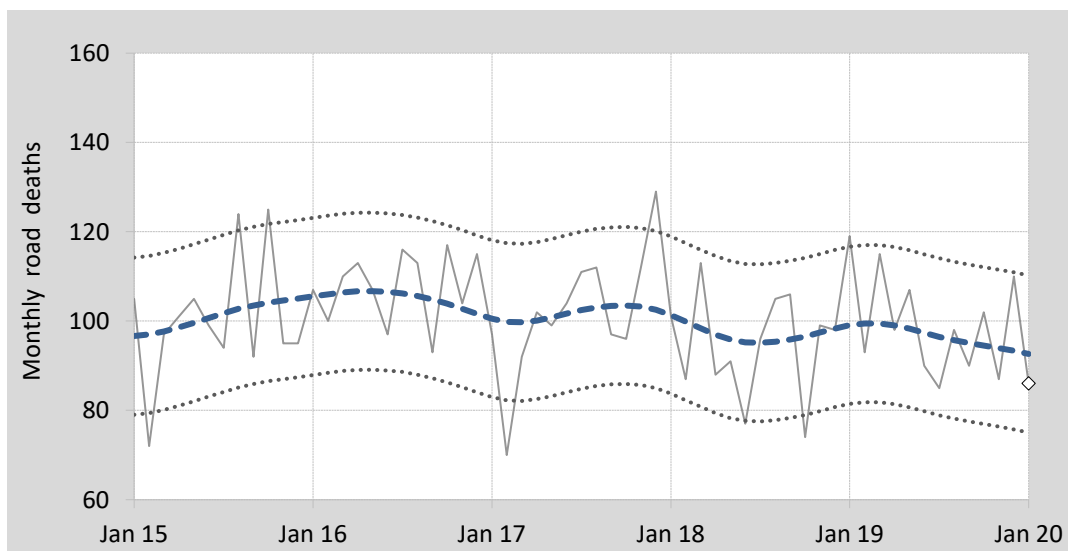




### This month's key figures

- There was a total of 86 road deaths during the month of January 2020. The current figure is 18.7 per cent lower than the average for January over the previous five years.
- During the 12 months ended January 2020, there were 1,161 road deaths. This is an increase of 0.7 per cent from the 12-month period ending January 2019.
- Presently, the rate of annual deaths per 100,000 population stands at 4.6. This is a 0.8 per cent decrease compared to the rate for the 12-month period ending January 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, Transport and Regional Economics  
 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
January 2019	38	23	15	14	22	1	5	1	119
January 2020	24	24	11	9	11	6	1	0	86
Per cent change	-36.8	4.3	-26.7	-35.7	-50.0	500.0	-80.0	-100.0	-27.7

**Table I.2** Year to date

Year to date	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
January 2019 - January 2019	38	23	15	14	22	1	5	1	119
January 2020 - January 2020	24	24	11	9	11	6	1	0	86
Per cent change	-36.8	4.3	-26.7	-35.7	-50.0	500.0	-80.0	-100.0	-27.7

**Table I.3** Year ending January

12 months ended January	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
2016	338	249	252	96	168	38	51	14	1,206
2017	385	286	249	84	190	32	45	11	1,282
2018	396	262	240	100	156	35	31	5	1,225
2019	348	216	244	89	167	28	52	9	1,153
2020	341	271	214	109	152	37	32	5	1,161
Latest per cent change	-2.0	25.5	-12.3	22.5	-9.0	32.1	-38.5	-44.4	0.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-0.8	-1.1	-3.4	3.2	-3.2	-1.9	-7.6	-20.2	-1.8

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

**Table 2.1** By road user

12 months ended January	Driver	Passenger	Pedestrian	Motorcyclist <sup>b</sup>	Pedal <sup>b</sup> cyclist	Total <sup>c</sup>
2016	561	247	167	199	29	1,206
2017	611	212	182	246	28	1,282
2018	572	234	165	205	40	1,225
2019	532	206	173	201	35	1,153
2020	561	201	158	199	38	1,161
Latest per cent change	5.5	-2.4	-8.7	-1.0	8.6	0.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.4	-4.3	-1.6	-2.0	7.9	-1.8

**Table 2.2** By age-group<sup>a</sup> (years)

12 months ended January	0 to 16	17 to 25	26 to 39	40 to 64	65 to 74	≥ 75	Total <sup>c</sup>
2016	63	231	263	377	117	155	1,206
2017	62	265	285	404	104	162	1,282
2018	44	244	237	399	121	179	1,225
2019	56	224	270	356	111	133	1,153
2020	44	227	260	362	104	164	1,161
Latest per cent change	-21.4	1.3	-3.7	1.7	-6.3	23.3	0.7
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-7.9	-2.0	-0.8	-2.1	-1.7	-0.8	-1.8

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

**Table 2.3** By gender

<b>12 months ended January</b>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total<sup>d</sup></i>
2016	866	340	1,206
2017	939	342	1,282
2018	899	326	1,225
2019	867	285	1,153
2020	887	274	1,161
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	2.3	-3.9	0.7
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-0.3	-6.0	-1.8

a Age groups were changed in April 2014.

b Includes pillion passengers.

c Includes deaths to persons with either age or road user type not recorded.

d Includes deaths of persons where gender is not recorded or unspecified.

## 3. Annual deaths per 100,000 population

**Table 3.1** Year ended January

<b>12 months ended January</b>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
2016	4.43	4.13	5.27	5.64	6.61	7.38	20.80	3.53	5.06
2017	4.97	4.62	5.13	4.90	7.43	6.18	18.29	2.73	5.29
2018	5.03	4.14	4.86	5.80	6.06	6.70	12.51	1.21	4.97
2019	4.36	3.34	4.86	5.12	6.43	5.30	21.04	2.14	4.61
2020	4.21	4.10	4.19	6.22	5.79	6.92	13.01	1.17	4.57
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	-3.3	23.0	-13.8	21.4	-10.0	30.7	-38.2	-45.2	-0.8
<i>Average trend change per year (per cent)</i>	-2.3	-3.3	-5.0	2.4	-4.0	-2.8	-7.7	-21.7	-3.3

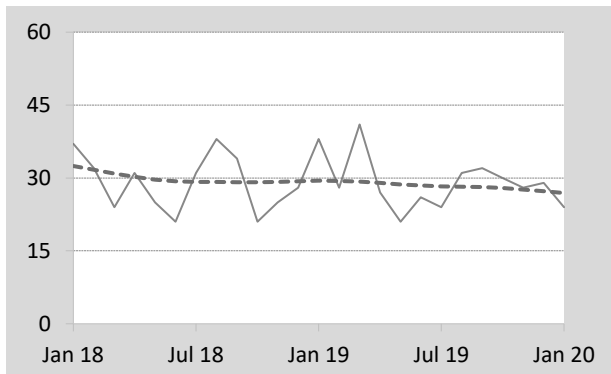
**Table 3.2** Calendar year period

<b>Calendar year</b>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
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	5.93	12.52	1.21	4.96
2018	4.35	3.30	4.89	4.61	6.09	6.25	20.24	2.14	4.54
2019	4.39	4.09	4.28	6.51	6.22	5.99	14.64	1.41	4.71
<i>Latest per cent change</i>	0.9	24.2	-12.5	41.3	2.1	-4.1	-27.7	-34.3	3.6

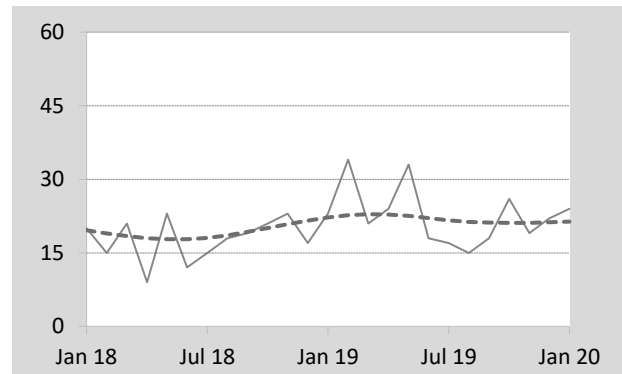
#### 4. Monthly deaths by jurisdiction — last 24 months

— raw  
 - - - smoothed  
 (Whittaker-Henderson)

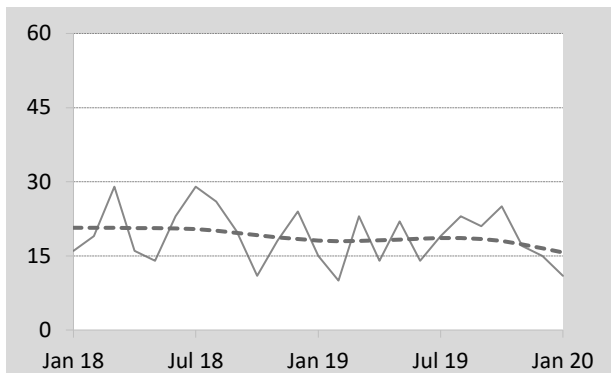
**Figure 4.1 NSW**



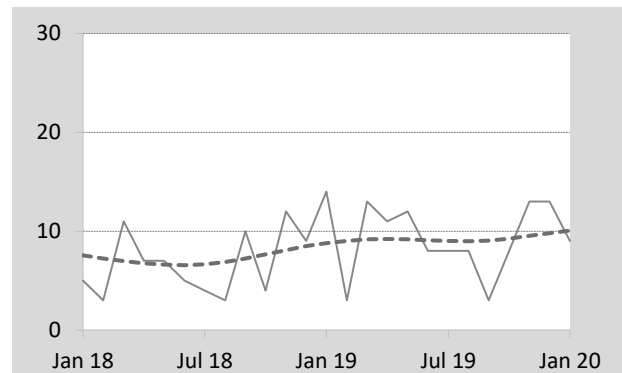
**Figure 4.2 Vic**



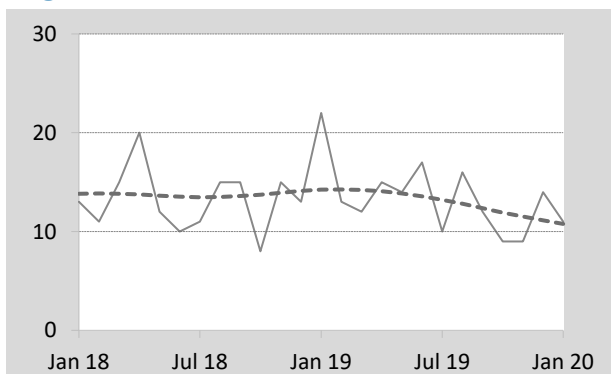
**Figure 4.3 Qld**



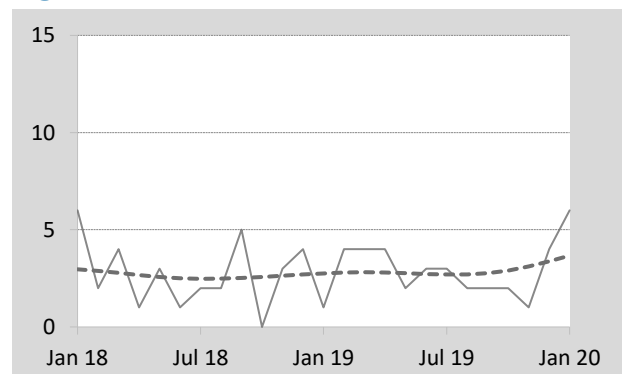
**Figure 4.4 SA**



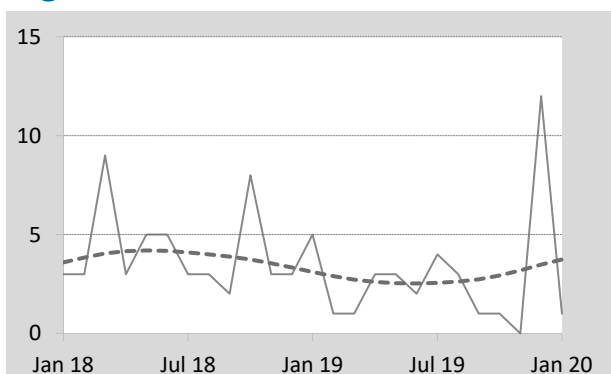
**Figure 4.5 WA**



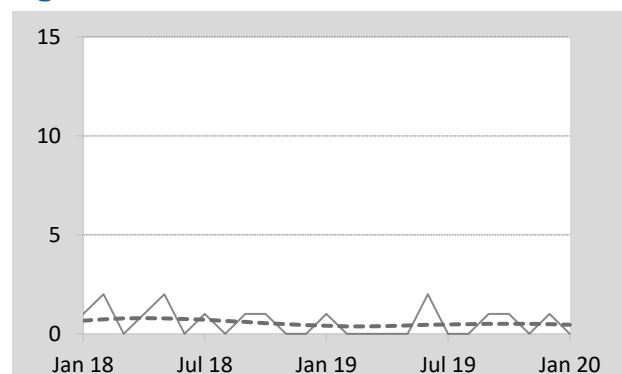
**Figure 4.6 Tas**



**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 December	Crash type <sup>a</sup>			Posted speed limit						Total <sup>b</sup>
	Single	Multiple	Pedestrian	≤ 40	50	60	70 to 90	100	≥ 110	
2016	492	445	166	18	110	220	247	350	149	1,103
2017	517	490	182	18	133	212	296	367	152	1,189
2018	497	470	163	35	154	207	235	351	142	1,130
2019	502	398	171	17	133	190	236	329	156	1,071
2020	495	422	157	18	123	171	225	331	160	1,074
Latest per cent change	-1.4	6.0	-8.2	5.9	-7.5	-10.0	-4.7	0.6	2.6	0.3
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-0.2	-3.1	-1.7	-0.6	2.3	-6.0	-4.0	-2.2	1.7	-1.6

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

12 months ended December	Day of week <sup>c</sup>		Time of day <sup>d</sup>	
	Weekday	Weekend	Day	Night
2016	680	423	681	422
2017	715	474	710	479
2018	712	418	724	406
2019	645	426	653	418
2020	682	392	669	405
Latest per cent change	5.7	-8.0	2.5	-3.1
Average trend change per year (per cent)	-1.0	-2.6	-1.2	-2.2

a 'Single' and 'Multiple' refer to the number of vehicles involved in a fatal crash where there is no pedestrian killed.

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.

## 6. Supplementary data — Christmas 2019

This month's supplementary section presents an analysis of a 12-day Christmas period. There is no uniformly defined 'Christmas holiday period' amongst Australia's road safety authorities. In some or all jurisdictions, there are defined periods of more stringent road safety enforcement, but the types and start-finish dates vary.

The following analysis is based on a fixed 12-day period starting on December 23rd and finishing on January 3rd each year, referred to here as the 'Christmas period'.

Data for recent Christmas periods is preliminary and is subject to revision by jurisdictions.

**Table 6.1 Fatalities during Christmas period**

	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>Australia</i>
2011	18	8	10	3	8	1	1	0	49
2012	16	10	6	7	8	3	2	0	52
2013	8	4	4	1	6	2	1	1	27
2014	7	5	4	9	3	2	0	0	30
2015	12	8	7	2	2	4	1	2	38
2016	12	8	6	4	8	0	1	0	39
2017	21	12	10	3	5	0	0	1	52
2018	8	5	13	6	3	5	1	0	41
2019	9	9	1	5	2	0	5	0	31

**Figure 6.1 Fatalities during Christmas period — Australia**

