



NEW FEATURES AND ENHANCEMENTS

- **New Look** – Pages have been updated to provide a simple, clean look.
- **Help** – A help link on each page points back to the User Guide, documentation on the decision rules, and other useful information.
- **Local Storage** – Users now have full control over where projects are saved.
- **No Account or Log-In Needed** – Project files can now easily be shared with co-workers and decisionmakers without having to reveal user names and passwords.
- **Crash Data** – USLIMITS2 can work with total crashes or only injury crashes.
- **Additional Choice for Route Type** – Users can select “one way” streets as an option for road sections in fully developed areas.
- **Updated Reports** – Reports now include start and end locations for speed zones and other project information.

Background

Speeding is a major factor in motor vehicle crashes on local roads, arterials, and freeways. Exceeding the posted speed limit or driving too fast for conditions contributes to more than 30 percent of all highway fatalities in the United States annually. Setting appropriate speed limits is an essential element of highway safety. A rationally determined speed limit is one that is safe, considered appropriate by most drivers, and enforceable. USLIMITS2 provides a fact-based set of decision rules to determine an appropriate speed limit for a specific roadway segment.

USLIMITS2 is a user-friendly and logical web-based tool designed to help practitioners set credible, consistent, and enforceable speed limits. USLIMITS2 is applicable to all types of roads ranging from local roads and residential streets to freeways. The tool’s accessibility and broad applicability make it an important resource in any transportation practitioner’s toolbox.

How Does USLIMITS2 Work?

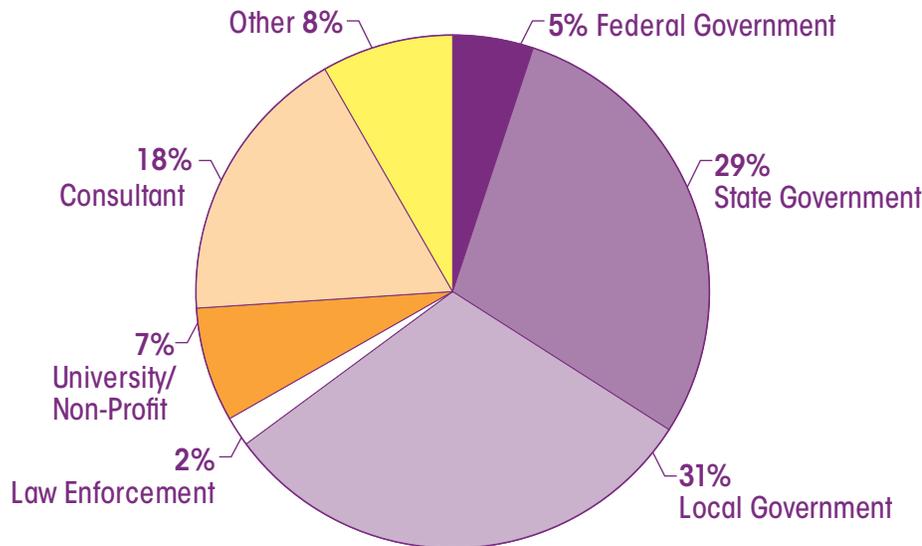
Using the basic information entered by the user, USLIMITS2 runs proven algorithms to develop a recommended speed limit. Inputs include:

- Type of surrounding development (e.g., rural, fully developed);
- Access points (e.g., the number of driveways, intersections, and traffic signals);
- Road function/area type;
- Road characteristics (e.g., divided or undivided, number of lanes, annual average daily traffic (AADT), roadside hazards, and section length);
- Freeway characteristics (e.g., number of interchanges, section length, and AADT);
- Existing vehicle operating speeds (50th and 85th percentile);
- Pedestrian activity;
- Crash history; and
- Special conditions (e.g., adverse alignment, transition zones, and parking).



USLIMITS2 in Action

As shown below, users from Federal, State, and local governments; law enforcement; universities and non-profits; and the private sector have worked on over 3,000 projects with the USLIMITS2 tool. For example, in Maryland USLIMITS2 has been used to evaluate existing speed limits on major urban freeways.



Begin a New Project Now

Access the USLIMITS2 web-based tool now at:

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/uslimits/>.

Click on "Create a New Project" to start a new project file. You can revise or update an existing project later by uploading your saved project file. Please read through the User Guide before starting a new project and contact help@uslimits.org for technical assistance.

Upon request, FHWA provides training to State and local agencies on the USLIMITS2 application. Please make a training request via help@uslimits.org.

ANY PRACTITIONER CAN USE USLIMITS2

USLIMITS2 is of particular benefit to local communities and agencies without ready access to engineers experienced in conducting speed studies for setting appropriate speed limits.

For experienced engineers, USLIMITS2 can provide an objective recommendation, validating engineering decisions associated with determining and setting speed limits.

THE BENEFITS OF USLIMITS2

- Encourages consistent speed limits for specific road and traffic characteristics;
- Improves the consistency of speed limits within and between States;
- Supports motorists' acceptance of and compliance with speed limits;
- May reduce speed differences within the traffic stream, potentially leading to fewer crashes;
- Increases transparency of the methods used to determine speed limits;
- Helps in responding to public and political concerns; and
- Supports the integrity of speed enforcement and adjudication.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/uslimits/>

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