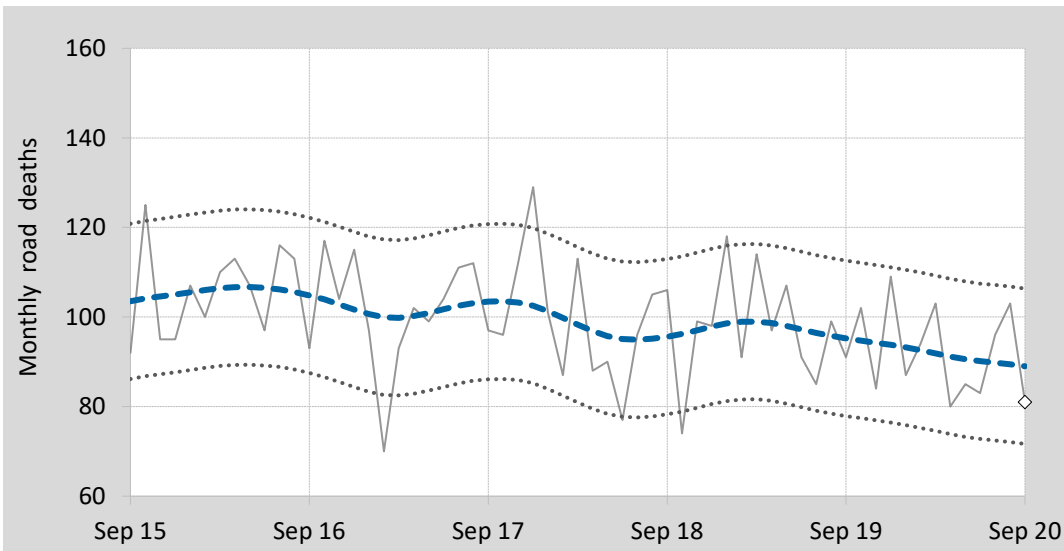




### This month's key figures

- There was a total of 81 road deaths during the month of September 2020. The current figure is 15.4 per cent lower than the average for September over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended September 2020, there were 1,107 road deaths. This is a decrease of 4.9 per cent from the 12-month period ending September 2019.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.3. This is a 6.2 per cent decrease compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending September 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
September 2019	32	18	22	3	12	2	1	1	91
September 2020	29	12	25	4	9	0	0	2	81
Per cent change	-9.4	-33.3	13.6	33.3	-25.0	-100.0	-100.0	100.0	-11.0

**Table I.2** Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2019 - September 2019	268	201	163	80	131	23	23	4	893
January 2020 - September 2020	236	160	193	67	105	26	20	5	812
Per cent change	-11.9	-20.4	18.4	-16.3	-19.8	13.0	-13.0	25.0	-9.1

**Table I.3** Year ending September

12 months ended September	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	388	281	244	92	176	37	41	12	1,271
2017	367	258	257	97	167	30	38	7	1,221
2018	379	225	252	84	171	35	45	9	1,200
2019	342	262	216	105	167	30	37	5	1,164
2020	323	225	249	101	137	32	33	7	1,107
Latest per cent change	-5.6	-14.1	15.3	-3.8	-18.0	6.7	-10.8	40.0	-4.9
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-4.3	-4.2	-1.3	2.7	-4.9	-2.9	-4.5	-13.2	-3.2

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

**Table 2.1** By road user

12 months ended September	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Motorcyclist <sup>b</sup>	Pedal <sup>a</sup> cyclist	Total <sup>b</sup>
2016	618	210	174	232	35	1,271
2017	568	226	159	228	32	1,221
2018	557	219	182	196	39	1,200
2019	540	210	166	208	36	1,164
2020	547	185	141	184	47	1,107
Latest per cent change	1.3	-11.9	-15.1	-11.5	30.6	-4.9
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-2.9	-3.2	-3.7	-5.4	7.3	-3.2

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

12 months ended September	0 to 16	17 to 25	26 to 39	40 to 64	65 to 74	≥ 75	Total <sup>b</sup>
2016	47	244	284	416	115	165	1,271
2017	64	250	259	370	104	174	1,221
2018	47	233	255	398	125	140	1,200
2019	46	235	240	364	108	169	1,164
2020	54	213	290	328	83	134	1,107
Latest per cent change	17.4	-9.4	20.8	-9.9	-23.1	-20.7	-4.9
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-0.5	-3.3	-0.3	-4.8	-6.0	-4.4	-3.2

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

**Table 2.3** By gender

12 months ended September	Males	Females	Total <sup>c</sup>
2016	922	349	1,271
2017	893	327	1,221
2018	900	299	1,200
2019	875	289	1,164
2020	816	287	1,107
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-6.7	-0.7	-4.9
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-2.6	-5.0	-3.2

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 September

12 months ended September	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	5.03	4.58	5.06	5.38	6.89	7.16	16.76	2.99	5.27
2017	4.68	4.10	5.24	5.63	6.50	5.75	15.42	1.70	4.98
2018	4.76	3.50	5.05	4.84	6.60	6.64	18.25	2.15	4.82
2019	4.24	3.99	4.26	6.00	6.38	5.62	15.06	1.18	4.60
2020	3.96	3.36	4.83	5.72	5.16	5.93	13.45	1.63	4.32
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-6.6	-15.6	13.4	-4.8	-19.2	5.5	-10.7	38.5	-6.2
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-5.6	-6.2	-3.0	1.9	-5.8	-3.9	-4.5	-14.7	-4.7

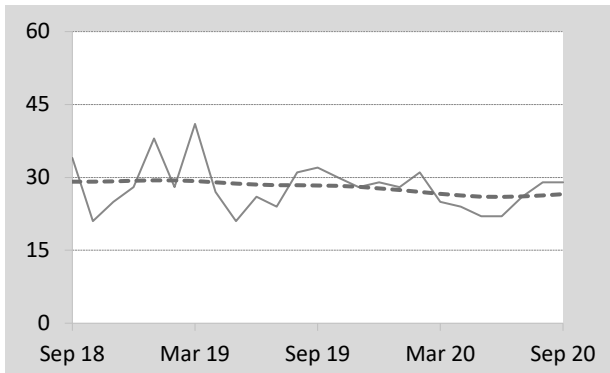
**Table 3.2** Calendar year period

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	4.39	4.03	4.30	6.50	6.21	5.42	14.63	1.41	4.68
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	1.0	22.3	-12.1	41.2	2.0	-10.4	-27.7	-34.3	3.2

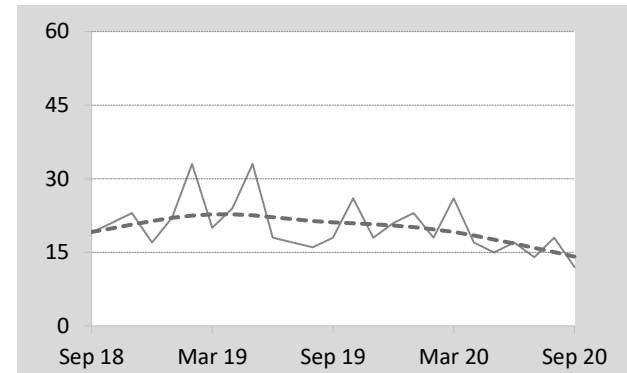
#### 4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

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

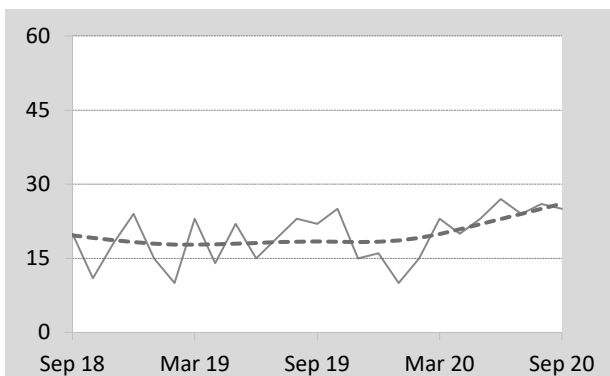
**Figure 4.1 NSW**



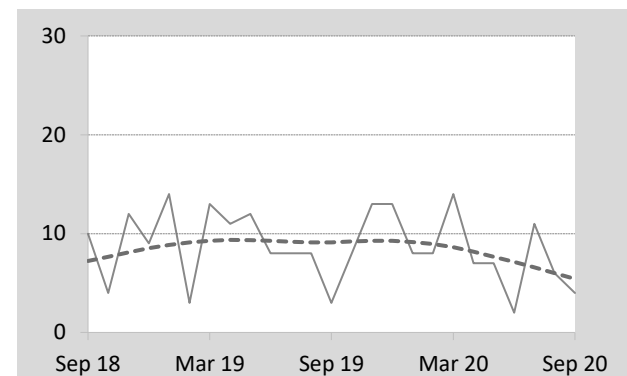
**Figure 4.2 Vic**



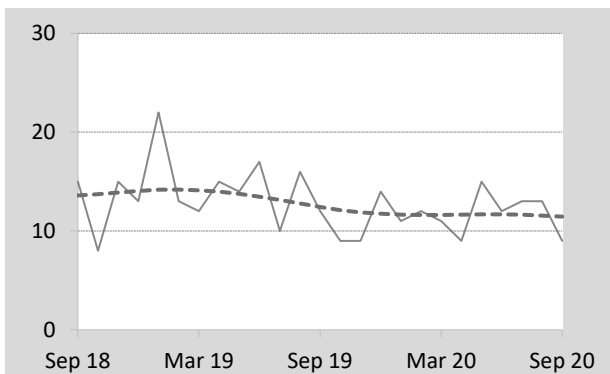
**Figure 4.3 Qld**



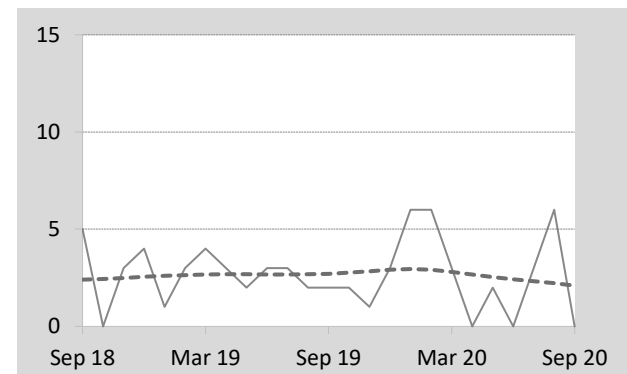
**Figure 4.4 SA**



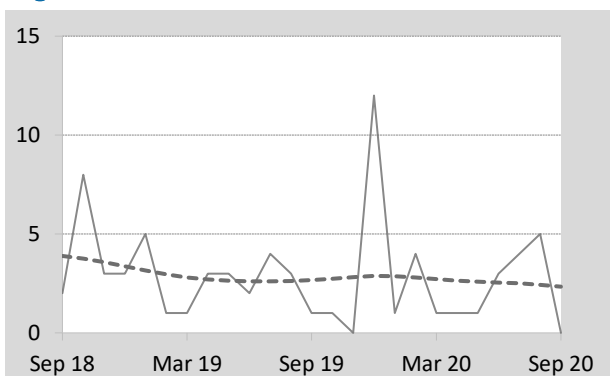
**Figure 4.5 WA**



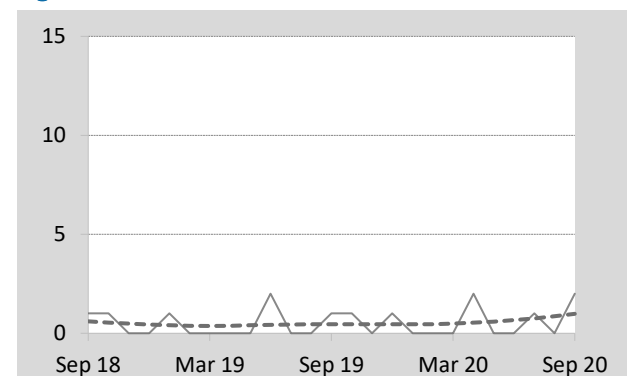
**Figure 4.6 Tas**



**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 September	Crash type <sup>a</sup>		Posted speed limit						Total <sup>b</sup>
	Single	Multiple	≤ 40	50	60	70 to 90	100	≥ 110	
2016	654	509	15	123	222	283	368	155	1,176
2017	613	504	30	136	213	246	344	154	1,129
2018	631	465	25	146	197	243	347	143	1,112
2019	650	416	19	135	186	233	329	170	1,081
2020	577	422	18	121	165	230	331	117	1,004
Latest per cent change	-11.2	1.4	-5.3	-10.4	-11.3	-1.3	0.6	-31.2	-7.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.9	-5.5	-0.9	-0.4	-7.0	-4.6	-2.5	-4.5	-3.5

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

12 months ended September	Day of week <sup>c</sup>		Time of day <sup>d</sup>	
	Weekday	Weekend	Day	Night
2016	726	450	713	463
2017	706	423	725	404
2018	675	437	677	435
2019	667	414	669	412
2020	608	396	604	400
Latest per cent change	-8.8	-4.3	-9.7	-2.9
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-4.0	-2.7	-4.0	-2.7

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 September 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.