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International Road Safety Comparisons: The 2007 Report

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Abstract

This report provides summary road deaths and road death rates for Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations and for Australian states and territories. The rates allow for a comparison of Australia's road safety performance with that of other OECD nations by accounting for the differing levels of population, motorisation and distances travelled.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides summary road deaths and road death rates for Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations, and Australian states and territories. The rates allow for a comparison of Australia's road safety performance with that of other OECD nations by accounting for the differing levels of population, motorisation and distances travelled.

Among the OECD nations for which 2007 data were available, Australia had:

- the 14th lowest rate out of 29 nations in terms of annual road deaths per population;
- the 9th lowest rate out of 23 nations in terms of annual road deaths per registered vehicle;
- the 6th lowest rate out of 15 nations in terms of annual road deaths per vehicle kilometres travelled.

Overall, of the OECD nations for which 2007 data were available:

- the lowest rate for road deaths per population was recorded by the Netherlands;
- the lowest rate for road deaths per registered vehicle was recorded by Iceland;
- the lowest rate of road deaths per vehicle kilometres travelled was recorded by Iceland.

When compared with the OECD medians in 2007:

- Australia's rate of 7.6 deaths per 100,000 people was below the OECD median of 7.8;
- Australia's rate of 1.1 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles was below the OECD median of 1.2;
- Australia's rate of 0.7 deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled was equal to the OECD median.

Within Australia in 2007:

- The lowest rates were recorded in the Australian Capital Territory:
 - 4.1 deaths per 100,000 people;
 - 0.6 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles;
 - 0.4 deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled.
- The highest road death rates were recorded in the Northern Territory:
 - 27.0 deaths per 100,000 people;
 - 4.9 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles;
 - 3.3 deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled.

DATA SOURCES

International data

Data provided for OECD nations — with the exception of Australia — were mostly derived from the International Road Traffic and Accident Database (IRTAD). IRTAD is maintained by the Joint Transport Research Centre (JRTC) of the OECD and the International Transport Forum.

Each year member nations supply the JRTC with their most recent data, which may include revisions to historical data. The information provided in this document is therefore subject to revision with each successive report in the series.

Further information on IRTAD is available at : <<http://www.irtad.net> >.

In a small number of cases, where recent data were not available from IRTAD, member countries were contacted directly or data were extracted from the country's relevant government website.

Australian data

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government gratefully acknowledges the provision of police road crash data from: Roads and Traffic Authority, New South Wales; VicRoads, Victoria; Queensland Transport; Department for Transport, Energy & Infrastructure, South Australia; Western Australian Police Service; Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources, Tasmania; Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services; and Department of Territory & Municipal Services, Australian Capital Territory.

Australian state and territory road death data were extracted from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government's online *Australian Road Deaths Database*: <http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/safety/road_fatality_statistics/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx> .

Population information was obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) publication *Australian Demographic Statistics (3101.0)*

Registered vehicle information was obtained from the ABS publication *Motor Vehicle Census (9309.0)*. However, as no census was carried out in 2000, to compare Australian and international rates for the year 2000, data were linearly interpolated from 1999 and 2001 figures.

Vehicle kilometres travelled information was obtained from the ABS publication *Survey of Motor Vehicle Use (9208.0)*. Surveys were conducted in 1976, 1979, 1982, 1991, 1995, and annually from 1998 onwards. In order to compare Australian rates with international rates across a fuller range of years, 1991 figures were provided against 1990.

ABS publications are available from <www.abs.gov.au>

1.1 International definition of a fatal road crash

The definition of a person killed in a road crash, as given in the Convention of Road Traffic (Vienna, 1968), is:

“Any person who was killed outright or who died within 30 days as a result of the accident.”

1.2 IRTAD definition of a fatal road crash

Most nations that supply road crash data to the IRTAD database comply with the above definition. Since 2005, among the nations covered in this report, only Portugal did not apply the 30-day definition.

Nations that do not comply with this definition, or did not comply in earlier years, have had correction factors applied to their death figures by JRTC to ensure consistency within the IRTAD database.

2 ROAD DEATHS PER POPULATION

2.1 Death rates per population, 2007

The number of road deaths per population is a measure of the public health risk associated with road trauma.

Table 1: Road deaths per 100,000 population — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007

Country	Road deaths	Population (thousands)	Road deaths per 100,000 people
Netherlands	709	16,360	4.3
Iceland	15	310	4.9
Great Britain	2,946	59,220	5.0
Norway	233	4,680	5.0
Switzerland	384	7,510	5.1
Sweden	471	9,110	5.2
Japan	6,639	127,770	5.2
Israel	398	7,240	5.5
Germany	4,949	82,370	6.0
Northern Ireland	113	1,760	6.4
Finland	380	5,280	7.2
Denmark	406	5,470	7.4
France	4,620	61,540	7.5
Ireland	338	4,330	7.8
Austria	691	8,300	8.3
Spain	3,823	44,480	8.6
Italy	5,131	59,130	8.7
Luxemburg	43	480	9.0
Portugal	974	10,600	9.2
New Zealand	422	4,230	10.0
Belgium	1,067	10,590	10.1
Slovakia	627	5,390	11.6
Czech Republic	1,222	10,290	11.9
Hungary	1,232	10,060	12.2
South Korea	6,166	48,460	12.7
USA	41,059	301,290	13.6
Slovenia	293	2,010	14.6
Poland	5,583	38,120	14.7
Greece	-	11,170	-
Canada	-	32,980	-
OECD Median	-	-	7.8
Australia	1,603	21,020	7.6
NSW	435	6,890	6.3
Vic	332	5,200	6.4
Qld	360	4,180	8.6
SA	124	1,580	7.8
WA	235	2,110	11.2
Tas	45	490	9.1
NT	58	210	27.0
ACT	14	340	4.1

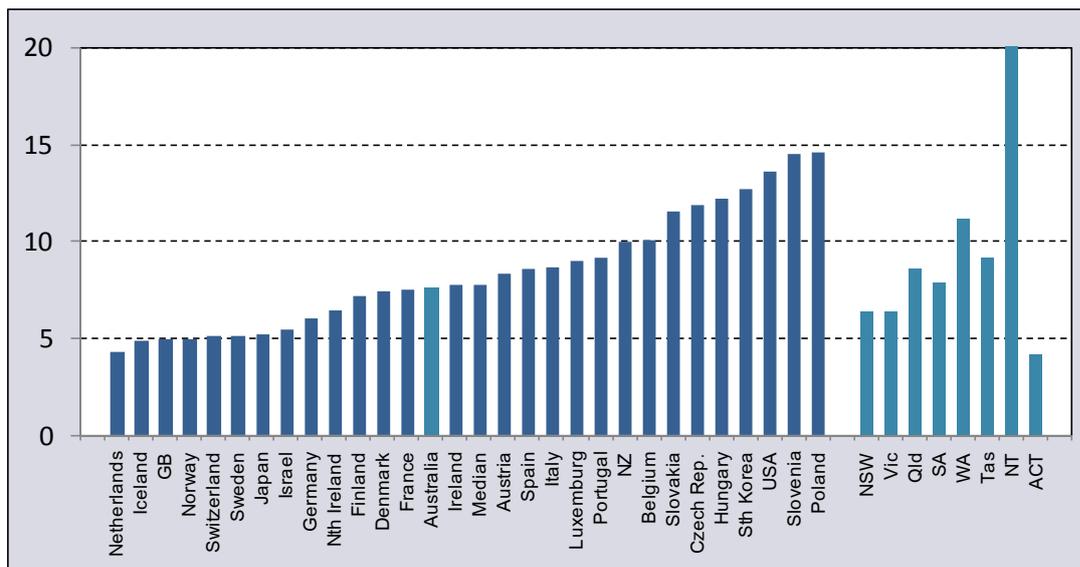
2.2 OECD nations, 2007

In 2007, Australia recorded 7.6 road deaths per 100,000 people. Australia's rate was 14th lowest of the 29 OECD nations for which this information was available.

In 2007, of the OECD nations for which data were available:

- The Netherlands recorded the lowest rate (4.3 deaths per 100,000 people);
- Poland recorded the highest rate (14.7 deaths per 100,000 people);

Figure 1: Road deaths per 100,000 population for OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007



2.3 Australian states/territories, 2007

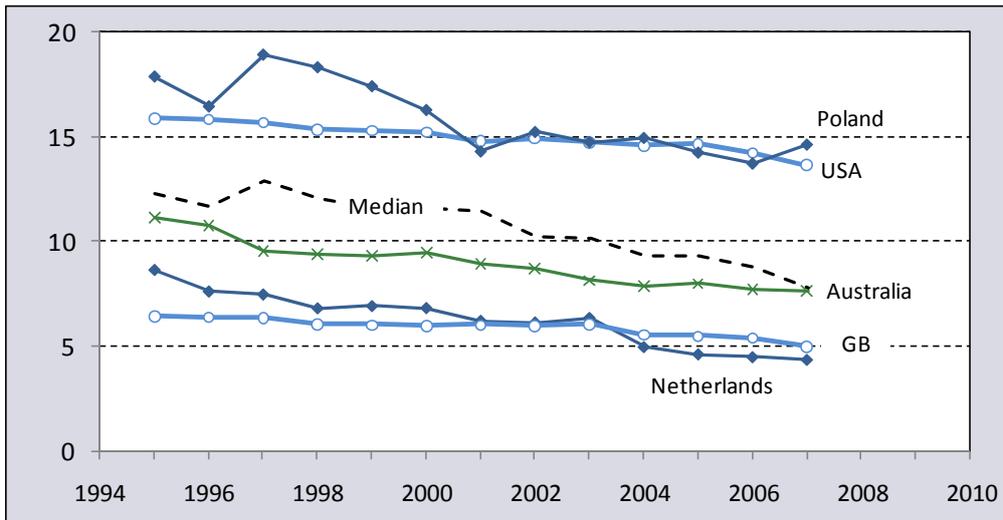
Among Australian states/territories:

- The Australian Capital Territory recorded the lowest rate (4.1 deaths per 100,000 population);
- The Northern Territory recorded the highest rate (27.0 deaths per 100,000 population).

2.4 Historical trends

The public risk associated with road use declined significantly in Australia between 1995 and 2007. In 1995, Australia-wide there were 11.2 road deaths per 100,000 people; this rate had fallen to 7.6 deaths in 2007.

Figure 2: Road deaths per 100,000 population for Australia, selected countries and OECD median, 1995 to 2007



Over the period 1995 to 2007, the OECD median rate decreased by 36.5%. The corresponding decline in Australia's rate was 31.7 per cent.

- In 1995 the Australian rate was 9.1 per cent below the OECD median;
- In 2007 the Australian rate was 2.3 per cent below the OECD median.

Between 2006 and 2007, there was:

- a 11.5 per cent fall in the OECD median road death rate per 100,000 population;
- a 1.4 per cent fall in the Australian road death rate per 100,000 population.

Table 2: Road deaths per 100,000 population — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 1990 to 2007

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Netherlands	9.2	8.6	7.6	7.5	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.2	6.1	6.3	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.3
Iceland	9.4	9.0	3.7	5.6	9.9	7.6	11.5	8.5	10.1	8.0	7.9	6.5	10.3	4.9
Great Britain	9.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.0
Norway	7.8	7.0	5.8	6.9	8.0	6.8	7.6	6.1	6.9	6.2	5.6	4.8	5.2	5.0
Switzerland	13.9	9.9	8.7	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.3	7.6	7.1	7.5	6.9	5.5	5.0	5.1
Sweden	9.1	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.6	6.7	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.3	4.9	4.9	5.2
Japan	11.8	10.1	9.3	8.9	8.5	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.5	7.0	6.7	6.2	5.7	5.2
Israel	8.9	9.8	9.0	9.0	9.1	7.7	7.2	8.3	7.9	6.7	7.0	6.5	5.9	5.5
Germany	14.0	11.6	10.7	10.4	9.5	9.5	9.1	8.5	8.3	8.0	7.1	6.5	6.2	6.0
Northern Ireland	11.6	8.7	8.5	8.6	9.5	8.3	10.2	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.6	7.8	7.2	6.4
Finland	13.0	8.6	7.9	8.5	7.8	8.4	7.7	8.4	8.0	7.3	7.2	7.2	6.4	7.2
Denmark	12.3	11.2	9.8	9.3	9.4	9.7	9.3	8.1	8.6	8.0	6.8	6.1	5.6	7.4
France	19.8	15.3	14.7	14.4	15.2	14.4	13.6	13.8	12.9	10.2	9.3	8.8	7.7	7.5
Ireland	13.6	12.1	12.5	12.9	12.4	11.0	11.0	10.7	9.6	8.4	8.8	9.7	8.6	7.8
Austria	20.3	15.2	12.9	13.9	12.1	13.5	12.2	11.9	11.8	11.5	10.7	9.3	8.8	8.3
Spain	23.2	14.7	14.0	14.3	15.1	14.5	14.5	13.8	12.9	12.8	11.0	10.2	9.3	8.6
Italy	12.4	12.3	11.7	11.7	11.9	11.6	12.2	12.3	12.2	11.4	10.6	10.0	9.6	8.7
Luxemburg	18.8	17.0	17.2	14.4	13.4	13.5	17.5	15.9	14.0	11.8	11.0	10.2	7.7	9.0
Portugal	28.2	25.2	25.4	23.4	22.4	21.0	18.1	16.2	16.1	14.8	12.3	11.8	9.2	9.2
New Zealand	21.4	15.9	13.8	14.4	13.2	13.4	12.1	11.8	10.3	11.5	10.7	9.9	9.5	10.0
Belgium	19.9	14.3	13.4	13.4	14.7	13.7	14.4	14.5	13.1	11.7	11.2	10.4	10.2	10.1
Slovakia	-	12.3	11.5	14.6	15.2	12.0	11.6	11.4	11.3	12.0	11.2	10.4	10.7	11.6
Czech Republic	12.5	15.4	15.2	15.5	13.2	14.1	14.5	13.0	14.0	14.2	13.5	12.6	10.4	11.9
Hungary	23.4	15.5	13.4	13.7	13.5	12.9	11.9	12.1	14.0	13.1	12.8	12.7	12.9	12.2
South Korea	33.1	26.3	32.0	29.0	22.5	23.1	21.8	17.1	15.2	15.1	13.7	13.2	13.1	12.7
USA	17.9	15.9	15.9	15.7	15.4	15.3	15.2	14.8	14.9	14.7	14.6	14.7	14.2	13.6
Slovenia	25.9	20.9	19.5	18.0	15.6	16.9	15.8	13.9	13.5	12.1	13.7	12.9	13.1	14.6
Poland	19.2	17.9	16.5	18.9	18.3	17.4	16.3	14.3	15.2	14.8	15.0	14.3	13.8	14.6
Greece	20.2	23.1	20.6	20.0	20.7	20.1	18.7	17.2	14.9	14.6	15.1	15.0	14.9	-
Canada	14.9	11.4	10.4	10.2	9.7	9.7	9.5	8.9	9.3	8.7	8.5	9.1	9.1	-
OECD Median	13.9	12.3	11.7	12.9	12.1	11.6	11.6	11.4	10.3	10.2	9.3	9.3	8.8	7.8
Australia	13.7	11.2	10.8	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.5	8.9	8.7	8.1	7.9	8.0	7.7	7.6
NSW	13.7	10.1	9.4	9.2	8.8	9.0	9.3	8.0	8.5	8.1	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.3
Vic	12.5	9.3	9.1	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.6	9.2	8.2	6.7	6.9	6.9	6.6	6.4
Qld	13.8	14.0	11.5	10.6	8.1	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.1	8.0	8.3	8.2	8.6
SA	15.8	12.3	12.3	10.0	11.3	10.1	11.0	10.1	10.1	10.3	9.0	9.5	7.5	7.8
WA	12.2	12.1	14.0	11.0	12.2	11.8	11.3	8.7	9.3	9.2	9.0	8.1	9.9	11.2
Tas	15.4	12.0	13.5	6.8	10.2	11.2	9.1	12.9	7.8	8.6	12.0	10.5	11.2	9.1
NT	41.5	34.4	39.6	32.1	36.3	25.4	26.1	25.3	27.6	26.5	17.3	26.7	19.9	27.0
ACT	9.2	4.9	7.5	5.5	7.1	6.1	5.7	5.0	3.1	3.4	2.7	7.9	3.9	4.1

3

ROAD DEATHS PER REGISTERED VEHICLE

3.1 Death rates per registered vehicle, 2007

The number of deaths per registered vehicle is a means of comparing road death levels among nations by taking into account their different levels of motorisation.

Table 3: Road deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007

Country	Road deaths	Total registered vehicles (thousands)	Deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles
Iceland	15	251	0.6
Norway	233	3,170	0.7
Switzerland	384	5,186	0.7
Japan	6,639	83,098	0.8
Netherlands	709	8,863	0.8
Great Britain	2,946	33,866	0.9
Sweden	471	5,292	0.9
Germany	4,949	55,511	0.9
Luxemburg	43	386	1.1
Northern Ireland	113	1,008	1.1
France	4,620	37,909	1.2
Finland	380	3,079	1.2
Austria	691	5,475	1.3
New Zealand	422	3,189	1.3
Ireland	338	2,442	1.4
Denmark	406	2,767	1.5
Belgium	1,067	6,362	1.7
Israel	398	2,251	1.8
Czech Republic	1,222	5,208	2.4
Poland	5,583	19,471	2.9
South Korea	6,166	19,483	3.2
Hungary	1,232	3,546	3.5
Greece	-	-	-
Italy	5,131	-	-
Portugal	974	-	-
Slovakia	627	-	-
Slovenia	293	-	-
Spain	3,823	-	-
USA	41,059	-	-
Canada	-	-	-
OECD Median	-	-	1.2
Australia	1,603	14,780	1.1
NSW	435	4,361	1.0
Vic	332	3,818	0.9
Qld	360	3,033	1.2
SA	124	1,157	1.1
WA	235	1,676	1.4
Tas	45	381	1.2
NT	58	118	4.9
ACT	14	235	0.6

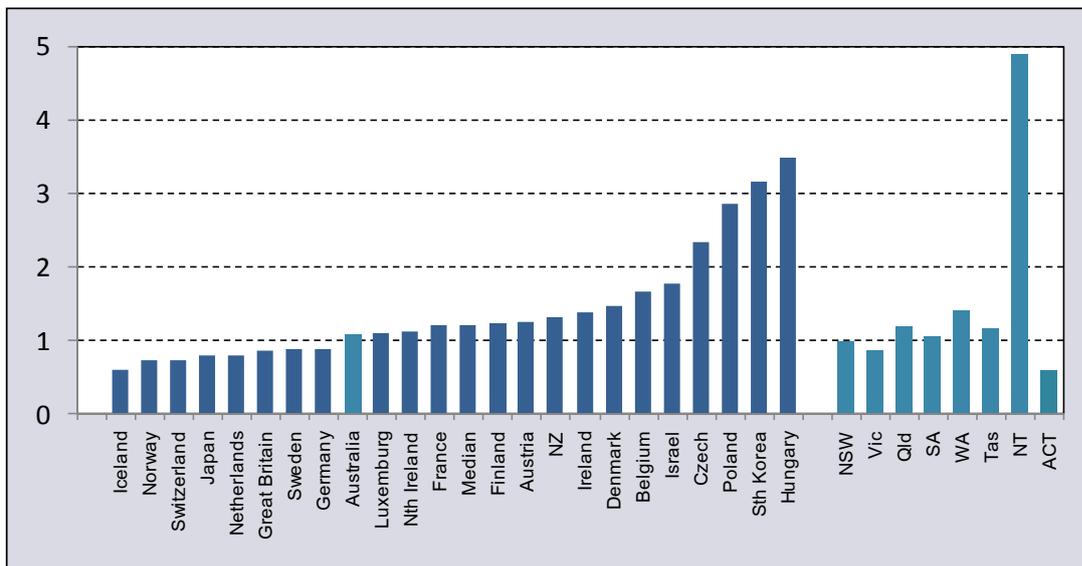
3.2 OECD nations, 2007

In 2007, Australia recorded 1.1 road deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles, which was the ninth lowest rate of the 23 nations for which these data were available.

In 2007, of the OECD nations for which data were available:

- Iceland recorded the lowest rate (0.6 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles);
- Hungary recorded the highest rate (3.5 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles).

Figure 3: Road deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles for OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007



3.3 Australian states/territories, 2007

Among Australian states/territories:

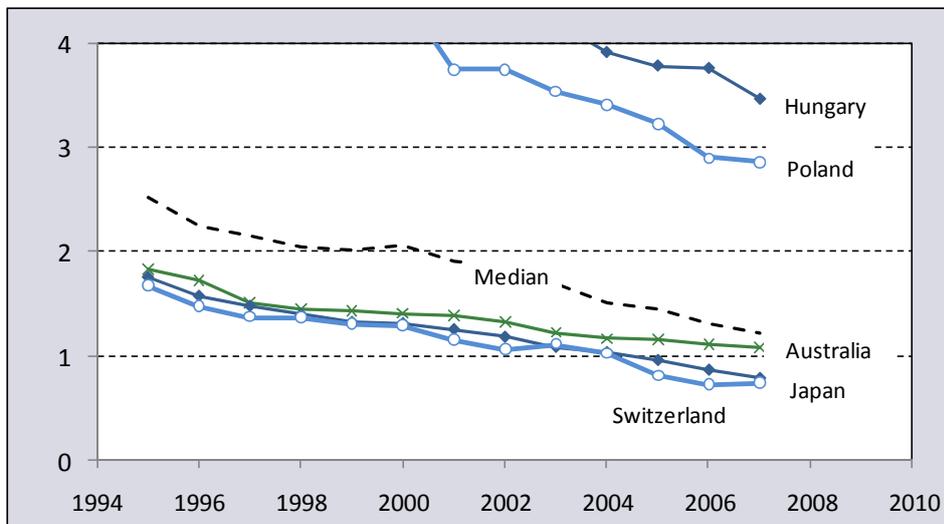
- The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest rate (0.6 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles);
- The Northern Territory recorded the highest rate (4.9 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles).

3.4 Historical trends

Road deaths in Australia, relative to vehicle ownership, declined significantly between 1995 and 2007. In 1995 there were 1.8 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles, while in 2007 this had decreased to 1.1 deaths — a drop of 41 per cent.

The median rate for OECD nations also declined significantly. The OECD median of 2.5 deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles in 1995 had fallen to 1.2 in 2007 — a drop of 52 per cent.

Figure 4: Deaths per registered vehicle— Australia, selected countries and OECD median, 1995 to 2007



During the period 1995 to 2007, Australia's road death rate per 10,000 registered vehicles has remained consistently below the OECD median rate.

- In 1995 the Australian rate was 27.1 per cent below the OECD median;
- In 2007 the Australian rate was 11.0 per cent below the OECD median.

Table 4: Road deaths per 10,000 registered vehicles — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 1990 to 2007

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Iceland	1.7	1.8	0.7	1.1	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.6
Norway	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Switzerland	2.4	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7
Japan	2.4	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8
Netherlands	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8
Great Britain	2.1	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
Sweden	1.8	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Germany	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9
Luxemburg	3.3	2.5	2.5	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.1
Northern Ireland	3.6	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.0	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.1
France	4.2	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
Finland	2.9	2.0	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2
Austria	4.2	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.2	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
New Zealand	3.3	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3
Ireland	4.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.4
Denmark	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.5
Belgium	4.3	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.7
Israel	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.8	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.8
Czech Republic	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.4	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.1	2.3
Poland	8.1	6.2	5.4	5.9	5.6	5.1	4.5	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.9
South Korea	28.9	10.8	11.8	9.9	7.1	7.2	6.9	5.1	4.4	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.2
Hungary	11.2	6.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.5
Greece	7.4	6.7	5.7	5.2	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	-
Italy	2.3	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.4	-	-	-
Portugal	12.1	6.9	6.5	5.6	5.1	4.4	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.0	2.4	2.3	-	-
Slovakia	-	4.5	4.0	5.1	5.2	4.2	4.1	3.9	3.3	-	-	-	-	-
Slovenia	6.9	5.1	4.6	4.0	3.3	3.4	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.3	-
Spain	5.8	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	-
Canada	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	-
USA	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.7	-
OECD Median	3.3	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2
Australia	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
NSW	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.0
Vic	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
Qld	2.3	2.3	1.8	1.7	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
SA	2.6	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.1
WA	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.4
Tas	2.4	1.8	2.0	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.2
NT	8.6	6.8	7.5	6.1	6.8	4.7	5.0	4.9	5.3	5.1	3.3	5.0	4.0	4.9
ACT	1.6	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.6	0.6

4 ROAD DEATHS PER VEHICLE KILOMETRES TRAVELLED

4.1 Deaths per vehicle kilometres travelled, 2007

The number of road deaths per vehicle kilometres travelled is a risk measure which takes account of the amount of actual travel.

Table 5: Road deaths per 100 million kilometres travelled — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007

Country	Road deaths	Total vehicle kilometres travelled (hundred millions)	Deaths per hundred million vehicle kilometres
Iceland	15	31.3	0.5
Great Britain	2,946	5,129.9	0.6
Sweden	471	777.8	0.6
Norway	233	383.5	0.6
Switzerland	384	612.1	0.6
Finland	380	541.5	0.7
Germany	4,949	6,920.0	0.7
France	4,620	5,646.0	0.8
Denmark	406	492.5	0.8
USA	41,059	48,321.5	0.9
Japan	6,639	7,636.3	0.9
Israel	398	450.0	0.9
New Zealand	422	402.0	1.1
Belgium	1,067	987.9	1.1
Austria	691	-	-
Czech Republic	691	-	-
Greece	1,222	-	-
Ireland	338	-	-
Italy	5,131	-	-
Luxemburg	43	-	-
Netherlands	709	-	-
Northern Ireland	113	-	-
Poland	5,583	-	-
Portugal	974	-	-
Slovakia	627	-	-
Slovenia	293	-	-
Spain	3,823	-	-
South Korea	6,166	-	-
Hungary	1,232	-	-
Canada	-	-	-
OECD Median	-	-	0.7
Australia	1,603	2151.7	0.7
NSW	435	627.3	0.7
Vic	332	579.3	0.6
Qld	360	460.7	0.8
SA	124	142.1	0.9
WA	235	242.9	1.0
Tas	45	49.9	0.9
NT	58	17.9	3.3
ACT	14	31.6	0.4

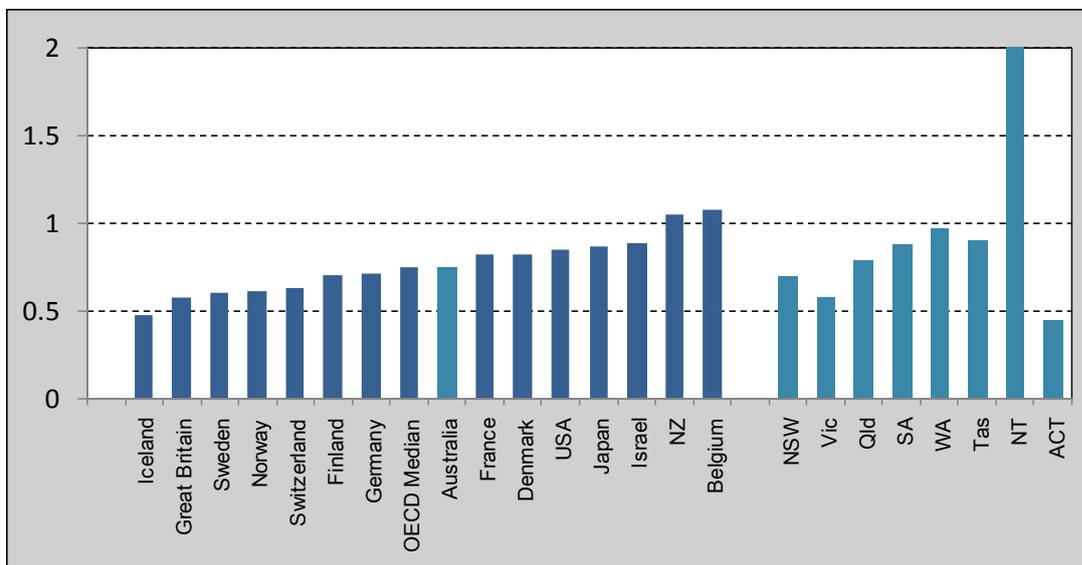
4.2 OECD nations, 2007

In 2007, Australia recorded 0.7 road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled. This was the eighth lowest rate among the 15 OECD nations for which these data were available.

In 2007, of the OECD nations for which data were available:

- Iceland had the lowest rate, recording 0.5 road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled;
- Belgium had the highest rate, recording 1.1 road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled.

Figure 5: Road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 2007



4.3 Australian states/territories, 2007

Among Australian states/territories:

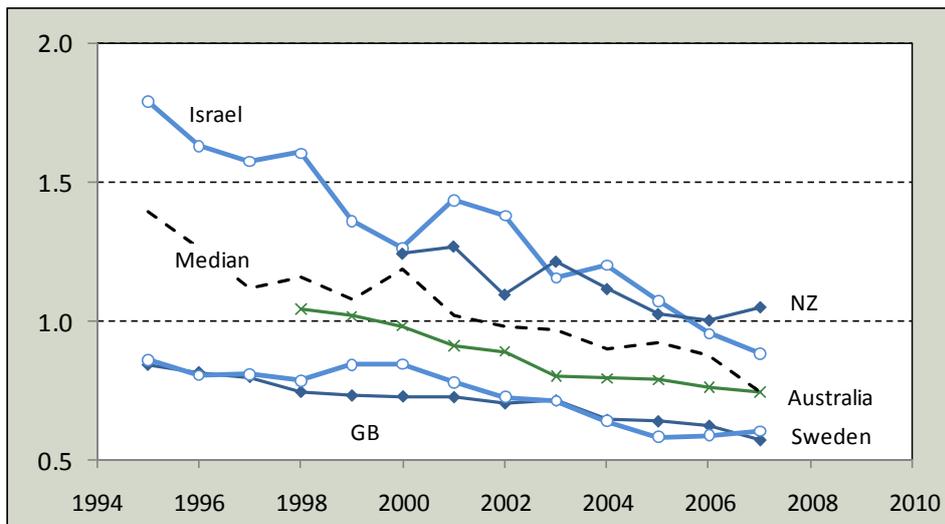
- The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest rate, recording 0.4 deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled;
- The Northern Territory had the highest rate of all Australian states/territories, at 3.3 deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled.

4.4 Historical trends

The distance-adjusted risk of road travel in Australia declined significantly between 1995 and 2007. In 1995, there were 1.2 road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled in Australia. In 2007, this had decreased to 0.7 deaths — a drop of 39 per cent.

Over the same period the median rate for OECD nations also declined, from 1.4 deaths in 1995 to 0.7 deaths in 2007 — a drop of 47 per cent.

Figure 6: Road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled — Australia, selected countries and OECD median, 1995 to 2007



Prior to 2007, the OECD median rate was higher than Australia's rate.

- In 1995 the Australian rate was 13.2 per cent below the OECD median;
- In 2007 the Australian rate was equal to the OECD median.

Table 6: Road deaths per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled — OECD nations and Australian states/territories, 1990 to 2007

Country	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Iceland	1.4	1.3	0.5	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	1.1	0.5
Great Britain	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Sweden	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Norway	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6
Switzerland	1.9	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
Finland	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
Germany	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
France	2.6	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8
Denmark	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.0	-	0.8	-	0.6	0.8
USA	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8
Japan	2.3	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9
Israel	2.3	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
New Zealand	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Belgium	2.8	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Austria	2.8	1.9	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9	-
Czech Republic	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.1	-
Greece	-	3.5	3.0	2.7	2.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hungary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ireland	1.9	1.4	1.3	-	-	-	-	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Luxemburg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	-	-	-	-
Nth Ireland	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slovakia	6.6	6.1	-	-	-	-	4.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Slovenia	6.5	4.4	3.8	3.3	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.2	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
South Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.9	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.3	1.8	1.9	-
Canada	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	-
Median	1.9	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7
Australia	-	1.2	-	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
NSW	1.7	1.3	-	-	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Vic	1.3	1.0	-	-	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
Qld	1.5	1.3	-	-	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8
SA	1.8	1.3	-	-	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9
WA	1.2	1.2	-	-	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0
Tas	1.8	1.3	-	-	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.1	0.9
NT	4.7	4.2	-	-	4.6	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.4	2.2	3.4	2.8	3.2
ACT	0.9	0.5	-	-	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.4