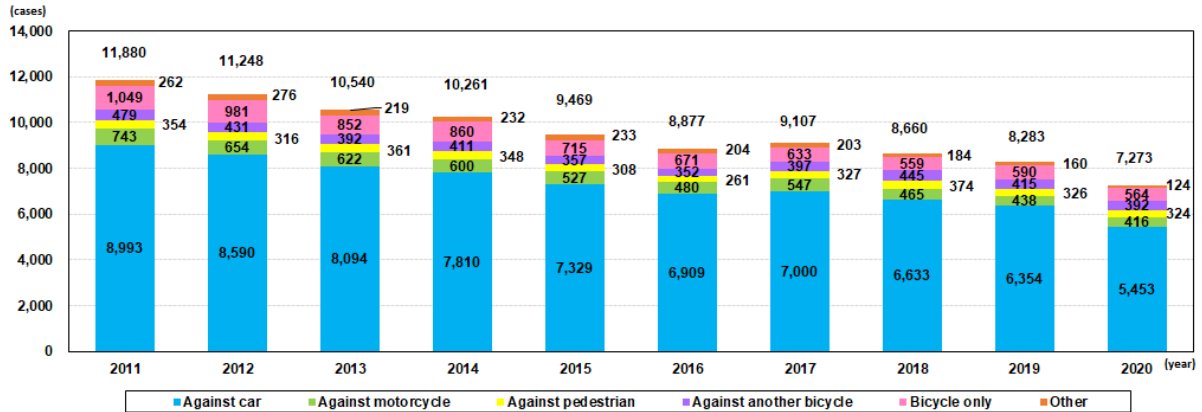


Topic II: Traffic Rules on Bicycles and Police Efforts in Enforcing the Rules’ Effectiveness (pp. 53–54)

(1) The Current Situation of Bicycle Accidents

Although the numbers of deaths and serious injuries in bicycle accidents have been decreasing, approximately 70% of these accidents occurred in 2020 due to violations of laws by bicycle riders.



Trends in numbers of deaths and serious injuries in bicycle accidents by type of the other parties in the accidents (2011–2020)

(2) Traffic Rules on Bicycles and Safety Tips for Bicycle Riders

As the Road Traffic Act categorizes bicycles into a type of vehicle, principally, a bicycle must be ridden on the roadway when a road is divided into a roadway and pedestrian sidewalk. If there are signs or notices indicating that standard bicycles are allowed on sidewalks, bicycles may exceptionally be ridden on the sidewalks slowly.

As a type of vehicle, bicycles must obey the traffic signals, and must stop before a stop line when there is a stop sign.



Sign indicating standard bicycles are allowed on sidewalks

(3) Police Efforts in Enforcing Traffic Rules

The police widely publish traffic rules for bicyclists of all ages, while encouraging them to wear helmets. The police also cooperate with associated organizations to promote bicycle safety education for children, students and elderly people. In addition, the police instruct and give warnings to bicyclists who ignore traffic signals or do not stop at stop signs, while strictly enforcing the traffic rules by arresting bicyclists who commit malicious or dangerous traffic violations.

Ignoring traffic signals	No entry	Entering blocked railroad crossing	Not stopping at stop sign	Brake system malfunction	Drunk	Other	Number of cases of arrest (cases)	Number of cases of warning given (cases)
14,344	236	6,005	1,804	446	119	2,513	25,467	1,437,748

Warnings to and arrests of bicyclists (2020)