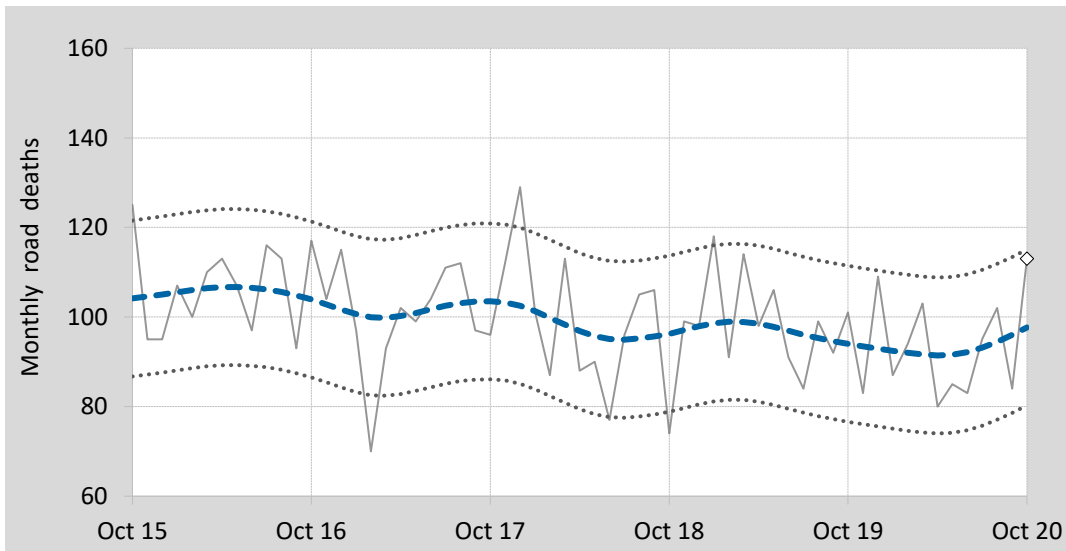




### This month's key figures

- There was a total of 113 road deaths during the month of October 2020. The current figure is 10.1 per cent higher than the average for October over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended October 2020, there were 1,118 road deaths. This is a decrease of 6.1 per cent from the 12-month period ending October 2019.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.4. This is a 7.4 per cent decrease compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending October 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](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
October 2019	29	26	25	8	9	2	1	1	101
October 2020	22	22	30	8	17	6	7	1	113
Per cent change	-24.1	-15.4	20.0	0.0	88.9	200.0	600.0	0.0	11.9

**Table I.2** Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2019 - October 2019	297	227	188	88	140	25	24	5	994
January 2020 - October 2020	261	183	223	72	122	32	27	6	926
Per cent change	-12.1	-19.4	18.6	-18.2	-12.9	28.0	12.5	20.0	-6.8

**Table I.3** Year ending October

12 months ended October	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	387	276	238	83	185	36	44	14	1,263
2017	364	248	259	96	163	30	35	5	1,200
2018	372	234	241	79	162	31	49	10	1,178
2019	350	267	230	109	168	32	30	5	1,191
2020	317	222	254	98	145	36	39	7	1,118
Latest per cent change	-9.4	-16.9	10.4	-10.1	-13.7	12.5	30.0	40.0	-6.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-4.3	-3.6	0.1	4.7	-4.5	0.6	-3.9	-12.9	-2.5

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

**Table 2.1** By road user

12 months ended October	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Motorcyclist <sup>b</sup>	Pedal <sup>a</sup> cyclist	Total <sup>b</sup>
2016	613	204	173	240	31	1,263
2017	550	231	161	214	36	1,200
2018	551	216	174	193	36	1,178
2019	555	207	173	217	36	1,191
2020	559	187	138	185	46	1,118
Latest per cent change	0.7	-9.7	-20.2	-14.7	27.8	-6.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.7	-2.8	-3.7	-4.9	8.2	-2.5

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

12 months ended October	0 to 16	17 to 25	26 to 39	40 to 64	65 to 74	≥ 75	Total <sup>b</sup>
2016	52	249	280	413	108	161	1,263
2017	59	247	253	355	112	174	1,200
2018	48	227	258	388	116	139	1,178
2019	48	240	246	378	109	168	1,191
2020	53	217	294	334	80	135	1,118
Latest per cent change	10.4	-9.6	19.5	-11.6	-26.6	-19.6	-6.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.7	-3.0	0.7	-3.6	-6.1	-3.8	-2.5

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

**Table 2.3** By gender

12 months ended October	Males	Females	Total <sup>c</sup>
2016	923	340	1,263
2017	877	322	1,200
2018	874	303	1,178
2019	907	284	1,191
2020	819	293	1,118
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-9.7	3.2	-6.1
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-2.0	-4.1	-2.5

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 October

12 months ended October	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	5.01	4.49	4.92	4.85	7.24	6.96	17.97	3.48	5.23
2017	4.63	3.93	5.27	5.57	6.33	5.75	14.20	1.21	4.89
2018	4.67	3.63	4.82	4.55	6.25	5.88	19.87	2.38	4.72
2019	4.33	4.05	4.52	6.22	6.41	5.99	12.21	1.17	4.70
2020	3.88	3.31	4.91	5.54	5.45	6.66	15.89	1.63	4.35
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-10.4	-18.3	8.6	-11.0	-15.0	11.3	30.1	38.5	-7.4
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-5.6	-5.6	-1.6	3.8	-5.4	-0.5	-3.9	-14.4	-4.0

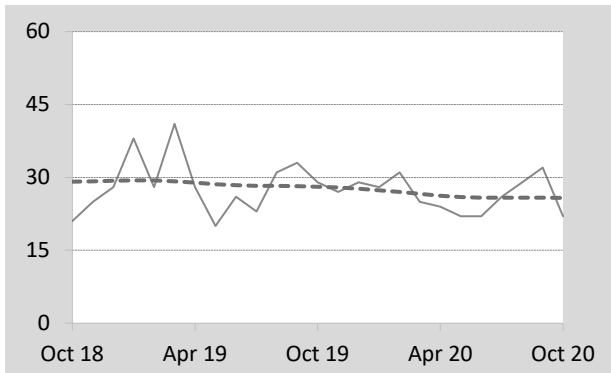
**Table 3.2** Calendar year period

Calendar year	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2015	4.60	4.18	5.09	6.00	6.26	6.60	20.03	3.79	5.06
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	4.37	4.03	4.30	6.50	6.21	5.42	14.63	1.41	4.68
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	0.4	22.3	-12.1	41.2	2.0	-10.4	-27.7	-34.3	3.0

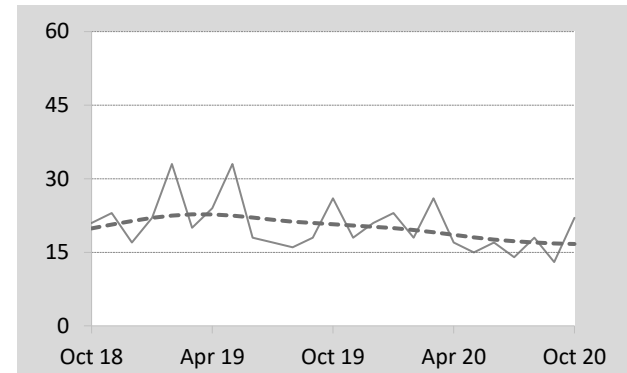
#### 4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

— raw  
 - - - smoothed  
*(Whittaker-Henderson)*

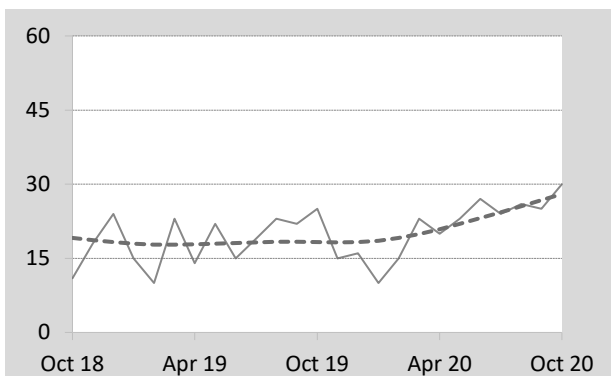
**Figure 4.1 NSW**



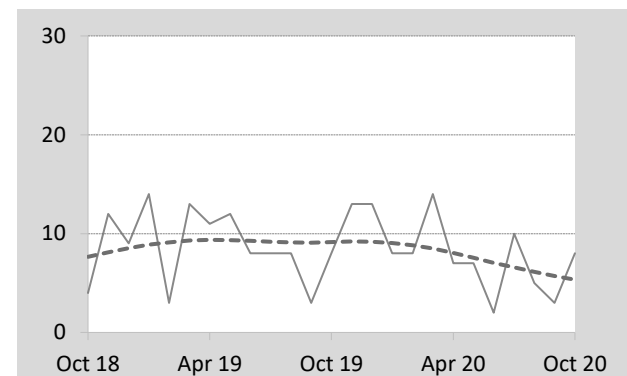
**Figure 4.2 Vic**



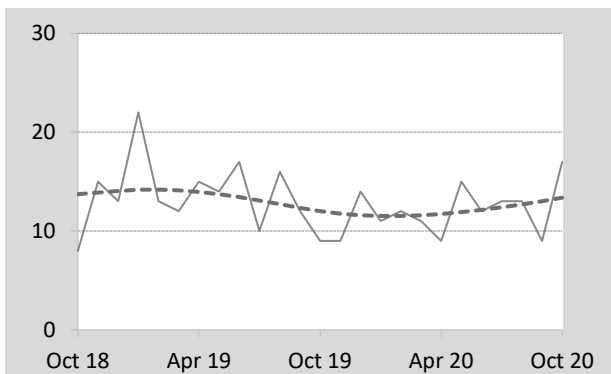
**Figure 4.3 Qld**



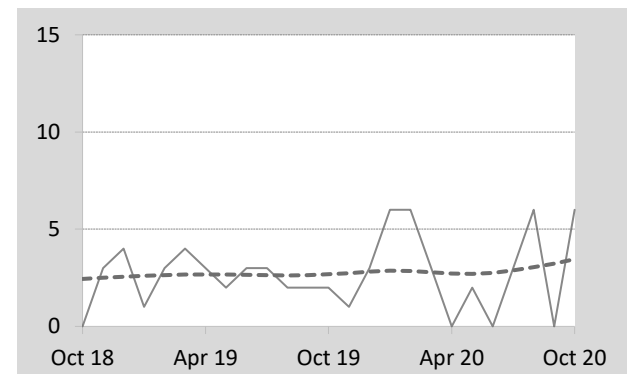
**Figure 4.4 SA**



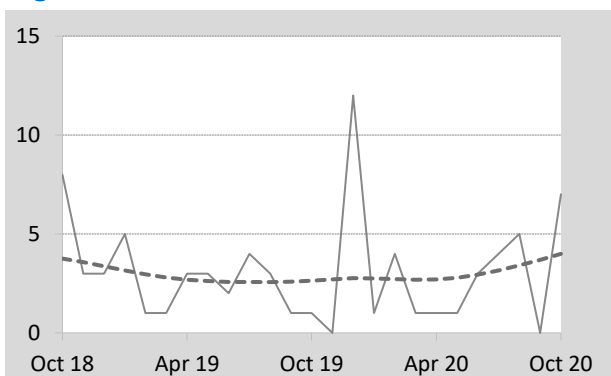
**Figure 4.5 WA**



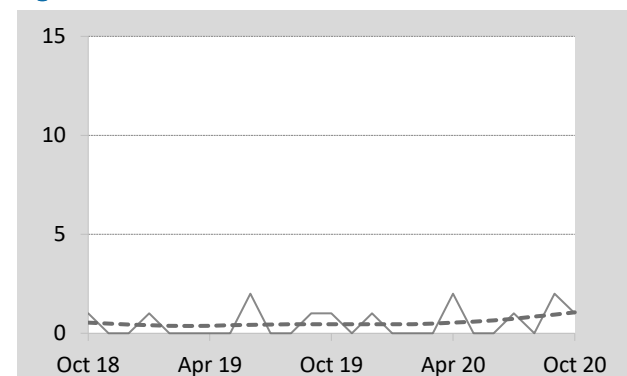
**Figure 4.6 Tas**



**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 October	Crash type <sup>a</sup>		Posted speed limit						Total <sup>b</sup>
	Single	Multiple	≤ 40	50	60	70 to 90	100	≥ 110	
2016	662	506	18	123	215	274	364	165	1,168
2017	617	495	32	140	211	242	337	145	1,112
2018	638	452	19	140	189	241	349	141	1,090
2019	677	428	20	141	190	235	342	168	1,105
2020	590	426	20	119	164	239	321	122	1,016
Latest per cent change	-12.9	-0.5	0.0	-15.6	-13.7	1.7	-6.1	-27.4	-8.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.4	-4.8	-2.6	-0.6	-6.3	-3.0	-2.3	-4.5	-2.8

**Table 5.2** By Day of week and Time of day

12 months ended October	Day of week <sup>c</sup>		Time of day <sup>d</sup>	
	Weekday	Weekend	Day	Night
2016	715	453	705	463
2017	701	411	708	404
2018	660	430	674	416
2019	683	422	676	429
2020	619	397	611	405
Latest per cent change	-9.4	-5.9	-9.6	-5.6
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-3.1	-2.3	-3.3	-2.1

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 October 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.