

Smart Cameras Cut Speeding

Traffic offences fall 67pc in four years as monitoring expands

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Speeding offences on Bahrain's roads have plunged by 67.1 pc in four years, falling to roughly a third of their 2021 level as smart cameras, tougher laws and greater driver awareness are credited with changing habits behind the wheel.

Police recorded 72,468 speeding offences in 2025, down from 220,041 in 2021. That works out at about 199 offences a day last year, against 603 four years earlier. The fall amounts to 147,573 fewer offences.

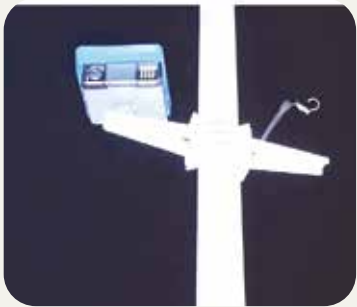
The drop came in stages. The tally fell 10.8 pc to 196,207 in 2022, then by 17.6 pc to 161,660 in 2023.

The biggest change came in 2024. Speeding offences almost halved to 87,562, a fall of 74,098, or 45.8 pc, in a single year. That one-year drop made up over half of the fall recorded across the five-year span.

Another 17.2 pc fall followed in 2025, taking the tally to its lowest point in five years.

The change is starker when the past three years are compared. There were 89,192 fewer speeding offences in 2025 than in 2023, a fall of 55.2 pc.

Yet speeding has far from vanished. Last year's figure still amounts to almost 200 offences



“Modern monitoring systems are changing driving habits.”

EJLAL BUBSHAIT, SHURA COUNCIL MEMBER

SPEEDING OFFENCES IN BAHRAIN

72,468	Offences recorded in 2025
220,041	Offences recorded in 2021
67.1pc	Overall decline from 2021 to 2025
147,573	Fewer offences over four years
199	Approximate offences recorded per day in 2025
603	Approximate offences per day in 2021
45.8pc	Drop recorded in 2024, the biggest annual decline
737,938	Total speeding offences recorded from 2021 to 2025
148,000	Approximate annual average over the five-year period

every day.

Across the five years, 737,938 speeding offences were recorded, an average of close to 148,000 a year.

The figures alone cannot show why the fall has been so steep. They count recorded offences but do not show how much stems from drivers slowing

down, changes in police checks or the spread of camera systems. Nor do they show on their own that crashes, deaths and injuries have fallen at the same rate.

Shura Council member Ejlal Bubshait said the 67.1 pc drop was an important sign of greater road awareness and the work of the Interior Ministry and Gener-

al Directorate of Traffic.

She said the growing use of smart monitoring systems had made drivers keener to obey speed limits and helped change habits on the road.

‘Drivers’ awareness that modern monitoring systems are in place has become a preventive factor before an offence is committed,’ she said.

Knowing that cameras are watching, she added, can make motorists slow down before they break the law, protecting themselves and other road users.

Bubshait said cameras alone were not enough. Traffic laws, public awareness and technology had to work side by side, while their effect on driving habits should be kept under review.

She also pointed to changes made to the Traffic Law in 2025, including tougher penalties for serious offences, and said their effect on drivers should be assessed as roads and driving habits change.

Eight Held Over 17kg Drug Smuggling Attempt



Anti-Narcotics Directorate arrested eight people of different nationalities in two separate cases involving attempts to smuggle more than 17 kilograms of narcotic substances into the Kingdom through Bahrain International Airport.

The Ministry of Interior said the arrests were part of ongoing security efforts by the Anti-Narcotics Directorate at the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Evidence to protect society from the dangers of drugs.

The operation was carried out in cooperation with Bahrain International Airport Customs. The seized narcotics had an estimated market value of around BD235,500.

Following information received about the two cases, security teams launched search and investigation operations that led to the identification of the suspects. Some were arrested at the airport, while

the others were apprehended at locations within the Kingdom. The narcotic substances were found in their possession.

The General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Evidence secured the seized materials and took the necessary legal procedures before referring the two cases to the Public Prosecution.

- Hotline: 996
- Email: 996@interior.gov.bh
- Confidentiality: Complete confidentiality assured
- Purpose: Help combat drug-related crimes and protect the community

Filipino Remittances Climb to \$140M

- BD957m — Total worker remittances sent from Bahrain last year.
- 654,672 — Active permits held by non-Bahrainis at the end of 2025, up 1.8% from 643,274 a year earlier.
- 478,707 — Non-Bahraini private-sector contributors recorded by the Social Insurance Organisation in Q1 2026.



Remittance & Foreign Workforce Snapshot

\$2.828bn a year earlier.

Saudi Arabia led the Gulf with \$1.0765bn, accounting for 36.76 pc of the GCC total. The UAE followed with \$750.287m, Qatar \$508.176m, Kuwait \$286.104m and Oman \$167.111m. Bahrain ranked sixth, though its year-on-year total still rose.

The six Gulf states made up almost all Filipino remittances from the Middle East. Transfers from the region reached \$3.0315bn in the first half of 2026, with the GCC accounting for 96.6 pc. Across Asia, Filipino remittances stood at \$7.033bn, of which the GCC supplied about 41.6 pc.

Worldwide cash remittances to the Philippines reached \$17.1486bn in the first six months of the year, putting the Gulf share at about 17.1 pc.

The rise from Filipino workers came as outward transfers by foreign workers across Bahrain also climbed sharply at the start of the year. Foreign workers sent BD249.6m abroad in the first quarter of 2026, up 9.1 pc from BD228.8m in the same period last year.

Worker remittances have repeatedly drawn debate in Parliament. MPs have put forward plans to charge fees on money sent abroad by expatriate workers, but the government and Bahrain Chamber have rejected them. Total worker remittances from Bahrain fell below BD1bn last year to about BD957m.

Active permits held by non-Bahrainis stood at 654,672 at the end of 2025, up 1.8 pc from 643,274 a year earlier.

Separate Social Insurance Organisation data put the number of non-Bahraini private-sector contributors at 478,707 in the first quarter of 2026.

Foreign workers have also gained wider access to bank accounts and payment apps, allowing many to send money abroad without visiting exchange houses.

Remittances are a major source of overseas income for the Philippines, whose workers are spread across the Gulf, Asia and much of the rest of the world.

Suspect Referred to Court Over 4.82kg of Unstamped Gold

Man faces trial for possessing and offering for sale gold jewellery without approved Bahraini hallmarks

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

The Public Prosecution referred a suspect to the Minor Criminal Court for possessing and intending to sell gold jewelry that did not carry the approved Bahraini hallmark.

The case followed a report from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce during periodic inspections of establishments

trading in gold and precious metals.

Authorities seized 226 pieces of 18-karat gold weighing approximately 4.82 kilograms, none of which carried the required official hallmark.

The Public Prosecution initiated legal procedures and ordered the suspect's referral to court.

The Attorney General and Head of the Ministries and Pub-

lic Entities Prosecution stressed that hallmarking requirements are essential to protecting consumers and ensuring transparency in gold-market transactions.

He added that the Public Prosecution would continue enforcing the law against violations of regulations governing precious metals to protect consumer rights and strengthen confidence in the market.

Driver Detained After Red-Light Crash



A driver has been detained pending investigation after running a red pedestrian traffic light on Shaikh Jaber Al Sabah Avenue and seriously injuring a child.

The Public Prosecution said the driver failed to exercise due care and collided with the pedestrian while the pedestrian signal was green.

During questioning, the driver was shown video footage of the incident and admitted to the charges.

The prosecution ordered his detention and requested the necessary medical and technical reports as part of the investigation.

Two Arrested Over Al Hidd Refrigerator Theft



Muharraq Governorate Police arrested two Asian men, aged 62 and 32, for allegedly breaking into a refrigerator used to store food products for sale and stealing its contents in Al Hidd.

The Ministry of Interior said police launched search and investigation operations after receiving a report about the theft.

The investigation led to the identification and arrest of the two suspects.

Legal procedures are underway before the suspects are referred to the Public Prosecution.