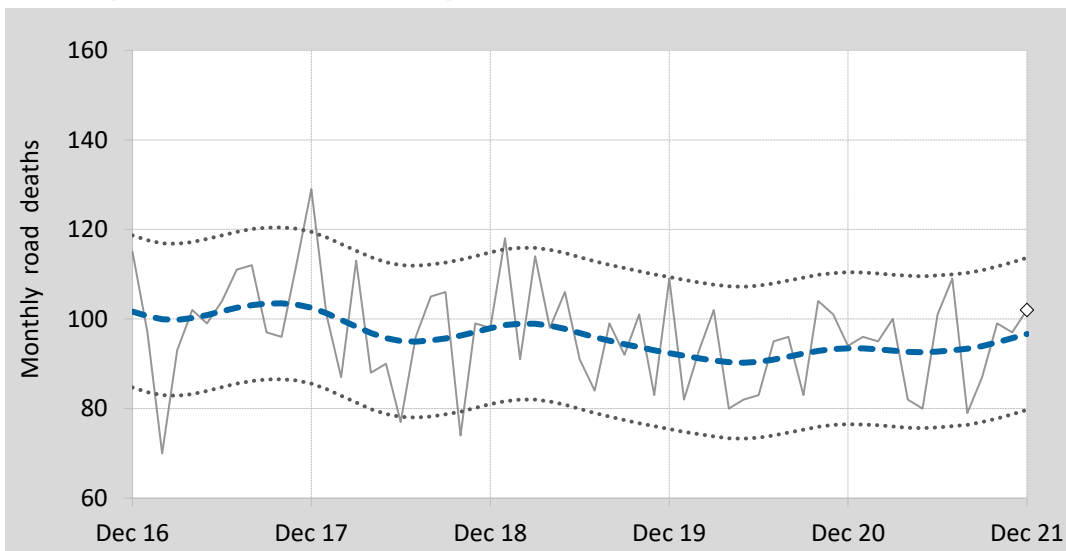




This month's key figures

- There was a total of 102 road deaths during the month of December 2021. The current figure is 6.4 per cent lower than the average for December over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended December 2021, there were 1,127 road deaths. This is an increase of 2.9 per cent from the 12-month period ending December 2020.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.4. This is a 2.7 per cent increase compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending December 2020.

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.

© Copyright. Commonwealth of Australia

I. Deaths by jurisdiction

Table I.1 Current month

| Current month | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Australia |
|-----------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-----|-------|-----------|
| December 2020 | 22 | 16 | 30 | 8 | 10 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 94 |
| December 2021 | 33 | 24 | 13 | 7 | 14 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 102 |
| Per cent change | 50.0 | 50.0 | -56.7 | -12.5 | 40.0 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 8.5 |

Table I.2 Year to date

| Year to date | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Australia |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----------|
| January 2020 - December 2020 | 284 | 211 | 278 | 93 | 154 | 37 | 31 | 7 | 1,095 |
| January 2021 - December 2021 | 270 | 237 | 274 | 99 | 166 | 35 | 35 | 11 | 1,127 |
| Per cent change | -4.9 | 12.3 | -1.4 | 6.5 | 7.8 | -5.4 | 12.9 | 57.1 | 2.9 |

Table I.3 Year ending December

| 12 months ended December | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Australia |
|--|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----------|
| 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 | 284 | 211 | 278 | 93 | 154 | 37 | 31 | 7 | 1,095 |
| 2021 | 270 | 237 | 274 | 99 | 166 | 35 | 35 | 11 | 1,127 |
| Latest per cent change | -4.9 | 12.3 | -1.4 | 6.5 | 7.8 | -5.4 | 12.9 | 57.1 | 2.9 |
| Average trend change per year (per cent) | -8.9 | -1.9 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 3.3 | -2.3 | 14.2 | -1.9 |

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 |
|--|--------|-----------|------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 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 | 534 | 189 | 138 | 188 | 41 | 1,095 |
| 2021 | 532 | 181 | 134 | 234 | 39 | 1,127 |
| Latest per cent change | -0.4 | -4.2 | -2.9 | 24.5 | -4.9 | 2.9 |
| Average trend change per year (per cent) | -1.0 | -5.8 | -6.0 | 1.9 | 1.6 | -1.9 |

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 |
|--|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------|--------------------|
| 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 | 207 | 290 | 331 | 76 | 132 | 1,095 |
| 2021 | 64 | 211 | 244 | 356 | 111 | 133 | 1,127 |
| Latest per cent change | 16.4 | 1.9 | -15.9 | 7.6 | 46.1 | 0.8 | 2.9 |
| Average trend change per year (per cent) | 6.1 | -3.7 | 1.8 | -2.5 | -5.5 | -5.8 | -1.9 |

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

Table 2.3 By gender

| 12 months ended December | Males | Females | Total ^c |
|---|-------|---------|--------------------|
| 2017 | 898 | 324 | 1,222 |
| 2018 | 841 | 292 | 1,134 |
| 2019 | 905 | 281 | 1,186 |
| 2020 | 792 | 299 | 1,095 |
| 2021 | 850 | 272 | 1,127 |
| <i>Latest per cent change</i> | 7.3 | -9.0 | 2.9 |
| <i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i> | -1.7 | -3.2 | -1.9 |

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 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|-----------|
| 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 | 3.48 | 3.15 | 5.37 | 5.25 | 5.78 | 6.85 | 12.59 | 1.62 | 4.26 |
| 2021 | 3.30 | 3.56 | 5.25 | 5.58 | 6.19 | 6.46 | 14.21 | 2.54 | 4.38 |
| <i>Latest per cent change</i> | -5.2 | 13.1 | -2.3 | 6.3 | 7.1 | -5.6 | 12.9 | 56.8 | 2.7 |
| <i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i> | -9.8 | -3.2 | 1.9 | 0.5 | -0.5 | 2.3 | -2.2 | 12.8 | -3.1 |

Table 3.2 Calendar year period

| Calendar year | NSW | Vic | Qld | SA | WA | Tas | NT | ACT | Australia |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|-----------|
| 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 | 3.48 | 3.15 | 5.37 | 5.25 | 5.78 | 6.85 | 12.59 | 1.62 | 4.26 |
| 2021 | 3.30 | 3.56 | 5.25 | 5.58 | 6.19 | 6.46 | 14.21 | 2.54 | 4.38 |
| <i>Latest per cent change</i> | -5.2 | 13.1 | -2.3 | 6.3 | 7.1 | -5.6 | 12.9 | 56.8 | 2.7 |

4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

— raw
 - - - smoothed
(Whittaker-Henderson)

Figure 4.1 NSW

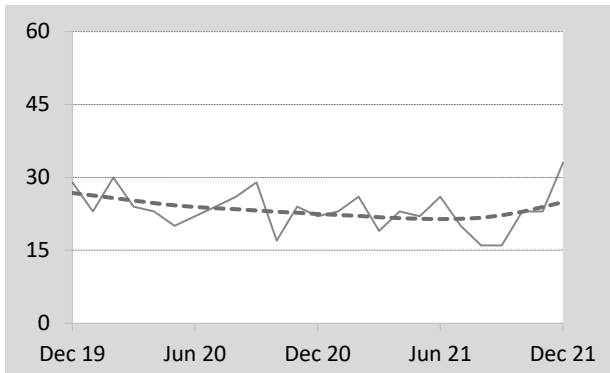


Figure 4.2 Vic

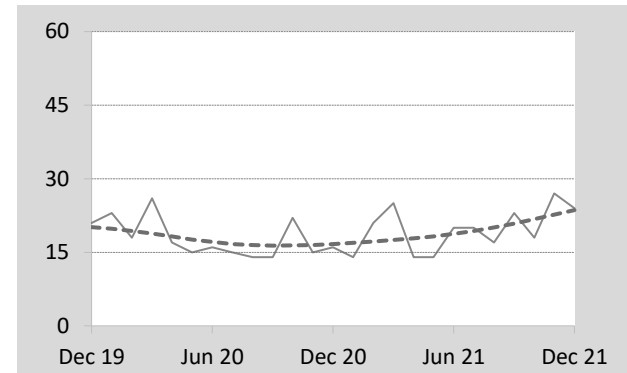


Figure 4.3 Qld

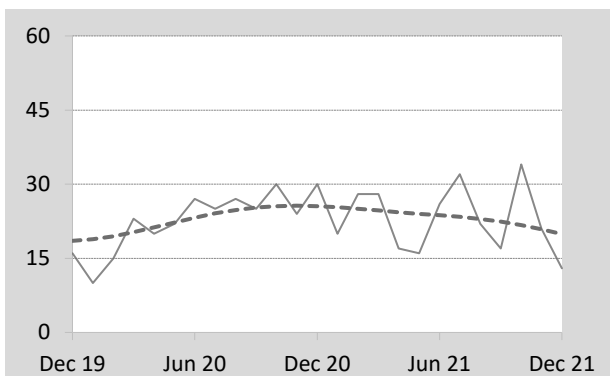


Figure 4.4 SA

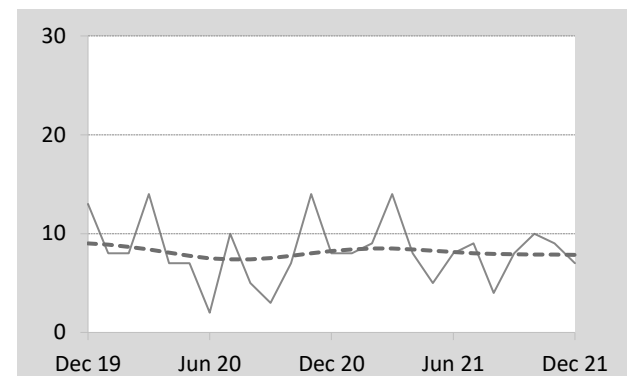


Figure 4.5 WA

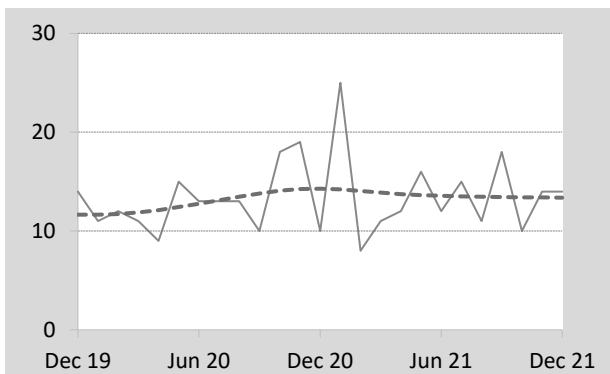


Figure 4.6 Tas

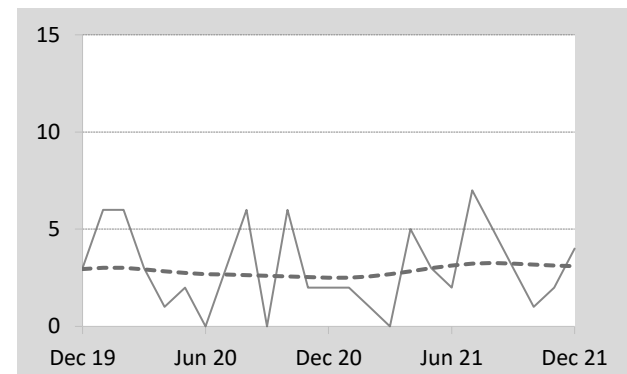


Figure 4.7 NT

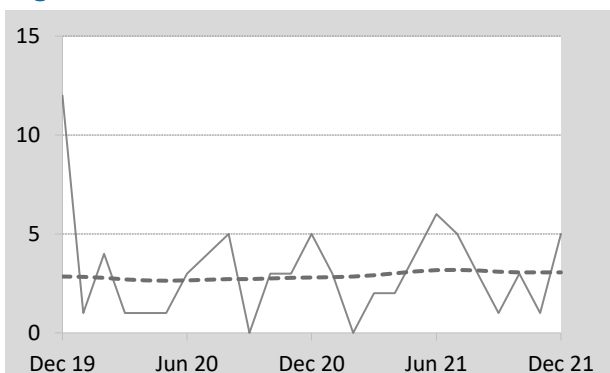
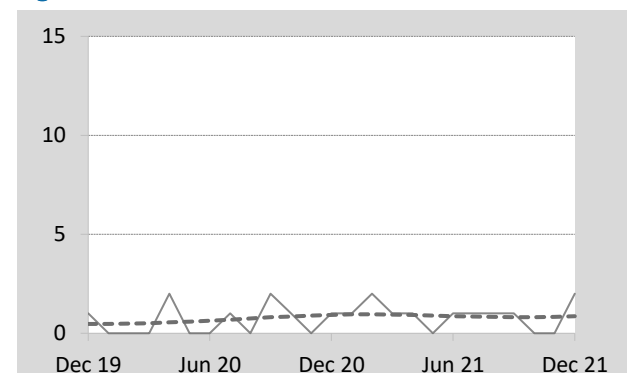


Figure 4.8 ACT



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 (km/h) | | | | | | Total ^b |
|--|-------------------------|----------|---------------------------|------|------|----------|------|-------|--------------------|
| | Single | Multiple | ≤ 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 to 90 | 100 | ≥ 110 | |
| 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 | 569 | 427 | 17 | 125 | 167 | 233 | 330 | 118 | 996 |
| 2021 | 618 | 430 | 17 | 125 | 177 | 219 | 322 | 138 | 1,048 |
| Latest per cent change | 8.6 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 6.0 | -6.0 | -2.4 | 16.9 | 5.2 |
| Average trend change per year (per cent) | -1.2 | -3.0 | -13.9 | -4.3 | -4.0 | -1.7 | -1.7 | -2.0 | -2.0 |

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 |
| 2017 | 711 | 415 | 716 | 410 |
| 2018 | 631 | 423 | 647 | 407 |
| 2019 | 695 | 405 | 683 | 417 |
| 2020 | 592 | 404 | 596 | 400 |
| 2021 | 650 | 398 | 651 | 397 |
| Latest per cent change | 9.8 | -1.5 | 9.2 | -0.8 |
| Average trend change per year (per cent) | -2.4 | -1.3 | -2.7 | -0.8 |

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.