

# Health literacy as a predictor of road traffic injury prevention

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## Background

- parent health literacy is connected with their knowledge and behaviors regarding children road traffic injuries (CRTI) prevention

## Aim

- to explore health literacy, knowledge and behaviors of mothers' in Croatia regarding CRTI prevention

## Methods

- population based cross-sectional questionnaire study conducted during 2019 in convenient sample of mothers of school aged children
- Croatian version of the Newest Vital Sign screening test (NVS-HR) as a research tool

## Conclusion

- the level of health literacy affects mothers' knowledge about CRTI prevention
- further studies are needed to better understand the underlying reasons for established association

## Results

- 814 mothers' median age 36.0 years
- according to NVS-HR there were 17.7%, 26.5% and 55.8% of mothers with low, intermediate and adequate health literacy level, respectively
- The higher levels of health literacy were connected with younger age of mothers (37 years old or less) (Figure 1.); urban area of settlement ( $P < 0.001$ ); living with a partner ( $P = 0.018$ ); higher educational level of mothers (Figure 2.) and with better self-perceived economic status ( $P = 0.009$ )
- there was poor positive correlation between mothers' health literacy and their knowledge regarding CRTI prevention ( $\rho = 0.170$ ;  $P < 0.001$ )
- there was poor positive correlation between mothers' knowledge and behavior regarding CRTI prevention ( $\rho = 0.193$ ;  $P < 0.001$ )

Figure 1. Health literacy level according to the age group of mothers ( $P = 0.027$ )

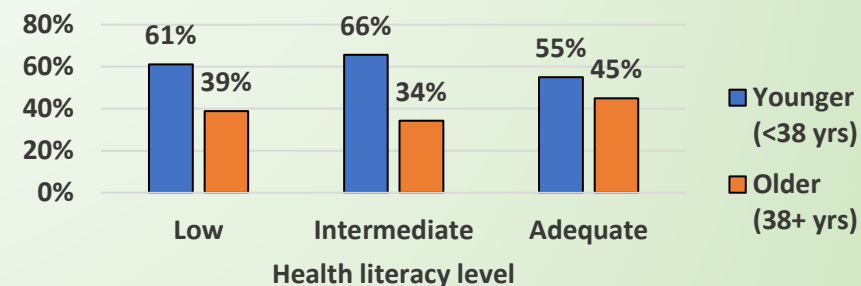
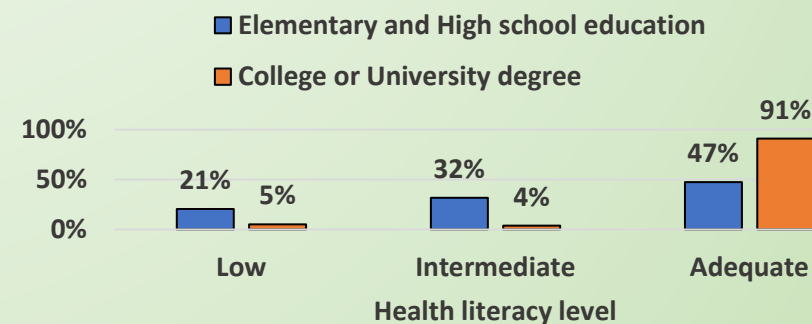


Figure 2. Health literacy level according to the educational level of mothers ( $P < 0.001$ )



**Keywords:** road traffic injury, health literacy, knowledge, behavior, prevention