

# Louisiana

## Speed Limits: 1994 and 2004

State	Limited Access Rural Interstates		Limited Access Urban Interstates		Other Limited Access Roads		Truck Speed (Y or N)
	1994	2004	1994	2004	1994	2004	
Louisiana	55	70	55	70	50	55-60	Some

Louisiana reported the speed limits indicated above apply to all roadways. Generally speaking, the state has no separate limit for trucks, with the exception of one 18-mile stretch of elevated interstate, which has a speed limit of 55 mph for trucks.

### Speeding-related Data

Louisiana collects speeding-related crash data on the state's motor vehicle crash report form through exceeding safe speed limit and exceeding state speed limit data elements. However, many officers do not check the speeding element on the vehicle crash report form because officers feel it is too difficult to defend. Unless there is overwhelming evidence, some other causation factor is used.

The state collects speeding-related citation data, although no data relating to aggressive driving is collected. Louisiana does not define aggressive driving in state statutes.

### Proportion Speeding-related Crashes

Year	Speeding-related Fatal Crashes	Speeding-related Injury Crashes	State Patrol Speeding Citations
2003	1%	2%	155,718
2002	1%	2%	156,150
2001	1%	2%	179,445

Speed data does not indicate any specific geographic area, race, ethnic group, gender, age or other grouping is over represented.

### Efforts to Reduce Excessive Speeding

Louisiana's state highway safety office includes speeding-related enforcement as a part of any public presentation. The state police use highway signage denoting "speed limit strictly enforced" to advise the motoring public.

Louisiana has no state funds committed to speed reduction. Although Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) funds address speeding as one of several components, the state highway safety office estimated 38 percent of STEP funds are used for speeding-related activities. Louisiana felt the impact of speeding-related enforcement programs has been minimal.

Louisiana's state highway safety office reported that federal highway safety funds committed to speeding as follows:

2003	\$233,520
2004	\$215,250
2005	\$217,239

### Public Perception

Louisiana's state highway safety office felt the motoring public believes police give a 10 mph cushion in enforcing the posted speed limit.