

Transport Statistics Bulletin

Road casualties in Great Britain: Main Results: 1999



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Symbols and conventions: (i) Unless otherwise stated, all tables refer to Great Britain.
(ii) Metric units are generally used.

Rounding of figures: In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit, there may be an apparent slight discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total as shown.

Conversion factors: 1 kilometre = 0.6214 mile 1 tonne = 0.9842 ton
1 tonne-km = 0.6116 ton-mile 1 billion = 1,000 million

Symbols: The following symbols have been used throughout.

..	= not available	.	= not applicable
-	= Negligible (less than half the final digit shown)	0	= Nil
*	= Sample size too small for reliable estimates.	ow	= of which
{	= subsequent data is disaggregated	}	= subsequent data is aggregated
	= break in the series	P	= provisional data
F	= forecast expenditure	e	= estimated outturn
n.e.s.	= not elsewhere specified	TSO	= The Stationary Office

Note

The statistics refer to personal injury accidents on public roads (including footways) which became known to the police. Figures for deaths refer to persons who sustained injuries which caused death less than 30 days after the accident. This is the usual international definition and differs from that used in other contexts by the Registrars General, whose published statistics cover all deaths on public roads, generally by date of registration.

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Symbols

The following symbols have been used throughout.

- 0 Nil, or less than 0.5% change
- .. Not available/ not applicable

SUMMARY

CASUALTIES: 1999 DATA COMPARED WITH 1998 DATA

- There were 3,423 road accident fatalities in 1999 – two more deaths than in 1998
- There were 39,122 serious injuries, a fall of 4 per cent and 277,765 slight injuries, a fall of 1 per cent on the 1998 level.
- Total casualties fell by 2 per cent to 320,310.
- Pedestrian casualties fell by 4 per cent. Pedal cyclist casualties remained at a similar level, while two-wheeled motor vehicle user casualties rose by 6 per cent on 1998 figures.
- Car user casualties fell by 2 per cent on the 1998 level with fatal and serious casualties falling by 1 per cent and 6 per cent respectively.

CASUALTIES: 1999 COMPARED WITH 1981-85 BASELINE AVERAGE

In 1987 the then Secretary of State adopted a target to reduce road casualties by one third from the baseline average of casualties in 1981-85 by the year 2000.

- Fatalities and serious injuries are now 39 per cent and 48 per cent respectively below their baseline average. Slight injuries are 15 per cent above, and all casualties remain at a similar level to the baseline average.
- Pedestrian, pedal cyclist and two wheeled motor vehicle casualties are all below their 1981-85 baseline average, by 31 per cent, 20 per cent, and 60 per cent respectively.
- Car user casualties are 43 per cent above, although fatalities are 23 per cent down and serious injuries 34 per cent down on their baseline average. Car user slight casualties, which now account for around 67 per cent of all slightly injured casualties, have increased by 63 per cent since the baseline average but the rate of slight casualties per 100 million vehicle kilometres has only grown by 1 per cent.

Table 1: Casualties: by class of road user and severity: Great Britain
Comparison of 1999 with baseline average and 1998

	Number/percentage change				
	Baseline average (1981 - 1985)	1998	1999	Percent change over baseline	Percent change from last year
Pedestrians					
Killed	1,863	906	870	-53	-4
Seriously injured	17,169	9,575	8,955	-48	-6
Slightly injured	42,710	34,405	33,063	-23	-4
All casualties	61,742	44,886	42,888	-31	-4
Pedal Cyclists ¹					
Killed	312	158	172	-45	9
Seriously injured	5,711	3,154	3,004	-47	-5
Slightly injured	22,368	19,611	19,664	-12	0
All casualties	28,391	22,923	22,840	-20	0
Two wheeled motor vehicle users					
Killed	989	498	547	-45	10
Seriously injured	19,714	5,944	6,361	-68	7
Slightly injured	44,490	18,168	19,284	-57	6
All casualties	65,193	24,610	26,192	-60	6
Car users ²					
Killed	2,198	1,696	1,687	-23	-1
Seriously injured	28,354	19,980	18,681	-34	-7
Slightly injured	113,392	188,798	185,367	63	-2
All casualties	143,944	210,474	205,735	43	-2
Bus and Coach					
Killed	32	18	11	-66	-39
Seriously injured	939	613	600	-36	-2
Slightly injured	9,211	9,208	9,641	5	5
All casualties	10,182	9,839	10,252	1	4
Goods vehicle					
Killed	184	127	117	-36	-8
Seriously injured	2,372	1,382	1,290	-46	-7
Slightly injured	8,640	9,607	9,201	6	-4
All casualties	11,196	11,116	10,608	-5	-5
All road users ³					
Killed	5,598	3,421	3,423	-39	0
Seriously injured	74,533	40,834	39,122	-48	-4
Slightly injured	241,787	280,957	277,765	15	-1
All casualties	321,919	325,212	320,310	0	-2

1 Includes battery-powered cycles and tricycles.

2 Three- wheel cars, taxis, four wheel cars, minibuses.

3 Includes other vehicles.

Table 2: Casualties: by class of road user and severity: GB 1999

Number/percentage change compared to last year

	Killed		Seriously injured		Slightly injured		All Casualties		Road Traffic
	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Percentage change
Pedestrians									
Children: 0-15 years	107	4	3,350	-8	13,419	-6	16,876	-6	
Adults: 16-59 years	382	0	3,760	-4	14,598	-2	18,740	-3	
60 and over	378	-10	1,701	-8	3,987	-7	6,066	-7	
Age not reported	3	..	144	..	1,059	..	1,206	..	
All casualties	870	-4	8,955	-6	33,063	-4	42,888	-4	
Pedal Cyclists									
Children	36	13	914	4	6,340	5	7,290	5	
Adults	135	7	2,037	-8	12,662	-2	14,834	-3	
Age not reported	1	..	53	..	662	..	716	..	
All casualties	172	9	3,004	-5	19,664	0	22,840	0	5
Two wheeled motor vehicle¹ users									
	547	10	6,361	7	19,284	6	26,192	6	16
Other vehicle users									
Car ²	1,687	-1	18,681	-7	185,367	-2	205,735	-2	1
Bus and Coach	11	-39	600	-2	9,641	5	10,252	4	1
Goods vehicle	117	-8	1,290	-7	9,201	-4	10,608	-5	3
Other vehicle ³	19	6	231	24	1,545	33	1,795	32	
All casualties ³	1,834	-1	20,802	-6	205,754	-1	228,390	-2	2
All road users									
Children: 0-15 years	221	7	5,478	-7	36,352	-3	42,051	-3	
Adults: 16-59 years	2,324	-1	27,876	-4	209,485	-2	239,685	-2	
60 and over	859	-1	5,038	-6	25,462	0	31,359	-1	
Age not reported	19	..	730	..	6,466	..	7,215	..	
All casualties	3,423	0	39,122	-4	277,765	-1	320,310	-2	2 ^o
Type of road									
Built-up ⁴	1,402	1	23,824	-6	194,883	-1	220,109	-1	1 ⁶
Non Built-up ⁵	2,021	0	15,298	-2	82,882	-1	100,201	-2	2 ⁶
Speed limit not reported	0	..	0	..	0	..	0	..	
All casualties	3,423	0	39,122	-4	277,765	-1	320,310	-2	2 ^o

1 Includes combinations.

2 Three-wheel cars, taxis, four wheel cars, minibuses.

3 Includes other vehicles.

4 Subject to a speed limit of 40mph or less.

5 Subject to a speed limit greater than 40 mph.

6 Includes pedal cycle mileage.

Table 3: Casualties: by severity of casualty: 1989 - 1999: GB

Year and quarter	Number				
	Killed	Seriously injured	Slightly injured	All casualties	Motor traffic Thousand million vehicle kilometres
1981-85 baseline average	5,598	74,533	241,787	321,919	292.4
1989	5,373	63,158	273,061	341,592	406.9
1990	5,217	60,441	275,483	341,141	410.9
1991	4,568	51,618	255,182	311,368	411.6
1992	4,229	49,256	257,268	310,753	412.1
1993	3,814	45,020	257,301	306,135	412.2
1994	3,650	46,540	265,169	315,359	422.6
1995	3,621	45,533	261,533	310,687	430.9
1996	3,598	44,499	272,481	320,578	442.5
1997	3,599	42,984	281,220	327,803	452.5
1998	3,421	40,834	280,957	325,212	459.4
1999	3,423	39,122	277,765	320,310	467.1
1995 Q1	828	10,323	62,310	73,461	101.4
Q2	815	10,989	60,617	72,421	109.3
Q3	967	12,180	68,331	81,478	113.7
Q4	1,011	12,041	70,275	83,327	106.5
1996 Q1	790	9,969	61,439	72,198	103.5
Q2	824	10,656	65,001	76,481	113.2
Q3	961	11,657	69,000	81,618	117.4
Q4	1,023	12,217	77,041	90,281	108.4
1997 Q1	805	9,893	64,646	75,344	106.5
Q2	894	10,598	69,795	81,287	114.1
Q3	915	11,017	69,619	81,551	118.6
Q4	985	11,476	77,160	89,621	113.4
1998 Q1	791	9,337	63,933	74,061	110.0
Q2	834	10,367	69,401	80,602	115.7
Q3	856	10,610	70,414	81,880	119.0
Q4	940	10,520	77,209	88,669	114.8
1999 Q1	758	8,898	64,463	74,119	112.0
Q2	793	9,628	66,635	77,056	117.6
Q3	861	10,409	70,734	82,004	121.5
Q4	1,011	10,187	75,933	87,131	116.0
Change on same quarter of previous year					Percentage
1996 Q1	-5	-3	-1	-2	2
Q2	1	-3	7	6	4
Q3	-1	-4	1	0	3
Q4	1	1	10	8	2
1997 Q1	2	-1	5	4	3
Q2	8	-1	7	6	1
Q3	-5	-5	1	0	1
Q4	-4	-6	0	-1	5
1998 Q1	-2	-6	-1	-2	3
Q2	-7	-2	-1	-1	1
Q3	-6	-4	1	0	0
Q4	-5	-8	0	-1	1
1999 Q1	-4	-5	1	0	2
Q2	-5	-7	-4	-4	2
Q3	1	-2	0	0	2
Q4	8	-3	-2	-2	1

Table 4: Casualties: by class of road user: 1989 - 1999: GB

							Number
Year and quarter	Pedestrians		Pedal cyclists	Two-wheel motor vehicle ² users	Car ³ users	Other vehicle users	All Casualties
	All ages	Children ¹					
1981-85 baseline average	61,742	25,592	28,391	65,193	143,944	22,647	321,919
1989	60,080	22,154	28,513	42,630	184,688	25,681	341,592
1990	60,230	22,860	26,422	39,048	190,558	24,883	341,141
1991	54,030	20,708	24,817	30,751	179,383	22,385	311,368
1992	51,612	20,124	24,769	26,891	185,662	21,816	310,753
1993	48,128	18,250	24,087	25,094	187,479	21,345	306,135
1994	48,695	19,263	24,839	24,354	195,154	22,316	315,359
1995	47,083	18,590	24,945	23,524	194,027	21,107	310,687
1996	46,450	18,510	24,584	23,133	205,336	21,075	320,578
1997	45,601	18,407	24,636	24,492	211,448	21,626	327,803
1998	44,886	17,971	22,923	24,610	210,474	22,319	325,212
1999	42,888	16,876	22,840	26,192	205,735	22,655	320,310
1995 Q1	12,074	4,391	4,807	4,516	46,947	5,117	73,461
Q2	10,972	4,972	6,614	6,320	43,746	4,768	72,421
Q3	11,326	4,867	8,161	7,038	49,299	5,654	81,478
Q4	12,711	4,360	5,363	5,650	54,035	5,568	83,327
1996 Q1	11,205	4,142	4,408	4,325	47,442	4,818	72,198
Q2	11,365	5,194	6,422	6,150	47,685	4,859	76,481
Q3	10,810	4,706	8,181	7,031	50,059	5,537	81,618
Q4	13,070	4,468	5,573	5,627	60,150	5,861	90,281
1997 Q1	10,877	4,220	4,617	4,692	50,182	4,976	75,344
Q2	11,022	5,098	6,410	6,632	52,040	5,183	81,287
Q3	10,880	4,715	7,832	7,343	49,914	5,582	81,551
Q4	12,822	4,374	5,777	5,825	59,312	5,885	89,621
1998 Q1	11,024	4,129	4,758	4,926	48,246	5,107	74,061
Q2	11,029	5,045	6,264	6,441	51,579	5,289	80,602
Q3	10,552	4,591	6,852	7,422	51,366	5,688	81,880
Q4	12,281	4,206	5,049	5,821	59,283	6,235	88,669
1999 Q1	10,702	3,992	4,496	4,953	48,742	5,226	74,119
Q2	10,345	4,624	6,121	7,030	48,156	5,404	77,056
Q3	10,162	4,325	7,407	7,898	50,632	5,905	82,004
Q4	11,679	3,935	4,816	6,311	58,205	6,120	87,131
Change on same quarter of previous year							Percentage
1996 Q1	-7	-6	-8	-4	1	-6	-2
Q2	4	4	-3	-3	9	2	6
Q3	-5	-3	0	0	2	-2	0
Q4	3	2	4	0	11	5	8
1997 Q1	-3	2	5	8	6	3	4
Q2	-3	-2	0	8	9	7	6
Q3	1	0	-4	4	0	1	0
Q4	-2	-2	4	4	-1	0	-1
1998 Q1	1	-2	3	5	-4	3	-2
Q2	0	-1	-2	-3	-1	2	-1
Q3	-3	-3	-13	1	3	2	0
Q4	-4	-4	-13	0	0	6	-1
1999 Q1	-3	-3	-6	1	1	2	0
Q2	-6	-8	-2	9	-7	2	-4
Q3	-4	-6	8	6	-1	4	0
Q4	-5	-6	-5	8	-2	-2	-2

1 Aged 0 - 15, inclusive.

2 Includes mopeds, motor scooters and combinations.

3 Three-wheel cars, taxis, four wheel cars, minibuses.

Table 5: Accidents: by speed limit, class of road severity ¹: GB 1999

Number/percentage change compared with 1998

Type of road	Fatal		Serious		Slight		All accidents		Road Traffic ²
	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Number	Percentage change	Percentage change
Built-up roads ³	1,345	0	21,691	-5	148,564	-1	171,600	-1	1
Non Built-up roads ⁴	1,793	0	11,576	-1	50,079	-3	63,448	-2	2
Major roads ⁵	1,958	1	16,648	-4	97,986	-1	116,592	-2	2
Minor roads ⁶	1,180	-1	16,619	-4	100,657	-1	118,456	-1	1
All roads/all speed limits	3,138	0	33,267	-4	198,643	-1	235,048	-2	2

1 The severity of an accident is defined as " the severity of the most seriously injured casualty in the accident".

2 Includes pedal cycle kilometres.

3 Subject to a speed limit of 40 mph or less.

4 Subject to a speed limit greater than 40 mph.

5 Motorways, A(M) and A roads (ie motorways, trunk and principal roads).

6 B, C and unclassified roads (ie other roads).

Table 6: Casualties: by severity: by police force area: 1999

Police force area	Severity of injury				Number
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	All severities	
Avon and Somerset	75	778	6,656	7,509	
Bedfordshire	49	346	2,441	2,836	
Cambridgeshire	76	575	3,742	4,393	
Cheshire	75	756	6,108	6,939	
City of London	1	61	447	509	
Cleveland	22	236	1,959	2,217	
Cumbria	62	495	2,433	2,990	
Derbyshire	60	690	4,769	5,519	
Devon and Cornwall	78	792	6,777	7,647	
Dorset	35	469	3,331	3,835	
Durham	33	232	2,381	2,646	
Essex	106	1,103	7,482	8,691	
Gloucestershire	47	306	2,443	2,796	
Greater Manchester	89	1,035	15,364	16,488	
Hampshire	100	1,188	8,202	9,490	
Hertfordshire	47	769	4,898	5,714	
Humberside	76	628	3,806	4,510	
Kent	100	1,029	6,894	8,023	
Lancashire	79	1,126	7,169	8,374	
Leicestershire	86	464	4,508	5,058	
Lincolnshire	104	662	3,181	3,947	
Merseyside	55	633	9,271	9,959	
Metropolitan Police	290	6,006	41,930	48,226	
Norfolk	71	698	3,206	3,975	
North Yorkshire	68	998	3,781	4,847	
Northamptonshire	76	662	2,608	3,346	
Northumbria	71	681	5,921	6,673	
Nottinghamshire	64	871	4,792	5,727	
South Yorkshire	50	683	6,028	6,761	
Staffordshire	55	385	5,813	6,253	
Suffolk	48	432	2,616	3,096	
Surrey	57	534	5,556	6,147	
Sussex	93	1,072	7,104	8,269	
Thames Valley	150	1,564	10,151	11,865	
Warwickshire	50	558	2,609	3,217	
West Mercia	75	918	5,015	6,008	
West Midlands	89	1,664	11,806	13,559	
West Yorkshire	111	1,189	12,341	13,641	
Wiltshire	49	422	2,955	3,426	
England	2,922	33,710	248,494	285,126	
Dyfed-Powys	48	584	1,855	2,487	
Gwent	30	344	2,196	2,570	
North Wales	51	417	3,715	4,183	
South Wales	62	333	4,712	5,107	
Wales	191	1,678	12,478	14,347	
Central	10	227	748	985	
Dumfries and Galloway	13	136	426	575	
Fife	15	175	821	1,011	
Grampian	35	274	1,276	1,585	
Lothian and Borders	52	480	3,631	4,163	
Northern	36	330	1,020	1,386	
Strathclyde	109	1,729	7,557	9,395	
Tayside	40	383	1,314	1,737	
Scotland	310	3,734	16,793	20,837	
Great Britain	3,423	39,122	277,765	320,310	