

# North Carolina

## 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	
North Carolina	55	65/70	55	55/65	55	55/65	N

Speed limits listed above apply to all roadways within the state. North Carolina does not have a separate speed limit for trucks.

## Speeding-related Data

North Carolina collects speeding-related crash data from three data elements: exceeding safe speed for conditions, exceeding authorized speed limits and failure to reduce speed. The state also collects speeding-related citation data and data about aggressive driving. North Carolina defines aggressive driving as three combined violations such as speeding, following too closely and unsafe movement.

## Proportion Speeding-related Crashes

Year	Percent Speeding-related Fatal & Injury Crashes	State Highway Patrol Speed Citations
2003	47.2%	360,000 est.
2002	46.3%	360,000 est.
2001	44.2%	360,000 est.

## Efforts to Reduce Excessive Speeding

North Carolina will implement a new speed initiative in 2005 named *No Need 2 Speed*.

North Carolina estimated 14.5 percent of Section 402 federal highway safety dollars were expended for patrol activities, including speeding-related enforcement in 2003. In 2004, 12.8 percent of Section 402 funds were expended for patrol activities. State funds are used for personnel costs.

North Carolina reported mixed success of speeding-related programs. The state noted that courts routinely reduce the charges for speeding violations to improper equipment or a similar infraction.

## Public Perception

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