2016-17 Transportation Issues Poll – New York City
Speed Safety Cameras in School Zones

Summary

Near universal support for more speed safety cameras. New Yorker City voters overwhelmingly support more speed safety cameras near schools to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries. 84% of all respondents support placing speed safety cameras near more city schools than the 140 currently allowed under state law - combining those who expressed "strong" support (64%) and "somewhat" support (20%).
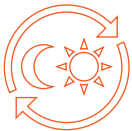
Supermajority of voters strongly favor cameras. 64% of respondents across the five boroughs said they "strongly" support the City installing more of the cameras.

Women, Black, Hispanic and lower-income NYers express the strongest support. The level of "strong" support is even higher among women (72%) and respondents who identified as Black (78%), Hispanic (79%), and lower-income (80%).

Strong support among car-owners. Even 60% of car owners surveyed expressed "strong" support for the expansion of automated speed enforcement cameras, with an additional 20% being "somewhat" supportive - dispelling the notion that most car owners oppose road safety measures like speed safety cameras.

Cameras should be allowed to operate 24/7. A super-majority (64%) of respondents also say speed safety cameras should be allowed to operate outside of school hours and school days, when children continue to use playgrounds and other facilities near schools. Currently, cameras are not allowed to operate during these times under state law.

The $50 camera ticket is considered fair. 78% of voters say the flat $50 fine from speed enforcement cameras is either "just right" or "too low". Among car-owners this number drops just slightly to 71%.

The average poll respondent owns a car and votes every year. 68% of poll respondent households own a car vs 46% among the general city population. The typical poll respondent is 53 years old and votes in every election - all poll respondents are registered voters and 95% said they voted in the most recent election.

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Appendix: Detailed Results of Transportation Issues Poll for New York City – Speed Enforcement Cameras

Methodology

Penn Schoen Berland (PSB) conducted live telephone interviews from November 16-28, 2016 among n=880 New York City likely voters.

The margin of error for this study is +/- 3.30% at the 95% confidence level and larger for subgroups. Some percentages may add to more or less than 100% due to rounding.

Definition of crosstabs

Crosstab		Definition	% total
% New York Likely Voters		New York City registered voters who say they will definitely or probably vote in the November 2017 elections for Mayor and City Council	100
Track	'13	Where applicable, tracked findings reflecting the 2013 Mayoral Survey	n/a
	'11	Where applicable, tracked findings reflecting the 2011 Election Survey	n/a
Gender	M	Male	48
	F	Female	52
Age	<35	Age 18-35	13
	35-49	Age 35-49	28
	50-64	Age 50-64	39
	65+	Age 65 and over	20
Considers Self	D	Considers self a Democrat	67
	R	Considers self a Republican	13
	I	Considers self an Independent, other, or doesn't know	12
Borough	Q	Lives in Queens	25
	BK	Lives in Brooklyn	30
	BX	Lives in the Bronx	13
	M	Lives in Manhattan	25
	SI	Lives in Staten Island	7
Race	W	White, non-Hispanic	54
	B	Black, non-Hispanic	23
	H	Hispanic or Latino	12
	O	Other, non-Hispanic	10
Income	<50k	Household income under $50,000 per year	22
	50-99k	Household income between $50,000-$99,000 per year	26
	100k+	Household income above $100,000 per year	34
Own car	Y	Owns a car	68
	N	Does not own a car	31
Rides bike	Y	Rides a bicycle at least once a month	23
	N	Does not ride a bicycle at least once a month	77

Detailed Results of Transportation Issues Poll for New York City – Speed Enforcement Cameras

ALL HEARD THE FOLLOWING: During the first two years of Mayor de Blasio's Vision Zero program, traffic fatalities fell by nearly 20%. This past year, however, traffic fatalities have held steady, with some types of traffic deaths rising by over 25%.*

1. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose **speed cameras around city schools** designed to get Vision Zero back on track.

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Strongly support	64	55	72	63	62	62	70	70	41	57	66	62	75	64	44	56	78	79	54	80	63	56	60	73	53	67
Somewhat support	20	24	16	22	21	18	19	18	24	21	16	21	14	25	20	23	12	7	36	8	21	25	20	19	26	17
Somewhat oppose	6	7	4	6	7	6	2	4	12	6	6	6	4	6	7	7	3	7	4	3	3	9	7	4	6	5
Strongly oppose	9	13	6	8	8	12	7	5	22	15	11	10	5	4	28	12	6	6	4	6	12	9	13	1	12	9

* This poll was completed on November 28, 2016, when final traffic fatality numbers for that full year in New York City were not available. By the end of 2016, 67 motorists had been killed in traffic - a decrease from 81 fatalities in 2015, while pedestrian fatalities increased from 129 in 2015 to 144 in 2016 and cyclist deaths increased from 14 in 2015 to 18 in 2016.

ALL HEARD THE FOLLOWING: In recent years more people have been killed in traffic than murdered by guns in New York City. Speeding is the most common contributing factor in fatal crashes. New York City recently installed speeding safety cameras in some school zones. Using the cameras, the City issues speeding tickets with $50 fines for vehicles that go 11 miles per hour or more over the legal speed limit.

Many people in New York City have suggested expanding the speeding safety camera program beyond school zones as a way to improve public safety and reduce dangerous driving. Currently, just over 140 speeding safety cameras are working at any one time, but there are over two thousand schools in New York City. Critics of these cameras say that the cameras unfairly target drivers as a way for the City to raise revenue.

2. Currently, speed safety cameras are turned off during evening and night hours, when speeding is more prevalent. Do you think speed safety cameras should be on 24-hours?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Yes, they should be on 24 hours	64	54	73	58	72	60	62	70	47	50	52	62	65	79	54	65	64	70	51	78	57	62	53	85	63	64
No, they should stay shut off during evening and night hours	32	42	23	38	26	36	30	27	45	44	45	33	32	17	43	32	33	30	34	20	37	36	43	11	31	32
Don't Know (Vol.)	4	4	3	3	2	4	7	3	8	5	3	5	3	4	3	3	3	0	15	2	6	2	4	3	6	3

3. Do you think that the $50 fine for being caught speeding in a school zone by a traffic camera is…?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Track		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		'13	'11	M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Too high	19	11	*	22	15	19	15	21	20	13	37	29	28	20	17	7	27	17	24	13	26	15	23	19	26	5	18	19
Just right	45	55	*	44	47	49	45	47	39	47	42	42	43	48	50	39	59	46	44	57	31	40	47	49	50	36	38	48
Too low	33	33	*	31	35	32	38	29	34	38	16	24	24	28	30	53	14	34	30	30	35	44	28	31	21	58	38	31
Don't Know (Vol.)	3	1	*	4	2	0	2	3	6	2	5	5	5	4	2	1	0	3	2	0	8	1	2	2	3	2	5	2

*This question was not asked in the 2011 study

4. What do you believe the current standard citywide speed limit is in New York City?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
20 mph	6	8	5	15	7	4	6	7	6	5	7	4	3	12	3	6	5	8	9	11	8	4	6	7	5	7
25 mph	68	67	68	71	69	73	53	65	72	73	68	69	70	60	87	69	69	67	56	59	69	73	73	56	77	65
30 mph	13	14	12	2	7	13	29	14	9	12	17	10	8	18	6	14	10	10	17	15	11	12	11	17	8	14
35 mph	7	6	9	12	9	7	3	8	6	7	4	9	14	6	4	6	8	13	6	8	7	5	6	10	6	8
45 mph	2	2	2	0	4	2	3	2	5	1	3	4	1	1	0	2	4	0	4	2	2	3	2	3	1	2
50 mph	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Don't Know (Vol.)	3	1	5	0	4	2	6	3	3	3	2	4	3	3	0	2	4	1	8	4	3	2	1	7	3	3

5. Did you know that New York City's standard citywide speed limit was lowered in 2014?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Yes	70	70	70	63	71	76	60	67	75	75	72	69	62	70	81	73	63	72	63	56	67	83	77	55	75	68
No	29	29	28	37	26	23	38	31	23	23	26	29	38	29	19	26	35	28	32	40	32	17	22	42	23	30
Don't Know (Vol.)	2	1	2	0	3	1	2	1	2	3	2	3	0	1	0	1	2	0	4	4	1	0	1	3	1	2

6. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the city installing more speed safety cameras **within** school zones?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Strongly support	52	47	58	58	52	49	54	57	46	40	48	55	51	56	39	48	55	79	36	66	54	45	45	64	58	51
Somewhat support	22	23	21	28	25	17	22	24	9	24	17	23	24	28	8	27	12	9	38	19	22	22	23	21	13	25
Somewhat oppose	6	8	4	0	6	10	3	6	3	7	7	8	5	2	15	7	7	3	0	5	7	5	7	5	6	6
Strongly oppose	19	22	16	12	16	23	20	13	42	29	28	14	18	12	38	17	25	9	26	9	17	26	25	9	19	17
Don't Know (Vol.)	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	3	0

7. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the city installing more speed safety cameras **outside of** school zones?

(%) NYC Likely Voters		Gender		Age				Consider self			Borough					Race				Income			Car		Bike	
		M	F	<35	35-49	50-64	65+	D	R	I	Q	BK	BX	M	SI	W	B	H	O	<50k	50-99k	100k+	Y	N	Y	N
Strongly support	39	30	48	27	38	39	46	45	26	25	28	35	49	54	29	38	50	42	16	53	37	35	29	60	34	40
Somewhat support	19	16	23	29	27	16	14	24	6	15	21	15	19	21	28	17	15	22	40	19	13	23	18	24	14	21
Somewhat oppose	17	20	13	13	17	19	13	11	24	29	29	15	6	15	0	20	14	0	22	18	8	22	20	10	22	15
Strongly oppose	23	32	14	31	17	25	20	18	41	25	22	31	26	6	42	24	21	36	7	9	42	19	31	4	26	22
Don't Know (Vol.)	2	2	3	0	2	1	7	1	3	6	0	4	0	4	0	1	0	0	16	0	0	1	2	3	4	2

8. In the last year, how often have you seen the following traffic violations on New York City streets?

(%) NYC likely voters	Almost everyday	Very often	Often	Sometimes	Only occasionally or never
Talking on a handheld cell phone while driving	40	16	15	15	12
Speeding	38	16	17	17	9
Not yielding to other motor vehicles	31	21	19	20	9
Reckless driving	28	15	20	22	14
Red light running	23	12	16	19	27
Not yielding to pedestrians or bicyclists	22	18	18	17	23

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