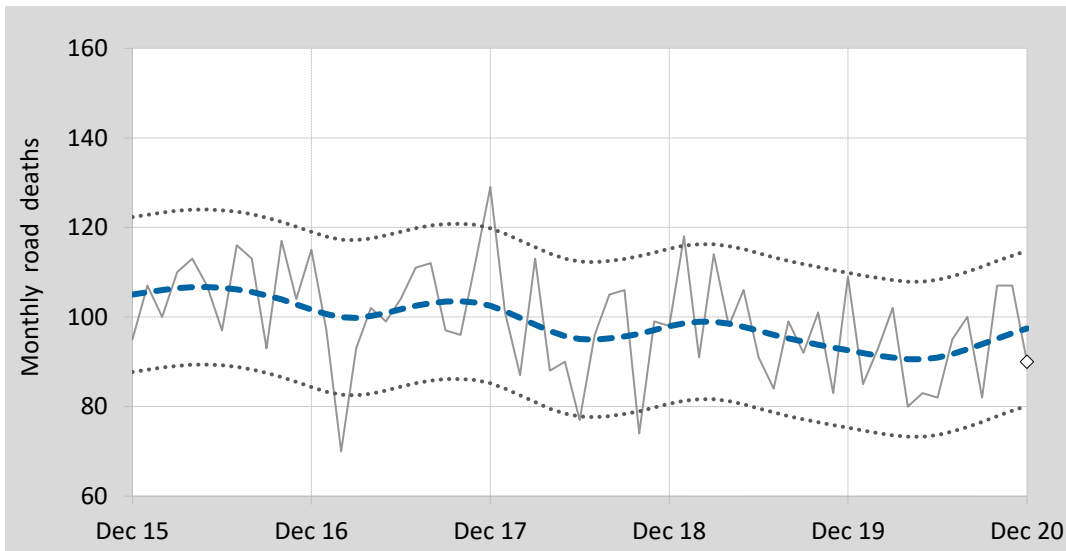




This month's key figures

- There was a total of 90 road deaths during the month of December 2020. The current figure is 17.6 per cent lower than the average for December over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended December 2020, there were 1,106 road deaths. This is a reduction of 6.7 per cent from the 12-month period ending December 2019.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.3. This is a 7.9 per cent reduction compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending December 2019.

Monthly road deaths—last five years, with trend and error bounds



Note: Shown is a trend and a 90 per cent prediction interval for the monthly observations.

Data Sources

Data are obtained from

- Transport for NSW
- Department of Transport, Victoria
- Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland
- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, SA
- Western Australia Police
- Department of State Growth, Tasmania
- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, NT
- Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, ACT
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (3101.0)

Inquiries

For further information about data in this bulletin, contact:

Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics (BITRE)
 Web : www.bitre.gov.au
 Email : roadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au

Road deaths from recent months are preliminary and subject to revision.

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I. Deaths by jurisdiction

Table 1.1 Current month

Current month	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
December 2019	29	21	16	13	14	3	12	1	109
December 2020	22	14	28	10	10	2	3	1	90
Per cent change	-24.1	-33.3	75.0	-23.1	-28.6	-33.3	-75.0	0.0	-17.4

Table 1.2 Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2019 - December 2019	353	266	219	114	163	29	36	6	1,186
January 2020 - December 2020	297	212	276	95	154	36	29	7	1,106
Per cent change	-15.9	-20.3	26.0	-16.7	-5.5	24.1	-19.4	16.7	-6.7

Table 1.3 Year ending December

12 months ended December	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	380	290	251	86	193	37	45	10	1,292
2017	389	259	247	100	159	32	31	5	1,222
2018	347	213	245	80	158	32	50	9	1,134
2019	353	266	219	114	163	29	36	6	1,186
2020	297	212	276	95	154	36	29	7	1,106
Latest per cent change	-15.9	-20.3	26.0	-16.7	-5.5	24.1	-19.4	16.7	-6.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-5.7	-5.8	0.7	3.4	-4.2	-1.5	-7.0	-5.2	-3.4

2. Deaths by road user, age-group and gender

Table 2.1 By road user

12 months ended December	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Motorcyclist ^b	Pedal ^a cyclist	Total ^b
2016	622	208	182	249	29	1,292
2017	566	235	161	211	39	1,222
2018	521	204	177	191	35	1,134
2019	570	205	159	210	39	1,186
2020	545	188	136	190	42	1,106
Latest per cent change	-4.4	-8.3	-14.5	-9.5	7.7	-6.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-2.5	-3.3	-5.8	-5.3	7.7	-3.4

Table 2.2 By age-group (years)

12 months ended December	0 to 16	17 to 25	26 to 39	40 to 64	65 to 74	≥ 75	Total ^b
2016	60	265	290	411	103	163	1,292
2017	49	244	237	391	120	181	1,222
2018	52	225	257	353	114	129	1,134
2019	47	238	256	372	105	168	1,186
2020	55	208	291	340	71	136	1,106
Latest per cent change	17.0	-12.6	13.7	-8.6	-32.4	-19.0	-6.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-2.1	-5.0	0.8	-4.2	-8.4	-4.3	-3.4

2. Deaths by road user, age-group and gender (continued)

Table 2.3 By gender

12 months ended December	Males	Females	Total ^c
2016	954	337	1,292
2017	898	324	1,222
2018	841	292	1,134
2019	905	281	1,186
2020	804	297	1,106
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-11.2	5.7	-6.7
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-3.3	-3.9	-3.4

a Includes pillion passengers.

b Includes deaths to persons with either age or road user type not recorded.

c Includes deaths of persons where gender is not recorded or unspecified.

3. Annual deaths per 100,000 population

Table 3.1 Year ended December

12 months ended December	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	4.91	4.70	5.18	5.02	7.55	7.15	18.32	2.48	5.34
2017	4.94	4.10	5.01	5.80	6.18	6.13	12.52	1.21	4.97
2018	4.35	3.30	4.89	4.61	6.09	6.06	20.24	2.14	4.54
2019	4.36	4.03	4.30	6.50	6.21	5.42	14.63	1.41	4.68
2020	3.64	3.17	5.33	5.37	5.79	6.66	11.79	1.62	4.31
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-16.7	-21.5	24.1	-17.5	-6.9	22.8	-19.4	15.4	-7.9
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-7.0	-7.7	-0.9	2.5	-5.1	-2.6	-7.0	-6.8	-4.8

Table 3.2 Calendar year period

Calendar year	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	4.91	4.70	5.18	5.02	7.55	7.15	18.32	2.48	5.34
2017	4.94	4.10	5.01	5.80	6.18	6.13	12.52	1.21	4.97
2018	4.35	3.30	4.89	4.61	6.09	6.06	20.24	2.14	4.54
2019	4.36	4.03	4.30	6.50	6.21	5.42	14.63	1.41	4.68
2020	3.64	3.17	5.33	5.37	5.79	6.66	11.79	1.62	4.31
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-16.7	-21.5	24.1	-17.5	-6.9	22.8	-19.4	15.4	-7.9

4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

— raw
 - - - smoothed
(Whittaker-Henderson)

Figure 4.1 NSW

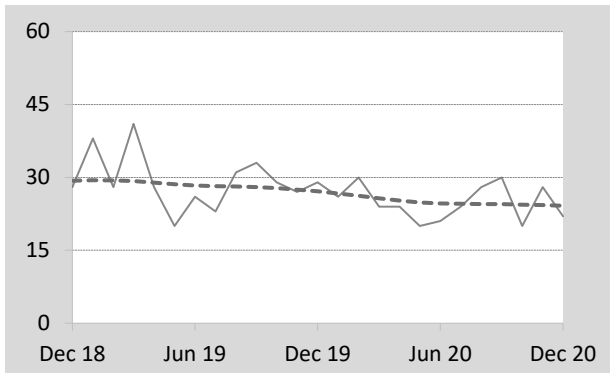


Figure 4.2 Vic

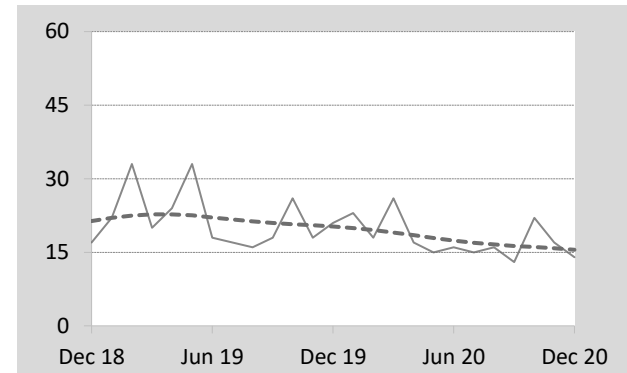


Figure 4.3 Qld

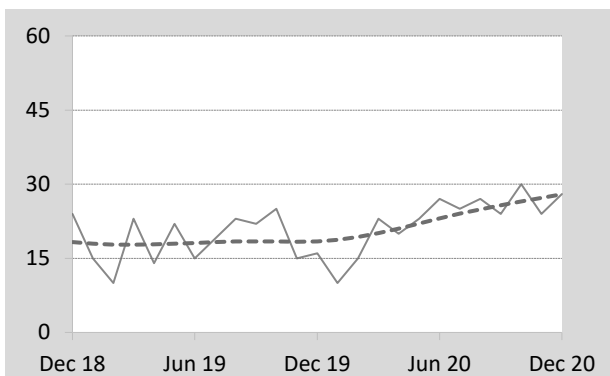


Figure 4.4 SA

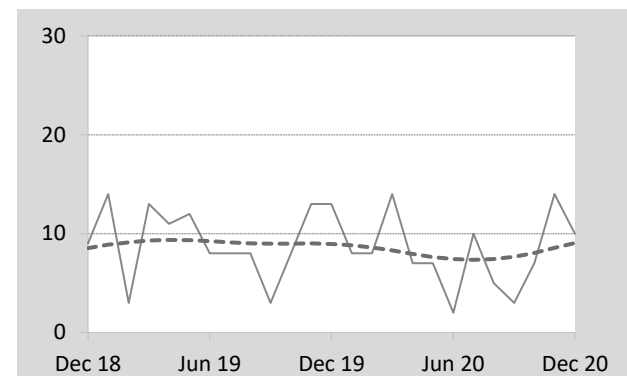


Figure 4.5 WA

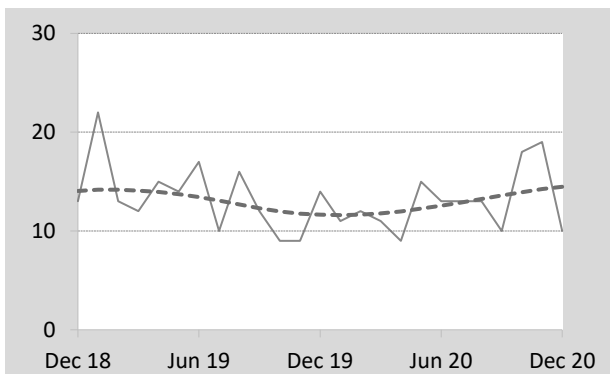


Figure 4.6 Tas

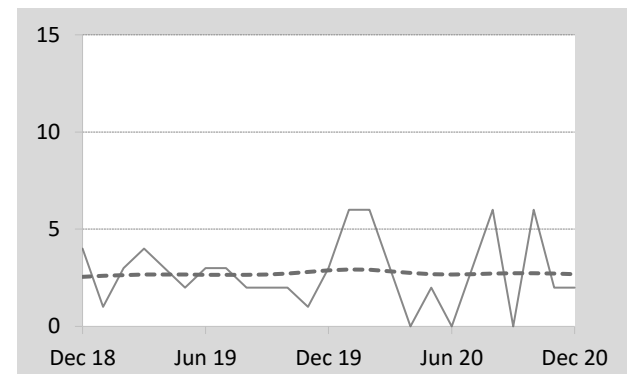


Figure 4.7 NT

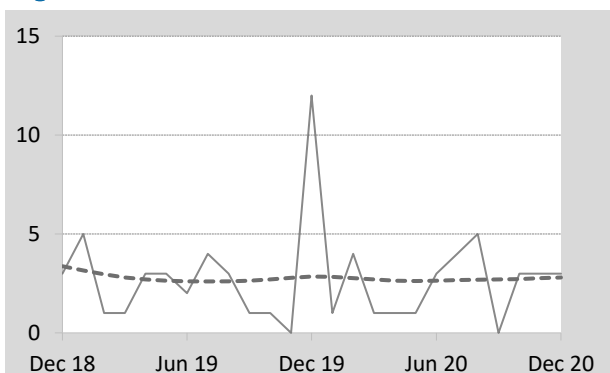
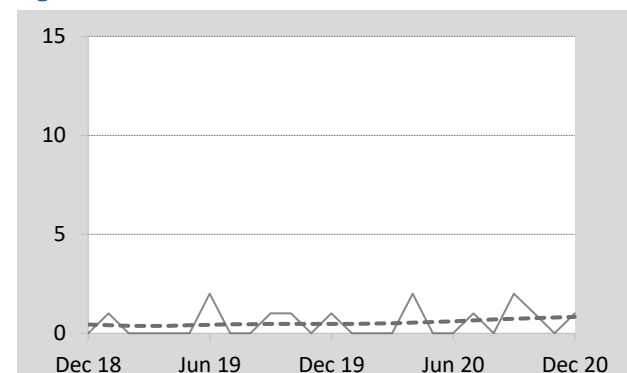


Figure 4.8 ACT



5. Fatal crashes: counts and characteristics

Table 5.1 By Crash type and Posted speed limit

12 months ended December	Crash type ^a		Posted speed limit						Total ^b
	Single	Multiple	≤ 40	50	60	70 to 90	100	≥ 110	
2016	679	519	17	132	215	290	370	166	1,198
2017	623	503	35	152	202	241	348	139	1,126
2018	633	421	18	131	192	228	334	143	1,054
2019	668	432	21	129	185	241	343	172	1,100
2020	577	429	18	126	169	230	326	118	1,006
Latest per cent change	-13.6	-0.7	-14.3	-2.3	-8.6	-4.6	-5.0	-31.4	-8.5
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-2.5	-5.2	-3.9	-2.5	-5.5	-4.5	-2.6	-4.6	-3.7

Table 5.2 By Day of week and Time of day

12 months ended December	Day of week ^c		Time of day ^d	
	Weekday	Weekend	Day	Night
2016	720	478	715	483
2017	711	415	716	410
2018	631	423	647	407
2019	695	405	683	417
2020	595	411	602	404
Latest per cent change	-14.4	1.5	-11.9	-3.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-4.0	-3.2	-3.8	-3.3

a 'Single' and 'Multiple' refer to the number of vehicles involved in a fatal crash.

b Includes crashes where speed limit is unknown or not specified.

c 'Weekday' refers to 6am Monday through to 5:59pm Friday.

d 'Day' refers to 6am through to 5:59 pm.

Appendix

Definition

The road safety agencies in each jurisdiction use detailed criteria to define road crashes and road deaths. Briefly, a death is classified as resulting from a road crash if the crash occurred on a public road, is unintentional and the death occurred within 30 days from injuries sustained in the crash.

Population rates

Rates per population are based on the deaths to the current 12-month period, and the population at the midpoint of the period. The population at midpoints is interpolated if necessary.

New ongoing fields in December 2018 database

The *Australian Road Deaths Database* now includes geographic location information for fatal crashes. Back series of data for all jurisdictions is in development.

Average trend change (% per year)

Designed to provide a **one-number summary** of growth rates over recent time periods. Calculated by fitting an exponential curve through the data points, and quoting the constant (annual) change of this curve.

Smooth trend lines

These trend lines are designed to track medium-term trends and turning points in the raw data. Whittaker-Henderson smoothers have been used with value of 80 for the smoothing parameter. The application R (package *pracma*) can be used for such trend lines. Error bounds are 90% (approximately) around the monthly data.

Other sources for the tables in this bulletin

The underlying database used to produce this bulletin — *the Australian Road Deaths Database* is available for data extraction at <http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx>.

Road deaths from recent months are preliminary and subject to revision.