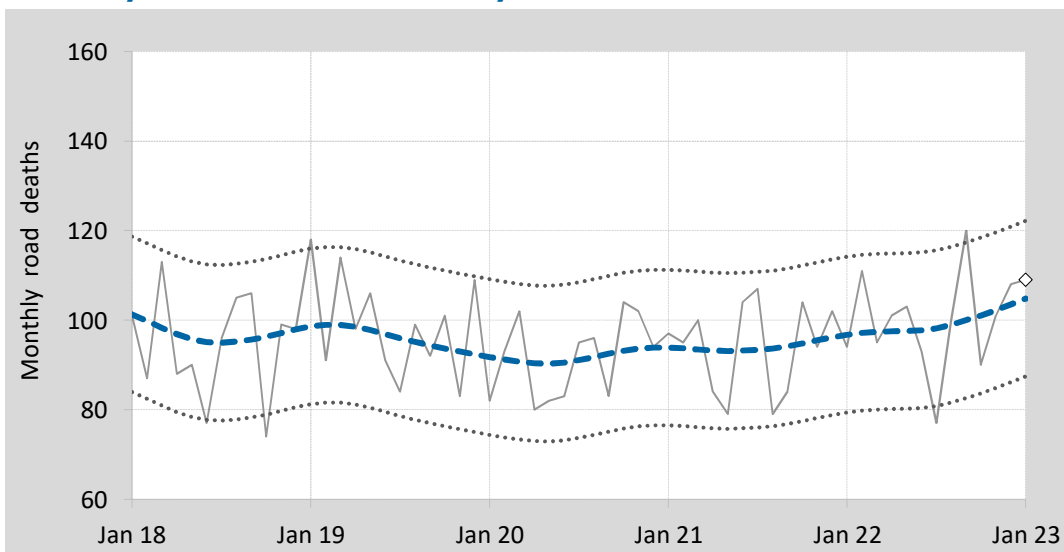




### This month's key figures

- There was a total of 109 road deaths during the month of January 2023. The current figure is 10.8 per cent higher than the average for January over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended January 2023, there were 1,208 road deaths. This is an increase of 7.3 per cent from the 12-month period ending January 2022.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.6. This is a 6.0 per cent increase compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending January 2022.

### 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 for Infrastructure and Transport, SA
- Western Australia Police
- Department of State Growth, Tasmania
- Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics, NT
- Transport Canberra and City 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](http://www.bitre.gov.au)  
 Email : [roadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:roadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au)

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

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## I. Deaths by jurisdiction

**Table I.1** Current month

Current month	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2022	30	23	19	4	10	3	3	2	94
January 2023	22	34	24	11	12	4	1	1	109
Per cent change	-26.7	47.8	26.3	175.0	20.0	33.3	-66.7	-50.0	16.0

**Table I.2** Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2022 - January 2022	30	23	19	4	10	3	3	2	94
January 2023 - January 2023	22	34	24	11	12	4	1	1	109
Per cent change	-26.7	47.8	26.3	175.0	20.0	33.3	-66.7	-50.0	16.0

**Table I.3** Year ending January

12 months ended January	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2019	348	215	244	89	167	27	52	9	1,151
2020	338	267	214	108	152	34	32	5	1,150
2021	285	202	288	93	168	34	33	8	1,111
2022	281	240	276	95	151	36	35	12	1,126
2023	284	252	304	78	176	52	45	17	1,208
Latest per cent change	1.1	5.0	10.1	-17.9	16.6	44.4	28.6	41.7	7.3
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-5.7	2.1	7.2	-3.8	1.0	14.7	-2.0	24.0	0.8

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

**Table 2.1** By road user

12 months ended January	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Motorcyclist <sup>a</sup>	Pedal cyclist <sup>a</sup>	Total <sup>b</sup>	
2019	529	206	173		201	35	1,151
2020	550	200	158		199	40	1,150
2021	541	180	141		201	43	1,111
2022	534	187	125		234	39	1,126
2023	568	185	162		242	38	1,208
Latest per cent change	6.4	-1.1	29.6		3.4	-2.6	7.3
Average trend change per year (per cent)	1.1	-2.8	-3.6		5.5	1.4	0.8

**Table 2.2** By age-group (years)

12 months ended January	0 to 7	8 to 16	17 to 25	26 to 39	40 to 64	65 to 74	≥ 75	Total <sup>b</sup>
2019	15	41	224	270	355	111	132	1,151
2020	17	26	228	260	353	102	164	1,150
2021	21	39	214	291	335	80	127	1,111
2022	20	43	216	227	356	116	143	1,126
2023	15	48	233	273	386	117	133	1,208
Latest per cent change	-25.0	11.6	7.9	20.3	8.4	0.9	-7.0	7.3
Average trend change per year (per cent)	1.6	8.5	0.2	-1.1	1.8	2.4	-1.2	0.8

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

**Table 2.3** By gender

12 months ended January	Males	Females	Total <sup>c</sup>
2019	866	284	1,151
2020	877	273	1,150
2021	804	303	1,111
2022	846	278	1,126
2023	889	317	1,208
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	5.1	14.0	7.3
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	0.2	2.4	0.8

a Includes pillion passengers.

b Includes deaths of 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 January

12 months ended January	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2019	4.4	3.3	4.9	5.1	6.4	5.0	20.9	2.1	4.6
2020	4.2	4.1	4.2	6.1	5.7	6.1	12.9	1.1	4.5
2021	3.5	3.1	5.6	5.2	6.2	6.0	13.2	1.8	4.3
2022	3.5	3.7	5.3	5.3	5.5	6.3	14.0	2.6	4.4
2023	3.5	3.8	5.7	4.3	6.3	9.1	17.9	3.7	4.6
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	0.3	3.8	7.9	-18.7	15.0	43.6	27.8	40.7	6.0
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-6.3	1.5	5.6	-4.8	-0.6	13.1	-2.2	22.2	-0.2

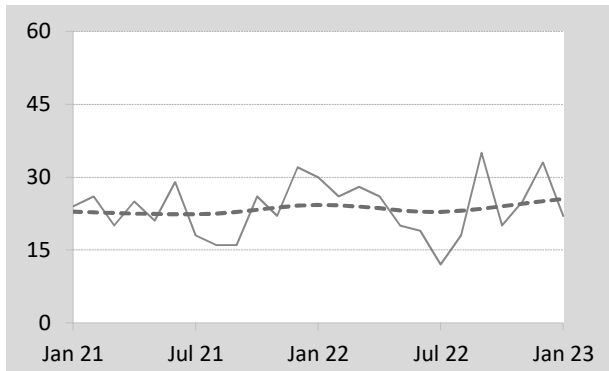
**Table 3.2** Calendar year period

Calendar year	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2018	4.4	3.3	4.9	4.6	6.0	5.9	20.1	2.1	4.5
2019	4.4	4.1	4.3	6.4	6.1	5.3	14.5	1.4	4.7
2020	3.5	3.2	5.4	5.2	5.7	6.7	12.5	1.6	4.3
2021	3.4	3.5	5.3	5.5	6.0	6.2	14.0	2.4	4.4
2022	3.6	3.6	5.6	3.9	6.2	8.9	18.8	3.9	4.6
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	5.4	3.3	5.8	-29.0	3.5	44.8	33.5	62.5	4.5

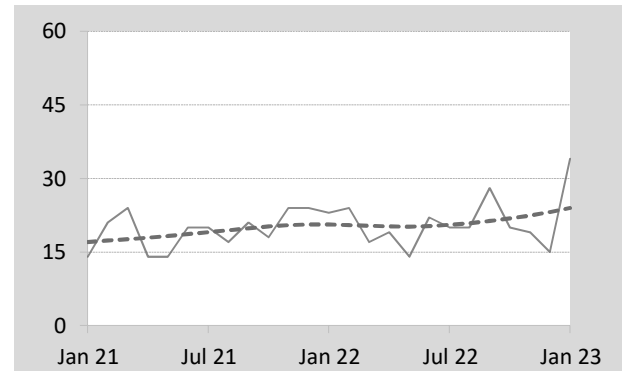
#### 4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

— raw  
 - - - smoothed  
 (Whittaker-Henderson)

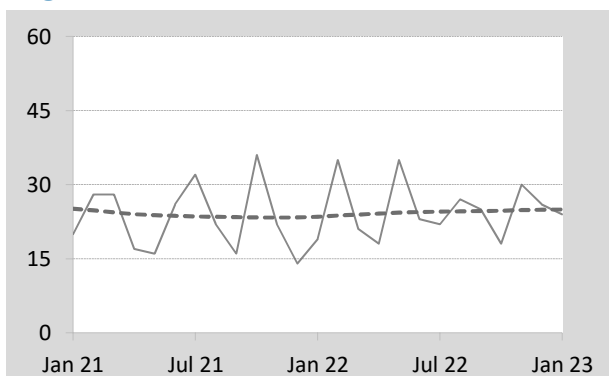
**Figure 4.1 NSW**



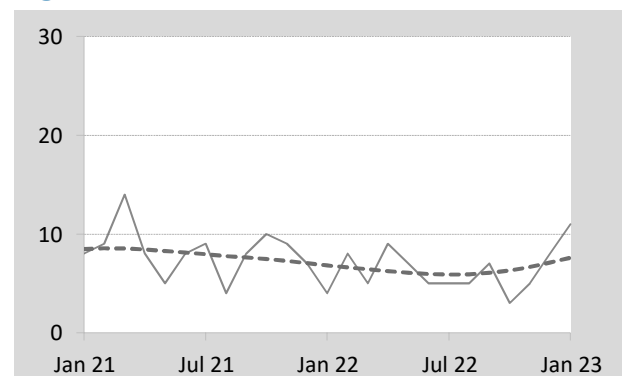
**Figure 4.2 Vic**



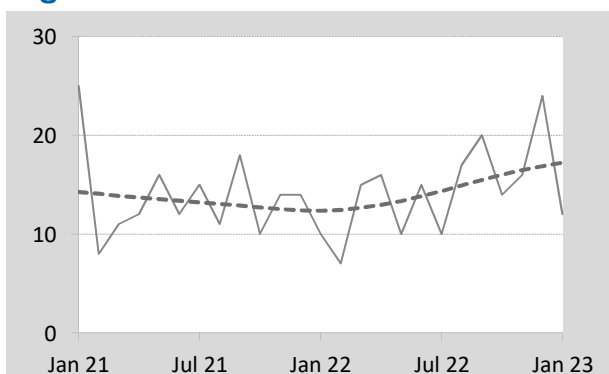
**Figure 4.3 Qld**



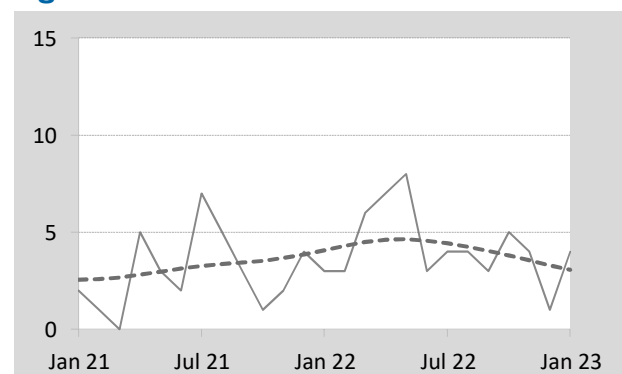
**Figure 4.4 SA**



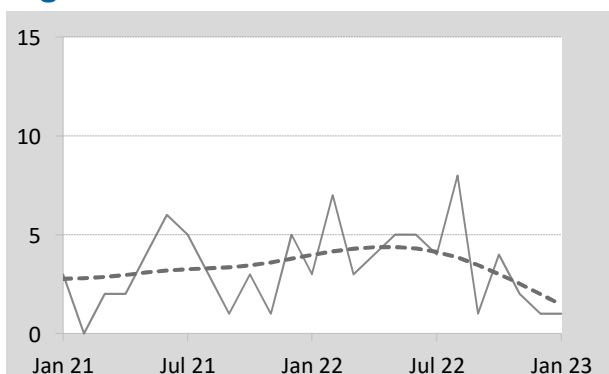
**Figure 4.5 WA**



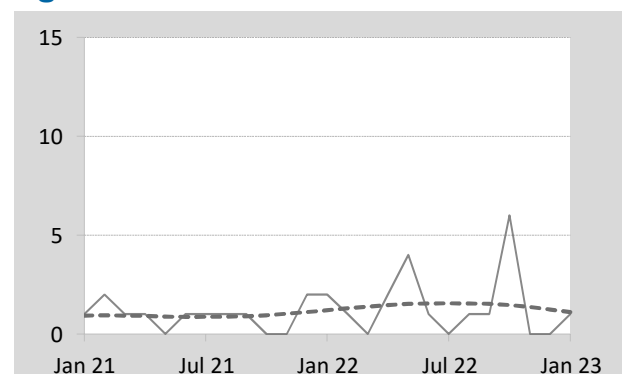
**Figure 4.6 Tas**



**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 January	Crash type <sup>a</sup>		Posted speed limit (km/h)						Total <sup>b</sup>
	Single	Multiple	≤ 40	50	60 to 70	80 to 90	100	≥ 110	
2019	658	411	18	133	250	175	329	156	1,069
2020	631	433	21	128	230	177	339	160	1,064
2021	580	434	17	127	228	186	330	119	1,014
2022	615	434	17	122	248	164	342	141	1,049
2023	688	438	23	113	301	178	324	131	1,127
Latest per cent change	11.9	0.9	35.3	-7.4	21.4	8.5	-5.3	-7.1	7.4
Average trend change per year (per cent)	0.6	1.3	2.8	-3.7	4.6	-0.4	-0.2	-4.6	0.9

**Table 5.2** By day of week and time of day

12 months ended January	Day of week <sup>c</sup>		Time of day <sup>d</sup>	
	Weekday	Weekend	Day	Night
2019	642	427	639	430
2020	649	415	523	541
2021	595	419	612	402
2022	648	401	649	400
2023	674	453	654	472
Latest per cent change	4.0	13.0	0.8	18.0
Average trend change per year (per cent)	1.0	0.8	2.7	-1.1

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 January 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](http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx)>.

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

## 6. Supplementary data — Christmas 2022

This month's supplementary section presents an analysis of a 12-day Christmas period. There is no uniformly defined 'Christmas holiday period' amongst Australia's road safety authorities. In some or all jurisdictions, there are defined periods of more stringent road safety enforcement, but the types and start-finish dates vary.

The following analysis is based on a fixed 12-day period starting on December 23rd and finishing on January 3rd each year, referred to here as the 'Christmas period'.

Data for recent Christmas periods is preliminary and is subject to revision by jurisdictions.

**Table 6.1 Fatalities during the Christmas period**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
2013	8	4	4	1	6	2	1	1	27
2014	7	5	4	9	3	2	0	0	30
2015	12	8	7	2	2	4	1	2	38
2016	12	8	6	4	8	0	1	0	39
2017	21	12	10	3	5	0	0	1	52
2018	8	5	13	6	3	5	1	0	41
2019	10	9	1	5	2	0	5	0	32
2020	7	7	10	4	1	1	1	0	31
2021	8	14	5	2	5	2	0	1	37
2022	9	7	11	6	5	0	0	0	38

**Figure 6.1 Fatalities during the Christmas period — Australia**

