

WA Road Fatalities 2020

As at 14 January 2021

WA annual road fatalities

Year	Regional	Metropolitan	Total
2014	102	80	182
2015	87	74	161
2016	120	76	196
2017	91	69	160
2018	98	61	159
2019	99	65	164
2020	93	62	155

Fatalities by region

Police region	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Regional	99	99	93
South West	26	23.2	27
Great Southern	18	19.6	20
Kimberley	9	8.4	11
Mid West - Gascoyne	8	12.2	12
Wheatbelt	15	20.4	11
Goldfields - Esperance	12	6.8	8
Pilbara	11	8.4	4
Metropolitan	65	69	62
Total	164	168	155

Fatalities by age

Age	2019	5 Year Average	2020
0-16	5	10.2	8
17-19	7	10.6	14
20-29	37	41.2	34
30-39	23	25.6	22
40-49	32	29.4	18
50-59	17	14.8	26
60-69	18	14	13
70-79	10	10	9
80+	13	11.2	11
Not recorded	2	1	0
Total	164	168	155

Fatalities by road user type

Road user type	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Motor vehicle occupant	115	118.0	115
Motorcyclist	32	29.8	26
Cyclist	1	4.0	5
Pedestrian	16	14.6	8
Other*	0	1.6	1
Total	164	168	155

*Other may include road user such as gopher riders, skateboard riders, horse riders.

Fatalities by month

Month	2019	5 Year Average	2020
January	20	15.6	11
February	13	11.2	12
March	11	16.4	11
April	15	15.8	9
May	14	11.4	15
June	19	12.8	12
July	10	11.2	14
August	16	15.8	13
September	11	13.2	10
October	9	13.2	18
November	10	13.2	19
December	16	18.2	11
Total	164	168	155

Fatalities by speed limit

Speed limit	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Not recorded	4	2.4	5
20km/h	2	1	0
40km/h	1	0.8	0
50km/h	17	18	15
60km/h	23	22	13
70km/h	5	14.2	9
80km/h	15	14.8	22
90km/h	9	11	10
100km/h	14	10.8	12
110km/h	74	73	69
Total	164	168	155

Fatalities by behavioural factor suspected

Behavioural factor suspected*	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Alcohol	33	40.4	42
Speed	51	55.6	46
Fatigue	19	20	14
Inattention	31	25.2	14

These counts cannot be summed as more than one factor can be attributed to a crash. Suspected behavioural factors are based on a preliminary assessment by Police at the crash scene.

- Alcohol – those fatalities involved in crashes where the driver was suspected to be under the influence of alcohol, or the primary cause of the crash included alcohol.*
- Speed – those fatalities involved in crashes where speed was recorded as a factor or the primary contributing factor included speed.*
- Fatigue – those fatalities involved in crashes where fatigue was listed as a factor or the primary contributing factor was fatigue.*
- Inattention – those fatalities involved in crashes where the primary contributing factor was inattention.*

Motor vehicle occupant (MVO) fatalities by seatbelt usage

Seatbelt usage	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Not worn	23	26	24
Worn	64	63	60
Not recorded/undetermined	28	29	31
Total MVO	115	118	115

Fatalities by crash nature

Crash nature	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Multi vehicle	44	58.2	57
Right angled	18	18.4	23
Head on	14	20	19
Indirect right angled	3	5.2	8
Sideswipe - opposite direction	1	1.4	3
Rear end	5	10.2	2
Sideswipe - same direction	3	3	2
Single vehicle	116	107.2	98
Hit object	63	58	57
Non-collision	34	31.2	31
Hit pedestrian	16	14.4	8
Passenger fell	0	1.2	2
Hit animal	3	1.6	0
Hit parked vehicle	0	0.8	0
Not known/not recorded	4	2.6	0
Total	164	168	155

Fatalities by vehicle type

Vehicle type	2019	5 Year Average	2020
Light vehicle	107	111.4	106
Motorcycle	32	30	26
Heavy vehicle	7	5.6	6
Bicycle	1	4	5
Motorised wheelchair	0	0.8	0
Bus	0	0.6	0
Multiseater Van	0	0.2	0
Not recorded*	17	15.4	12
Total	164	168	155

*Not recorded includes stated but unable to be coded, unknown, and not recorded.

Fatalities by jurisdiction¹

Jurisdiction	2019	5 Year Average	2020
NSW	353	363.8	297
Qld	219	241	276
Vic	266	256	212
WA	164	168	155
SA	114	96.4	95
Tas	29	32.8	36
NT	36	42.2	29
ACT	6	9	7
Australia	1187	1209.2	1107

Fatality rate per 100,000 population by jurisdiction¹

Jurisdiction	2019	5 Year Average	2020
NSW	4.4	4.6	3.7
Qld	4.3	4.9	5.4
Vic	4	4.1	3.2
WA	6.3	6.5	5.9
SA	6.5	5.6	5.4
Tas	5.4	6.3	6.7
NT	14.6	17.1	11.8
ACT	1.4	2.2	1.6
Australia	4.7	4.9	4.4

¹Fatality counts for other jurisdictions sourced from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Australian Road Deaths Database. Retrieved from <https://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database>. Denominators sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2020). Australian demographic statistics, Australia, December 2019, (Catalogue No. 3101.0). Retrieved from <<https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/3101.0>>.

Unless otherwise identified, the Road Safety Commission (Commission) prepared the numbers reported in this publication based on preliminary fatality data provided by the WA Police Force. This data is accurate as at 14 January 2021. Numbers may change in the future due to police investigation, coronial inquiry or upgrade of injuries. For this reason, comparisons between this publication and others may result in discrepancies. This publication adopts WA Police Force boundaries.

A fatality is defined as a person killed immediately or within 30 days of the crash, as result of the crash. This publication reports on fatalities as a result of reportable road crashes that occurred on roads open to the public from normal road use in metropolitan and regional WA. Regional WA includes remote areas. This definition excludes fatalities from crashes where the cause of the crash was a medical condition or premeditated intent to cause harm.