



# DEMERIT POINT SYSTEM IN POLAND

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# Demerit point system

Demerit point system  
was introduced in Poland in 1993





# First demerit point system - 1993

- Verification of the qualifications of persons violating the regulations repeatedly over the course of one year;
- Register of regulation violations with corresponding points (scale from 1 to 10);
- 21 points in total within one year - the driving exam;
- If driver did not exceed 21 points, after a year all points would be cancelled.





# Demerit point system - today

- System is based on an international and national laws





# Demerit Point System Regulations determine:

- the number of points assigned for specific traffic offences,
- the principles of recording the drivers who infringe the regulations,
- the undertaken actions towards drivers who have collected specific number of demerit points,
- training of drivers infringing the regulations.



# Role of the Police

- Police keeps records of drivers violating the road traffic regulations;
- The points are accredited to a driver who was punished with a traffic ticket or sentenced with a verdict of guilty.





# Number of demerit points for specific traffic violations

| Law violation                                                                | Nr of demerit points |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Committing traffic offence                                                   | 10                   |
| Driving under the influence of alcohol                                       | 10                   |
| Speeding by 50 km/h                                                          | 10                   |
| Negligence of assistance to accident victims                                 | 10                   |
| Overtaking a vehicle on a pedestrian crossing                                | 9                    |
| Negligence of giving a right of way to a pedestrian on a pedestrian crossing | 8                    |
| Driving through on a red light                                               | 6                    |
| Negligence of giving a right of way on an intersection                       | 6                    |
| Overtaking a vehicle on an intersection                                      | 5                    |
| Speeding by 20 to 30 km/h                                                    | 4                    |
| Improper transportation of a child in a vehicle                              | 3                    |
| Driving without lights on during daytime                                     | 2                    |
| Lack of fastened seatbelt by driver/passenger                                | 2/1                  |
| Lack of helmet                                                               | 2                    |





# Different procedures for different drivers

## Young driver

(driving licence for less than year)

- A record cannot exceed 20 demerit points;
- Limit is exceeded - a driving license is withdrawn;
- Driver has to start over the procedure of obtaining a driving licence.

## Driver

- A record cannot exceed within one year 24 demerit points;
- Limit is exceeded - driver has to pass state exam theoretical and practical.





# Method of decreasing driver's demerit point record

- Taking part in road traffic safety training;
- Less than 24 points;
- Training decrease driver's demerit point record by 6 points;
- Training is not obligatory;
- Training has a form of lectures, carried on by policemen and psychologists;
- Decreasing of driver's demerit point record does not apply to young drivers.



# The offences most often granted with the demerit points

- speeding (70%),
- not complying with traffic signs,
- driving through on a red light,
- driving without fastened seatbelts,
- driving under the influence of alcohol.





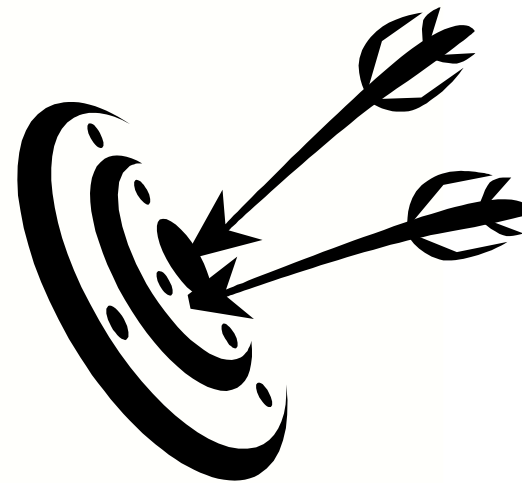
# Drivers taking part in road traffic safety training

- Drivers with offences of speeding;
- Drivers 25 – 55 years old (70%);
- Young drivers aged 19 – 24 years old represent 18% of all participants;
- 80% of all participants take part in the training for the first time;
- 8% for the second time;
- 2% for the third and fourth time.



# Aims of a proper demerit point system

- prevention
- education
- selection





# Demerit point system in Poland

- system does not meet the above mentioned goals;
- activities towards drivers with demerit points records should be changed;
- changes have been elaborated and introduced in parliament.





# Proposition of changes

- introducing a special course of operation towards young drivers infringing the regulations within the first two years of holding a driving license,
- including in the demerit point system drivers holding a driving license longer than 2 years,
- introducing compulsory trainings for drivers who obtained 24 demerit points within one year,
- introducing different trainings considering the offence type for drivers who hold a driving license longer than 2 years,
- introducing a special course of operation towards drivers driving under the influence of alcohol,
- introducing a compulsory withdrawal of a driving license after the third offence in the period of two first years of holding a driving license,
- introducing compulsory withdrawal of a driving license for drivers who in the 5 years period exceeded an annual limit of 24 demerit points for the second time.





# Thank you very much

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