

# Impact of Exempting Low Level Speed Violations

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# Law Change: Convictions not Recorded

Before ( 7/1/2007 - 8/1/2012)	After (8/1/2012 – 8/2014)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PSL 55 mph<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Up to <i>65mph</i> Dimler applies</li></ul></li><li>• PSL 60 mph<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Up to <i>65mph</i> Dimler applies</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PSL 55 mph<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Up to <i>65mph</i> Dimler applies</li></ul></li><li>• PSL 60 mph<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Up to <i>70mph</i> Dimler applies</li></ul></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Law applies to roadway sections where posted speed limit is 55 or 60mph only</li><li>- The change is specific to those facilities with PSL of 60mph<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 2012 Minn. Sess. Laws, c. 287, art. 4, §35 (codified at Minn. Stat. 2012 § 171.12, Subd. 6).</li></ul></li></ul>	

# Context:

## Minnesota Speed Limit Laws

- Strict Liability (Absolute)
  - Driver exceeds speed limit = conviction
  - Applies within municipal boundaries
- *Prima Facie*
  - Driver did not exercise “due care” to drive at a speed that is “reasonable and prudent” for the conditions
  - Applies to all other roads (including many state highways, and nearly all roads covered by Dimler)



# 2012 MnDOT Omnibus Survey

For persons who receive a ticket for speeding on a 55- or 60-mile per hour road, how many miles per hour over the speed limit can he or she be cited before the ticket is placed on his or her driving record (and insurance is notified)?

Mph over speed limit	Statewide	TC Metro	Greater MN
0 mph	2%	2%	2%
1 – 4 mph	6%	6%	6%
5 – 9 mph	41%	38%	45%
10 – 14 mph	36%	39%	32%
15 mph or more	8%	8%	8%
Don't know	7%	7%	7%
	<i>Base</i> 800	420	380

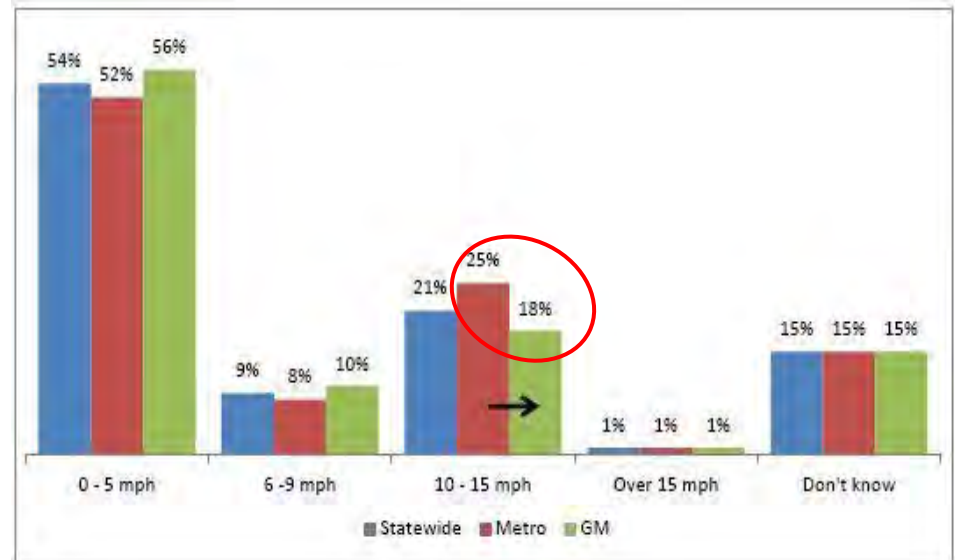
On a typical sunny day when you drive on a dry [55 or 60] miles-per-hour highway in your area, how fast do you think other drivers will travel?

MPH	Statewide	TC Metro	Greater MN	MPH	Statewide	TC Metro	Greater MN
<b>55 miles-per-hour highway</b>				<b>60 miles-per-hour highway</b>			
0 – 54	4%	4%	4%	0 – 54	2%	3%	2%
55 - 59	8%	9%	7%	55 - 59	1%	1%	1%
60 – 64	47%	44%	50%	60 – 64	10%	9%	12%
65 – 69	29%	32%	25%	65 – 69	46%	41%	52%
70 – 74	7%	7%	7%	70 – 74	30%	36%	24%
75+	2%	1%	3%	75+	7%	8%	6%
<i>Base</i>	800	420	380	<i>Base</i>	800	420	380



# Heightened Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (HEAT) Speed Management Program - 2009

- 54% of respondents thought they could exceed the PSL by 0-5 mph before being stopped
- 20 – 25% believe they can travel 10 -15 mph over PSL before receiving a ticket
  - Majority believe 0-5 mph
- Twin Cities metro area respondents were significantly more likely to think they could drive 10-15 mph over the PSL than respondents in Greater Minnesota (25% v. 18%)



# Conclusions

- MN Speed Limit laws are complicated
- Public understanding and awareness is vague
- Does confusion lead to lack of compliance?

