



SAFE DRIVING
PRACTICES: THE
NIGERIAN
PERSPECTIVE

BY
HON. HAKEEM DICKSON

INTRODUCTION

101 died, 625 injured in eight months in Lagos road crashes –FRSC

Kindly share this story:



FRSC boss, Boboye Oyeyemi



Latest News

INTRODUCTION cont'd

- Nigeria has the largest road network in West Africa. According to the Government Infrastructure Concession Regulatory Commission, Nigeria has about 195,000 km of road network of which about 60,000 km are paved (2019).
- Most of the major road networks were constructed in the 80s and early 90s. As a result of poor maintenance and low-quality materials used for repairs, the condition of roads is deteriorating. Travelling is very difficult, and sometimes almost impossible in many areas on secondary roads during the raining season due to potholes and eroded, uneven surfaces.
- Nigeria's most important highways run from South to North and were designed to bring produce from the surrounding area to the coast for export and to link the economies of old Northern and Southern Nigeria. These highways are labelled the A1, A2, A3 and A4. All other major roads in the country originate from these four.

- Road safety culture differs in different environment and it is relative among countries, determined by the content of policy created.
- Federal road safety commission came on board in 1988 with the responsibility to regulate and enforce compliance to road ethic, Public enlightenment for Drivers, Motorists and other Members of the public on safety and discipline on the highways.
- However, annual report of the body overtimes shows that deliberate violation of road traffic ethic is very rampant on Nigerian roads, and has taken the lead cause of road crashes.



ACCORDING TO FRSC

- The reasons proffered by the Federal Road Safety Commission for the causes of deaths on the roads often attribute such to the drivers. For example it is stated that “Most crashes are caused by the driver’s behaviour and not always as a result of bad roads [and that]the Idea of a “Safe Road” in Nigeria is more of changing our driving behaviour than advocating for good road infrastructure.”
- “Deaths and injuries due to crashes by 50% can be reduced if citizens do not drink and drive, over speed, use phone or eat while driving but obey traffic rules , wear helmets and seatbelts and tell people about Safe Road Nigeria. (<http://frsc.gov.ng/>)

OTHER MAJOR FACTORS

The problem goes beyond behavioural tendencies of the road users.

- The quality of drivers
- Education and knowledge of road signs,
- State of maintenance of vehicles operating on roads,
- Adequate sensitization of all road users,
- The state of roads,
- Effective urban planning etc.

are prerequisites that need be considered in the effort to address the road safety issue .



[Home](#) [News](#) [Entertainment](#) [Politics](#) [Sports](#) [Business](#) [World](#) [iSaturday](#) [iS](#)

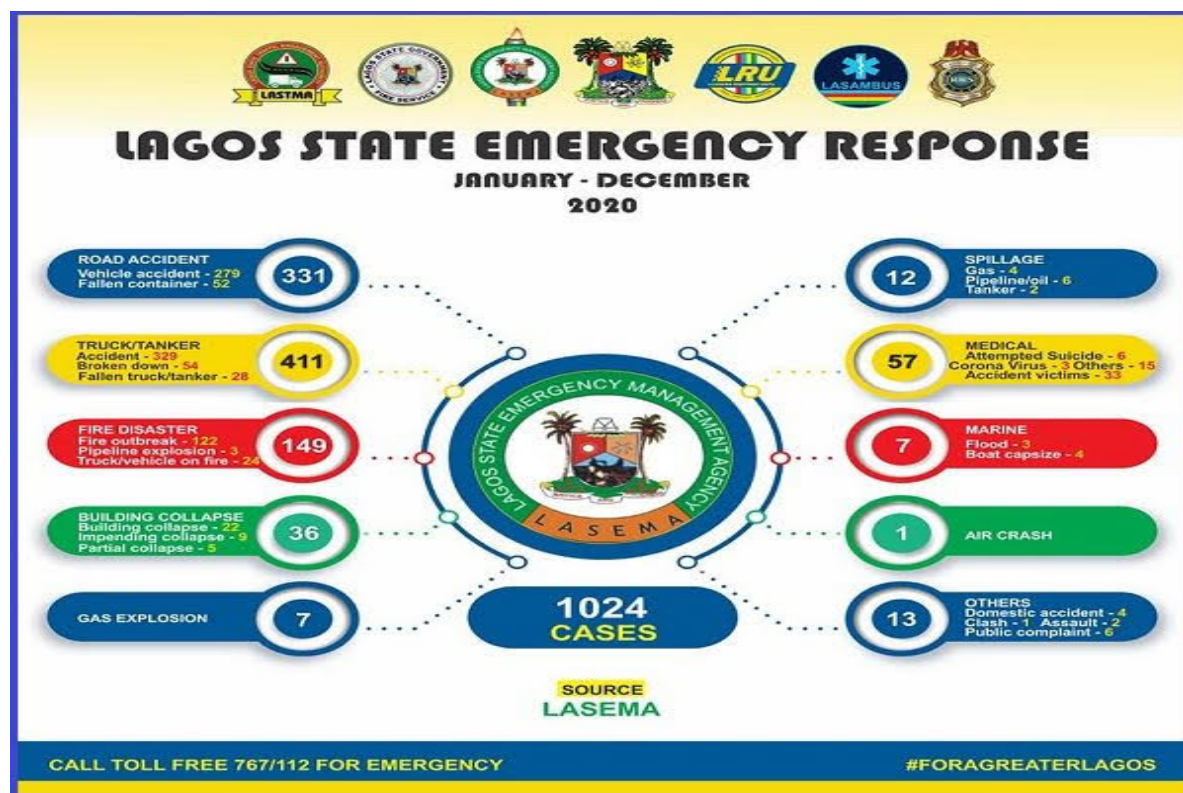
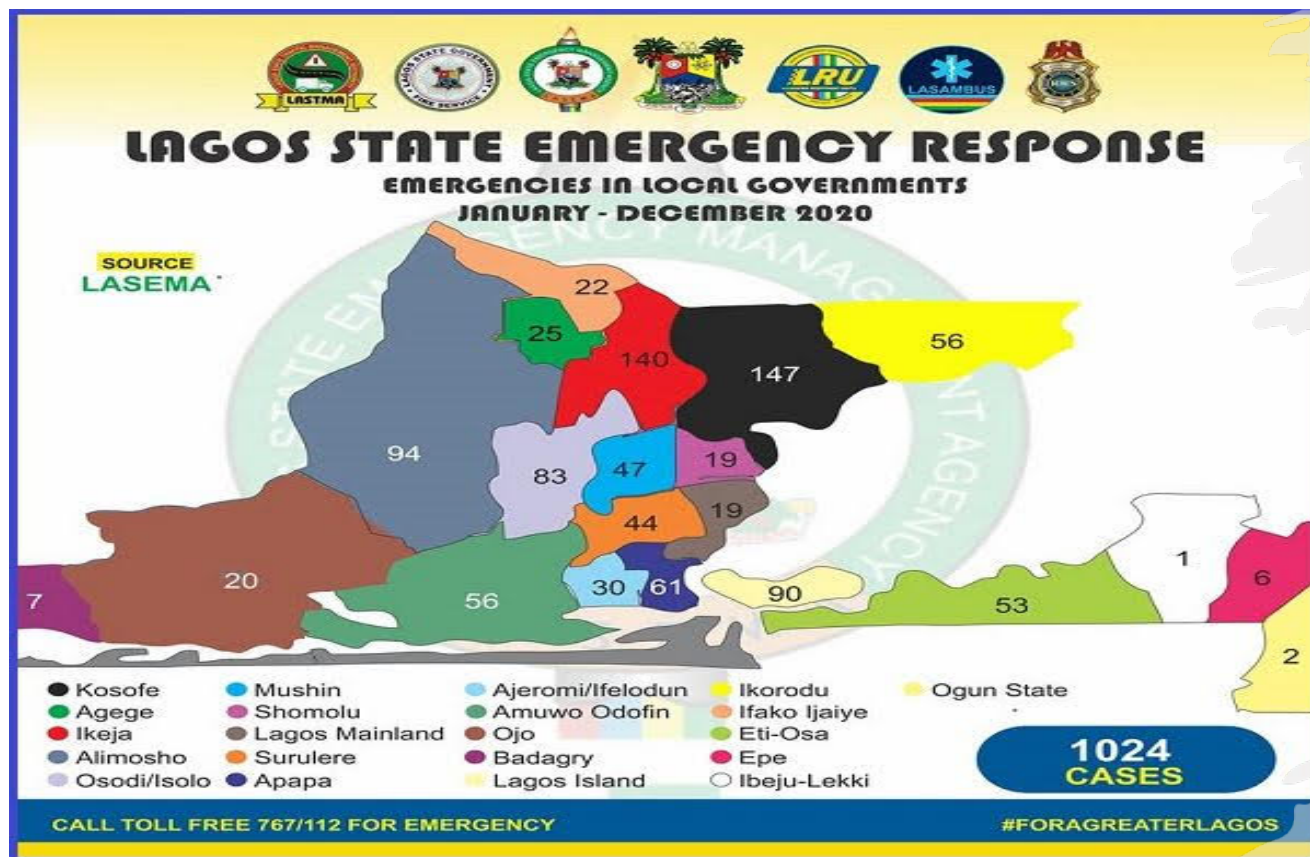
[Home](#) > [Latest News](#) > [LASEMA Confirms Death Of Six In Epe Road Accident](#)

LASEMA Confirms Death Of Six In Epe Road Accident

By [Agency Report](#) — On [Apr 2, 2020](#)

LATEST NEWS







CAUSES OF ROAD RELATED DEATHS AND INJURIES IN NIGERIA

- Abuse of existing traffic regulations by public transport operators due to poor enforcement.
- Sitting more than one on a motorcycle and overloading motor cars.
- Tiredness of Drivers and drunk driving .
- Underage driving.
- Overloading of trucks and other articulated vehicle drivers /operators.



CAUSES OF ROAD RELATED DEATHS AND INJURIES IN NIGERIA

- Bad roads in communities
- Reckless driving
- Unqualified drivers
- Poorly maintained vehicles
- Breach of existing laws including use of seat belts
- Inadequate inspection of vehicles for road-worthiness
- High population of untrained commercial motorcycle riders



CAUSES OF ROAD RELATED DEATHS AND INJURIES IN NIGERIA

- Impatience by road users
- Lack of cooperation with Law enforcement Personnel by Drivers .
- Reckless crossing of roads by Pedestrians
- Use of mobile phones while driving
- Insufficient road signs
- Refusal to comply with available road signs

PICTORIAL EVIDENCES



PICTORIAL EVIDENCE



CHALLENGES

Despite the efforts made in tackling the problem of lack of adequate safety on Nigeria's roads, the problem still persists. The following challenges are noted :

- Need for modern equipment's to practically tackle the issues.
- Failure to sanction road traffic violators appropriately.
- Insufficient funding to execute more projects and programmes especially those associated with the Decade of Action.
- Inadequate number of trained personnel to tackle the issues at both the policy development and implementation level .
- Corrupt officials and contractors providing substandard products.



CHALLENGES

- Diversity of Road safety-related agencies and depletion of available resources to maintain them hence, making them result to bribery. (FRSC, LASTMA, VIO, POLICE, Neighbourhood Watch, Agbero, Yellow fever)
- Insufficient cooperation among agencies working on road safety.
- Lack of supervision /coordination of road safety issues and agencies by the Federal Ministry of Transportation which should provide the needed policy direction .
- Insufficient political will at level of Federal, States and Local Government administration.

REFERENCES

- Bliss, T. & Breen, J. (2009). Implementing the recommendations of the world report on road traffic injury prevention, The World Bank Global Road Safety Facility.
- World Health Organization. (2013). Global status report on road safety: supporting a decade of action. Geneva, http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_safety_status/2013/report/en/index.htm (accessed 22 March 2013).
- Ogunsanya, A.A. (2004). Strategies for minimizing road traffic accidents in Nigeria– A case study of Abuja. Paper presented at the Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology, Zaria, June, 2004.
- Atubi, A. (2015). Modelling deaths from road traffic accidents. American International Journal of Social Science, 4(5), 199-213.
- Lobinjo, M., Jullrard, C., Kobusingye, O.C. & Hyder, A.A. (2010).

- <https://dlca.logcluster.org/display/public/DLCA/2.3+Nigeria+Road+Network>
- Vitus, N.U. (2014). Trends and patterns of fatal road accidents in Nigeria. IFRA-Nigeria working papers series, 35, November 2014.
- Anthonia, A.E. (2016). Road safety implementation in Nigeria :Issues, actions and next steps
- Funsho, I.O. (2018). Attitude of Motorists towards Road Ethics: Empirical Study. Logistics & sustainable Transport, Vol. 9, No. 2, October 2018, 46-56.



THANK YOU

