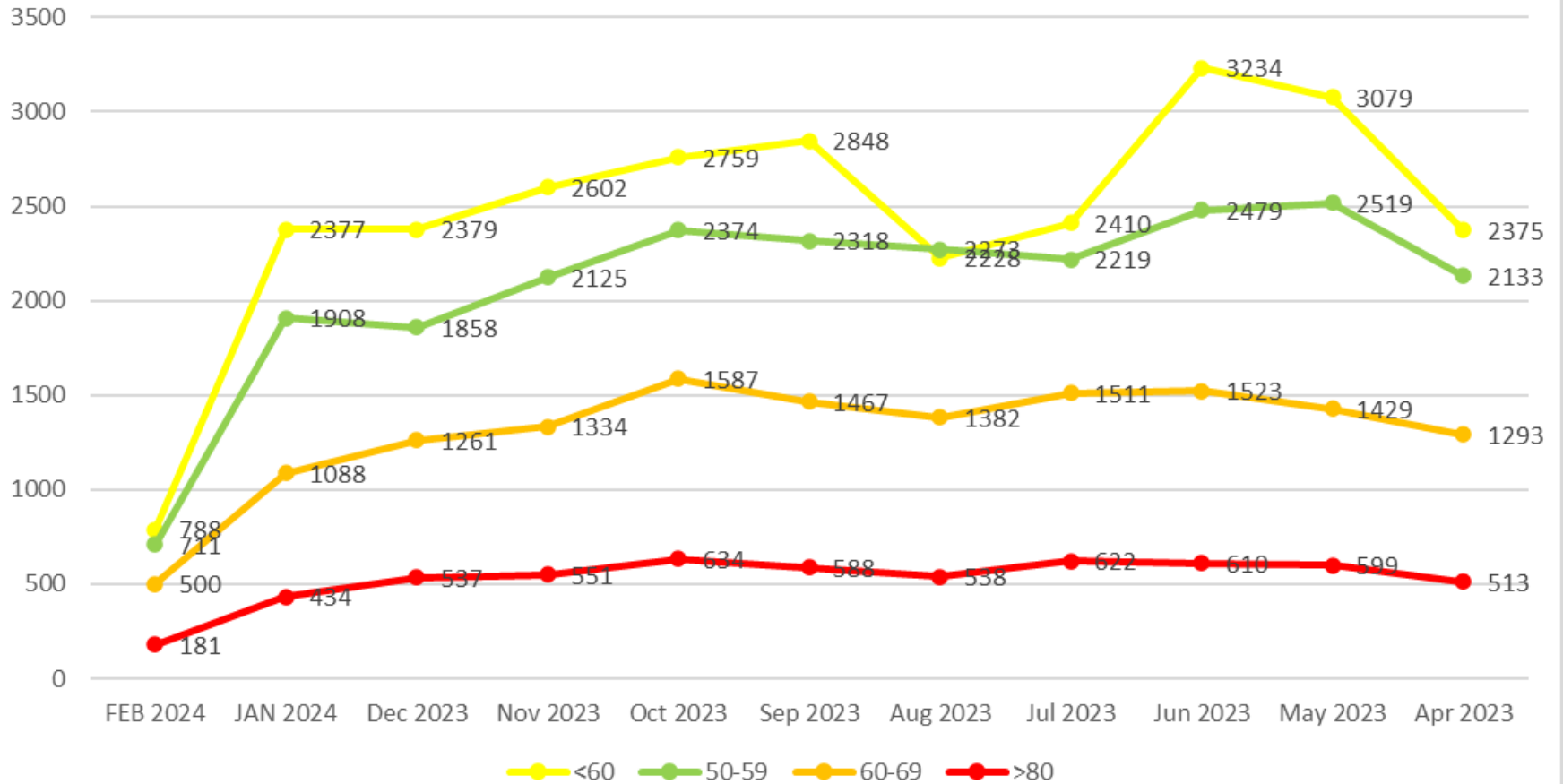
Vehicles by Speed (km/h) Category Old Almonte (E) Apr 2023 - Feb 2024



Vehicles by Speed (km/h) Category Howie Rd Mar 2023 - Feb 2024



Vehicles by Speed (km/h) Category Corkery Rd Apr 2023 - Feb 2024



Facebook Quick Poll Responses

Purpose

The intent of the poll was to solicit views on what individuals considered to be acceptable driving habits for different speed zones, community and school zones, and nighttime driving. We have heard and seen several posts from concerned community members that:

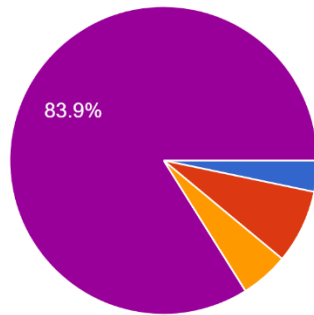
- walking, running, or cycling roads in our community is considered unsafe by many.
- many vehicles travel at high speed and do not consider slowing down or moving over when approaching pedestrians or cyclists.
- some roads do not provide much space for pedestrians to move over, especially during the winter months.
- many have pointed out that they routinely encounter people walking or cycling in the dark with no visible clothing or lights, making it unsafe for both parties.
- many trucks and school buses travel the roads at a high rate of speed
- some intersections are considered unsafe (eg. Corkery and Old Almonte, Corkery and March Rd)
- the expansion of the Corkery community centre will draw higher traffic volumes, which may lead to increase safety concerns on our roads.

Responses (see poll questions below)

- Responses were completed anonymously.
- A total 336 responses were received.
- A high percentage (more than 83.9 %) of respondents consider it acceptable to exceed posted speed limit by more than 15 KM/H, regardless of posted speed limit. The threshold is no different in a 40 KM/H zone, 60 KM/H zone, or 80 KM/H zone.
- A high percentage (83.2%) do not necessarily pay more attention or slow down when driving at night
- A high percentage (83.1%) do not necessarily pay more attention or slow down when driving in school or community safety zones
- Speeding concerns in their neighborhood (57 respondents)
 - 25 % *are not concerned* about speeding in their neighborhood.
 - 28.1% *are concerned* about speeding in their neighborhood most of the time.
 - 47.4% *are sometimes concerned* about speeding in their neighbourhood.

What do you consider acceptable when driving in a 40 KMH zone

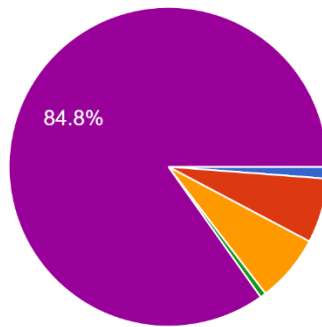
336 responses



- I do not exceed the posted speed limit
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 5 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 10 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 15 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by MORE than 15 KMH is acceptable

What do you consider acceptable when driving in a 60 KMH zone

336 responses



- I do not exceed the posted speed limit
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 5 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 10 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by NO MORE than 15 KMH is acceptable
- Exceeding by MORE than 15 KMH is acceptable

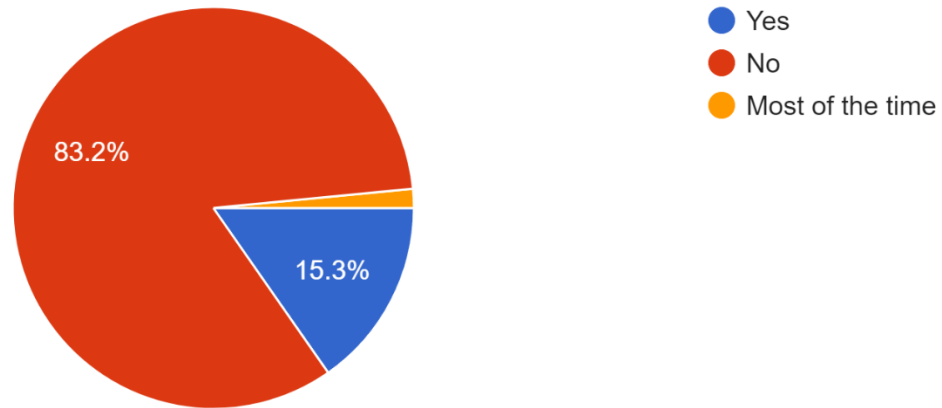
What do you consider acceptable when driving in a 80 KMH zone

335 responses



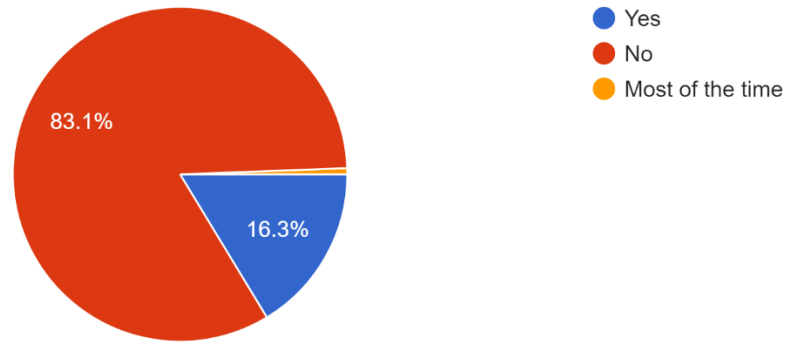
I pay closer attention / drive slower at night when it's dark

327 responses



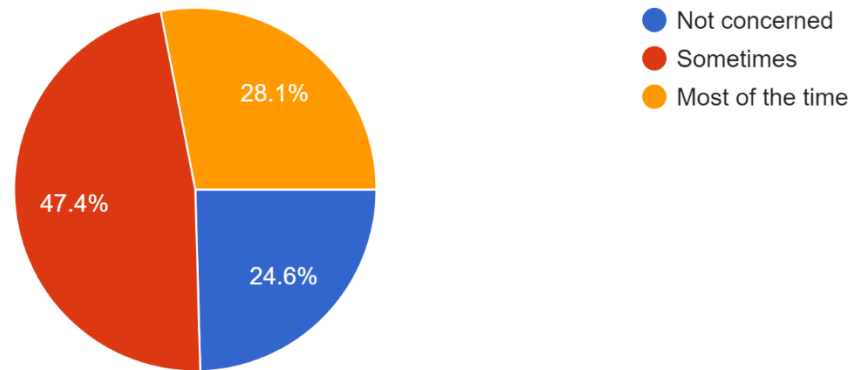
I pay closer attention / drive slower in School and Community safe zones

337 responses



Are you concerned about speeding on roads in your neighbourhood?

57 responses



Comments (verbatim as per respondents)

Speeds signs in the area should be looked at and changed accordingly. For instance Howie Road is 60 km the whole road. When people speed up to 80 km past the houses towards March Road where there are no close houses to the road and bush to the end of the road. The whole was 80 km for 40 years prior to this change!

Some of our Corkery roads were never re-signed after amalgamation. It's hard to know what the speed limit actually is. This needs to be addressed first. They were supposed to re-signed at 85% of the original speed (or as determined after review). This has been brought up with the councilor.

I'm more concerned with running over people who aren't properly lighted/ visible at night, drivers not giving cyclists and other drivers enough room when passing, and the general state of some roads (like Corkery; which is disintegrating!) than with the speed of most vehicles.

I find the worst drivers are delivery people

Crazy speeding down old almonte from community centre to upper Dwyer . Especially on Friday and weekends evenings! Lots of drinking and driving also because of all the beer cans in The ditch's...

Country roads are not city streets. When a country road that has been 70km/hr for decades suddenly has a speed radar that says to drive 50 km/hr it makes no sense. This is not the city and a regular drive to your kids school or sports is 10-25 km. Treating those roads as regular inner city streets is nonsensical. School Ones should be standardized throughout the city.

Corkery Road should have a lower speed limit than 80km

Tailgating, rolling stops, failing to signal are all more important problems to address.

Insane cars passing multiple vehicles on double lines and hills on March rd!!! A photo radar trap would be great! I'd likely get caught and I'm still all for it!

As a frequent walker i witness that school buses are among the worst culprits for speeding through Manion Heights and down Corkery and Old Almonte then I'd also say the stretch down the hill on Old Almonte toward Dwyer Hill after crossing Corkery is particularly bad.

The roads in our rural areas really should all have posted speed limits. For example, 110 km/h on David Manchester Road isn't acceptable and the radar speed detector sign near Old Almonte isn't meaningful when there are no posted speed limits even when they are implicit in bylaw.

Corkery rd south of old almonte should be posted 50 km/hr. Not good to have 80 to 40 intersection in residential area

I support photo radar in our community, including the ones that issue speeding tickets like at Carp Road & Richardson. I live at Old Almonte & Corkery and people often do 80+ near me- even with that new east-facing radar. There was an elderly cyclist who was hit at this intersection. I make sure to wear high vis gear when walking my dog, and I walk on the shoulder in the opposing direction so I can see vehicles approaching me. Most drivers are conscientious and slow down & pull over when approaching me. But there are some who blast by at high speed without consideration for me. I never ever walk at night, way too dangerous even if my dog and I are lit up like a UFO. Love this community, hate the speeding. It's the one thing that makes me feel unsafe. Ditto for aggressive drivers who tailgate when I'm obeying the speed limit or even going 5-10 over to get them to back off.

The speed sign on Howie needs to either be turned around to face the other direction or moved just a bit further up the road. It's too close to read speeds from vehicles. Most drivers just get up to the 60km/h speed when the sign captures them. It's a wasted location to get valuable data from. Move it to the pole just after 986's driveway, then see what you get. Or turn it around. Speed signage is needed on Howie from March. No one drives 60km/h there. It's more like 80-100km/h. Load restriction signs are also needed. Parts of Corkery should be lowered in speed.

People need to stop complaining. There are roads in the suburbs with speed bumps if you have an issue.

Very concerned with speed and drivers ignoring stop sign on Corkery Rd

Suggested Safety Measures - What can you do to help make our roads safer.

- Wear reflective clothing or accessories during low light or dark conditions. Wear bright clothing during the day to increase your visibility for drivers.
- When approaching pedestrians or cyclist in your vehicle, be courteous and reduce your speed and move over when safe to do so
- Walk facing traffic when there are no sidewalks.
- Remove head phones when walking, riding, or playing near the road.
- Stay off snow banks.
- Make eye contact with drivers before moving past them and watch for moving vehicles in driveways and lanes.
- Shoulders on country roads are usually gravel. If you need to pull to the shoulder, be aware that the surface may be looser and more unstable than you are used to and be sure to slow down completely before pulling onto the shoulder.
- Pass farm vehicles with caution and make eye contact with the driver.
- Large animals such as deer and bears can sometimes cross your path on rural roads, but even smaller animals can be a danger if you aren't prepared. Watch for signage, do not speed, and if you are confronted with an animal, do not swerve into opposing traffic.
- Speeding on country roads is the number one driver error that can cause an accident or turn a small mistake into a fatality. Always respect the speed limit on rural roads even if the road seems quiet or deserted.
- Rural roads are not the place to impatiently pass large vehicles that limit your visibility and cannot react quickly to unexpected actions on your part. Stay in your lane unless passing is completely safe and you have full visibility of the upcoming road, and don't try to race home or dodge other cars on the roadway.
- With country roads often being long, straight, and relatively quiet, the temptation is there to crank the radio and zone out. But it's exactly because hazards are rare that rural drivers must stay on the alert – ready to react if an unexpected curve or animal crosses their path, and to prevent drifting into the shoulder area.
- Impairment due to alcohol, drugs, or a combination is dangerous no matter what kind of road you're cruising. If you've had too much, don't imagine that quiet country roads are a safe alternative; impairment can be even more dangerous on unlit roads with intersections and shoulders that are hard to spot. Call someone, grab a cab and get home safely.

Source: Ottawa Safety Council, [Road Safety on Rural Roads \(ottawasafetycouncil.ca\)](http://ottawasafetycouncil.ca)

Ottawa Police Services (OPS) contact information

If you encounter excessive speeding or unsafe driving conditions you should contact the Ottawa Police Services (OPS). Capture as much information as possible and contact OPS to report. Reporting will enable OPS to track incidents within our community and assign resources accordingly.

There are two ways to report incidents:

You can call **613-236-1222 ext. 7300**. The Police Reporting Unit (PRU) can take your call between 10 a.m. and 8:45 p.m., seven days a week. When the PRU is closed between the hours of 9 p.m. and 10 a.m., an automated attendant will provide you with options on how to redirect your call.

Traffic complaints can also be reported online 24/7. This is the preferred approach for speeding complaints. Here is the link needed when filing a traffic complaint:

[Traffic Complaint - Ottawa Police Service](#)

BE SAFE EVERYONE!