

# Perspectives on Speeding

- Almost all testers acknowledged that they occasionally speed. Most justify their speeding behaviours as just keeping up with traffic/following cars in front and don't necessarily consider this dangerous. A leeway of up to 10 km is considered acceptable – and generally still safe.
- The perceived dangers of driving too slowly are often cited as justification for driving at, or just above, the speed limit.
- The immediacy of being pulled over by the Police is more impactful in encouraging drivers to think about their speeding behaviour than speed camera fines. Testers reported feeling disappointed when receiving a speed camera ticket in the mail as they thought they had gotten away with their speeding – as opposed to considering their driving behaviour.
- Current speeding penalties – especially those received from safety cameras – are not considered a sufficient deterrent to change driving behaviours.
- Some felt that penalties other than fines may be more effective in discouraging speeding – such as community service or demerit points that accumulate to a loss of license.

*I follow the car in front of me. If I look at my odometer and it's going a bit over, I think "All good, I'll follow you and carry on."*

*I've gone over the speed limit but I make sure it's safe for me. If the speed limit is 100, I may do 120. That's probably my limit. But I know I can handle my vehicle safely at that speed.*

*The message of 'drive to the conditions' really speaks to me because I don't think speeding is black and white. If you're driving too slow, you're a danger too.*

*When you get caught by the Police, it's real time. But when you're doing a road trip up north, it's like "Everyone else is speeding so we're all good." Then you get something in the mail three weeks' later and you say "That's not fair. Did those other four cars I will driving in the queue with get fines too?"*

*You're supposed to get penalties to deter you from spending, but I really don't know anyone who has the mindset of "I got a fine. I should just slow down." I think New Zealanders think "Just give it a go and see what happens. We'll be right."*

*I don't know if a monetary penalty is the answer. Personally for me, it's time that is most valuable so if someone penalised me for my time – like you've got to spend one Saturday doing something – that would get to me more than throwing money at a fine.*