

Ten myths and facts about speed cameras in NSW

Myth: Speed cameras are hidden to trap drivers.

Fact: All speed cameras in NSW are signposted, mobile speed camera vehicles are marked and all speed camera locations are published on the Safer Roads website.

Myth: Speed cameras don't work and are just there to raise revenue.

Fact: Studies show the introduction of speed cameras with other programs has led to a significant drop in the road toll. The NSW Auditor-General reviewed speed cameras in 2011 and found no evidence revenue was a factor in camera location decisions.

Myth: Locals know the roads and rarely crash.

Fact: Almost half of all drivers and riders involved in crashes live in the same local government area as they crash.

Myth: Good drivers are caught speeding.

Fact: More than 70 per cent of licence holders have no demerit points and about 99 per cent of motorists who drive past a speed camera are not booked for speeding.

Myth: Mobile Speed Camera operators are paid for every person they catch speeding.

Fact: Mobile Speed Camera operators are paid by the hour and they don't receive any percentage of fine revenue.

Myth: There are no safety benefits from speed cameras.

Fact: Speed cameras make drivers slow down reducing the chance of a crash and the severity of a crash.

Myth: Speed cameras are often wrong and calibrated incorrectly.

Fact: Speed cameras are regularly tested by authorised officers to ensure accuracy and reliability.

Myth: NSW drivers are booked for speeding more than anywhere else in the country.

Fact: NSW has a modest speed camera program and issues less speeding infringements per capita than Victoria, Queensland and most other jurisdictions.

Myth: Speed cameras cause drivers to concentrate more on their speed than on the road.

Fact: Checking your speed is part of the driving task, just like checking your mirrors. There is no evidence to suggest that speed cameras cause crashes.

Myth: Fine revenue doesn't improve roads.

Fact: Revenue from speed and red-light cameras will directly fund the NSW Government road safety program.