Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics

Road Deaths Australia May 2022 - Overview

1. Deaths by jurisdiction

Table 1.1 — Current month

Current month	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
May 2021	21	14	16	5	16	3	4	0	79
May 2022	22	17	36	6	9	8	n.a.	4	n.a.
Per cent change	4.8	21.4	125.0	20.0	-43.8	166.7	n.a.	-	n.a.

Table 1.2 — Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2021 - May 2021	113	87	109	44	72	11	11	5	452
January 2022 - May 2022	135	101	132	33	57	28	n.a.	9	n.a.
Per cent change	19.5	16.1	21.1	-25.0	-20.8	154.5	n.a.	80.0	n.a.

Table 1.3 — Year ending May

12 months ended May	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2018	396	241	250	103	166	35	42	7	1,240
2019	353	257	235	100	163	30	40	4	1,182
2020	318	233	225	105	145	34	31	7	1,098
2021	277	199	297	93	168	31	34	10	1,109
2022	294	246	298	88	151	52	n.a.	15	n.a.
Latest per cent change	6.1	23.6	0.3	-5.4	-10.1	67.7	n.a.	50.0	n.a.
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-8.0	-2.1	6.0	-3.8	-1.6	8.6	n.a.	27.6	n.a.

2. Annual deaths per 100,000 population

Table 2.1 — Calendar year period

Calendar year	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2017	4.9	4.1	5.0	5.8	6.2	6.1	12.5	1.2	5.0
2018	4.3	3.3	4.9	4.6	6.1	6.1	20.2	2.1	4.5
2019	4.4	4.0	4.3	6.5	6.2	5.4	14.6	1.4	4.7
2020	3.5	3.2	5.4	5.3	5.8	7.0	12.6	1.6	4.3
2021	3.3	3.5	5.3	5.6	6.2	6.5	14.2	2.5	4.4
Latest per cent change	-4.5	10.7	-2.0	6.3	7.1	-8.0	13.1	57.0	2.5

Data Sources

- 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
- Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, ACT
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (3101.0)

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

Inquires

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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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 February 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.