

**AWARENESS AND PRACTICE ON ROAD  
TRAFFIC SAFETY AMONG HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENTS FROM TAUNGGYI**

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## ABSTRACT

A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted among high school students in Taunggyi to assess the awareness and practice on road traffic safety. A total of 404 high school students from four basic education high schools were selected according to geographical distribution of north, south, west and east by lottery method. Self administered questionnaires were used with close monitoring. Socio-demographic characteristics of respondents, knowledge about road traffic safety, attitude towards road traffic safety and road traffic safety practices were collected from the participants. The majority of the respondents were aged 14 and 15 years (75.5%). Equal number of male and female participated in the study. Nearly 90% of the students had motorcycle at home and 52.9% of students had experience of motorcycle driving and 27.5% had experience of road traffic accidents within one year. Over 50% had most knowledge of correct side to walk on the road and the majority knows rules of road crossing. Only 2.2% had knowledge about permitted age of driving license and over half of participants recognized road safety rules and regulations. More than 50% of students got information about road traffic safety from mass media and social media. 51.2% of students had low knowledge while over 90% of students had good practice as pedestrian and motorcycle driver. 36.1% of respondents had negative attitude towards road traffic safety. Almost all never did drink driving, most students used zebra crossing, did not use mobile phone and did not listen to music while driving. Only 46.6% always wore helmets while driving motorcycle. There were statistically significant association between age, gender, father's educational status, having motorcycle at home, driving experience and road traffic accident experience within 1 year and knowledge level. In addition, age and motorcycle driving experience had statistically significant association with attitude level. There was association between source of information on road safety and knowledge level. Hence correct information from right source and improving road traffic safety awareness among school going adolescents must be done which are necessary to increase road traffic safety among the high school students.