

SDR 87/2015

4 June 2015

Police recorded road casualties in Wales, 2014

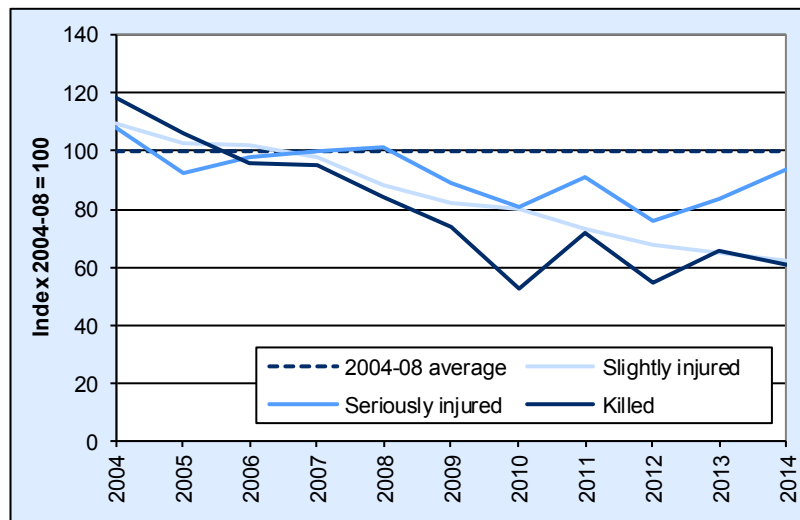
The latest police recorded road accident and casualty figures for Wales for 2014 show that:

- during 2014 there were **5,876 road accidents** involving personal injury recorded by the police in Wales, 19 fewer than in 2013 (0.3 per cent reduction).
- These accidents resulted in **8,208 casualties**, 127 fewer than in 2013 (1.5 per cent decrease).

Within this total:

- ⇒ **103 people were killed** on Welsh roads in 2014, 8 fewer than in 2013 (7 per cent decrease);
- ⇒ **1,160 people were seriously injured** in 2014, 127 more than in 2013 (12 per cent increase);
- ⇒ **6,945 people were slightly injured**, 246 fewer compared with 2013 (3 per cent decrease).

Chart 1: Index of casualties by severity



In 2012 new interim targets for 2020 were introduced. They are based on the average for 2004-08;

- a 40% reduction in the total number of people killed and seriously injured on Welsh roads,
- a 25% reduction in the number of motorcyclists killed and seriously injured on Welsh roads,
- a 40% reduction in the number of young people (aged 16-24) killed and seriously injured on Welsh roads.

By 2014:

- the number of people killed or seriously injured was 10 per cent lower than the average for 2004-08 (Target 1);
- the number of motorcyclists killed or seriously injured was 10 per cent higher than the average for 2004-08 (Target 2);
- the number of young people killed or seriously injured was 31 per cent lower than the average for 2004-08 (Target 3).

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Detail

The tables in this First Release summarise the current position in road traffic casualties. The tables cover:

- Table 1: Progress towards casualty reduction targets for 2020
- Table 2: Road casualties by severity
- Table 3: Child road casualties by severity
- Table 4: All casualties by type of road user
- Table 5: Killed and seriously injured (KSI) casualties by type of road user
- Table 6: All casualties by unitary authority and police force area

Table 1 shows the progress towards Welsh Government's casualty reduction targets for 2020.

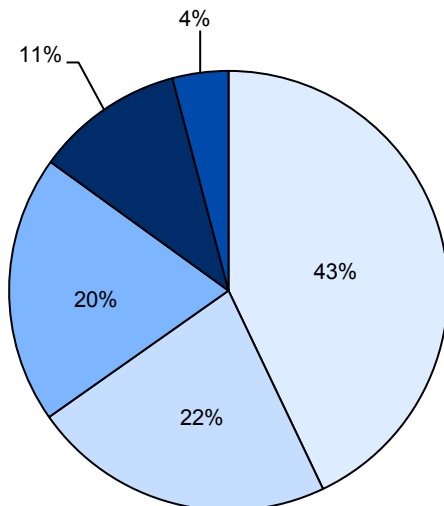
Table 2 shows that road traffic fatalities in Wales fell to 103 deaths in 2014; this is the third lowest figure on record.

Table 3 shows child (aged 0 to 15 inclusive) casualties; no fatalities occurred in 2014; reported seriously injured casualties total rose by 26 from the 2013 total to 122. The child KSI casualties figure rose to over 100 for the first time in 2 years.

Table 4 shows the number of total casualties for all types of road user and table 5 shows KSI casualties by type of road user. Chart 2 below takes the information presented in Tables 4 and 5 for 2014 and shows how the distribution of casualties by road user differs between total casualties and KSI casualties. For example, car user users represent around two thirds of all road casualties but less than half of KSI casualties. The share of the more vulnerable road users (motorcyclists, pedestrians and pedal cyclists) in KSI casualties is correspondingly higher than their share of total casualties.

Chart 2: Casualties by type of road user, 2014

Killed and seriously injured



Total casualties

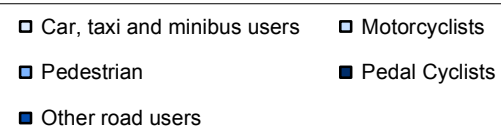
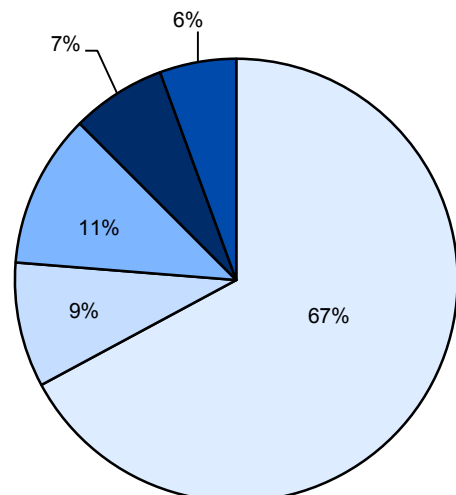


Table 6 shows the pattern of total casualties across Wales by local authority and police force area. In 2014 the largest numbers of casualties were in Cardiff and Swansea, followed by Rhondda Cynon Taff, Powys and Carmarthenshire.

Table 1: Progress towards casualty reduction targets for 2020

	<i>Number and percentage</i>		
	<u>Killed or seriously injured casualties</u>	<u>Killed or seriously injured Motorcyclists</u>	<u>Killed or seriously injured Young persons (16-24)</u>
2004-08 average	1,406	257	396
2009	1,221	241	321
2010	1,087	247	321
2011	1,247	242	308
2012	1,034	213	247
2013	1,144	246	253
2014	1,263	282	272
Percentage change 2014 on 2004-08 average	-10	10	-31
2020 Target (percentage reduction)	-40	-25	-40

Table 2: Casualties by severity

	<i>Number and percentage</i>			
	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Seriously injured</u>	<u>Slightly injured</u>	<u>All casualties</u>
2004-08 average	169	1,237	11,107	12,513
2009	125	1,096	9,133	10,354
2010	89	998	8,868	9,955
2011	121	1,126	8,159	9,406
2012	93	941	7,531	8,565
2013	111	1,033	7,191	8,335
2014	103	1,160	6,945	8,208
Percentage change 2014 over 2004-08 average	-39	-6	-37	-34

Table 3: Child road casualties by severity (a)

	<i>Number and percentage</i>			
	<u>Killed</u>	<u>Seriously injured</u>	<u>Slightly injured</u>	<u>All severities</u>
2004-08 average	7	135	1,167	1,309
2009	5	131	873	1,009
2010	4	104	918	1,026
2011	6	126	877	1,009
2012	4	88	726	818
2013	1	96	680	777
2014	0	122	679	801
Percentage change 2014 on 2004-08 average	-100	-10	-42	-39

(a) Children aged 0-15 years inclusive.

Table 4: Casualties by type of road user

	<i>Number and percentage</i>					
	Pedestrian	Pedal Cyclists	Motorcyclists (a)	Car, taxi and minibus users	Other road users (b)	Total
2004-08 average	1,368	463	756	9,200	726	12,513
2009	1,114	403	651	7,607	579	10,354
2010	1,108	447	645	7,131	624	9,955
2011	1,154	521	612	6,553	566	9,406
2012	1,007	474	627	5,986	471	8,565
2013	1,052	496	685	5,633	469	8,335
2014	922	567	749	5,511	459	8,208
Percentage change 2014 on 2004-08 average	-33	22	-1	-40	-37	-34

(a) Includes mopeds, motor scooters, motor cycles and combinations.

(b) Includes buses, coaches, goods vehicles, invalid vehicles, motor caravans, other and unknown vehicles.

Table 5: KSI Casualties by type of road user

	<i>Number and percentage</i>					
	Pedestrian	Pedal Cyclists	Motorcyclists (a)	Car, taxi and minibus users	Other road users (b)	Total
2004-08 average	271	70	257	749	59	1,406
2009	257	84	241	595	44	1,221
2010	213	68	247	499	60	1,087
2011	261	118	242	573	53	1,247
2012	203	84	213	494	40	1,034
2013	260	100	246	494	44	1,144
2014	249	138	282	542	52	1,263
Percentage change 2014 on 2004-08 average	-8	98	10	-28	-12	-10

(a) Includes mopeds, motor scooters, motor cycles and combinations.

(b) Includes buses, coaches, goods vehicles, invalid vehicles, motor caravans, other and unknown vehicles.

Table 6: Casualties by local authority and police force area (revised)

	<i>Number and percentage</i>						Percentage change 2014 on 2004-08 (a)
	2004-08 average	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Isle of Anglesey	205	158	173	148	148	158	-23
Gwynedd	544	508	410	395	385	363	-33
Conwy	486	394	398	387	332	393	-19
Denbighshire	450	406	388	341	323	311	-31
Flintshire	696	572	529	477	523	392	-44
Wrexham	530	432	399	458	359	343	-35
North Wales Police Force	2,911	2,470	2,297	2,206	2,070	1,960	-33
Powys	762	603	595	590	504	582	-24
Ceredigion	392	340	320	281	253	249	-36
Pembrokeshire	589	476	420	466	340	392	-33
Carmarthenshire	877	687	687	713	619	557	-36
Dyfed-Powys Police Force	2,619	2,106	2,022	2,050	1,716	1,780	-32
Swansea	1,116	961	899	660	646	618	-45
Neath Port Talbot	590	483	424	397	384	324	-45
Bridgend	519	368	347	348	330	358	-31
Vale of Glamorgan	418	309	369	286	303	284	-32
Cardiff	1,424	1,117	1,125	802	867	859	-40
Rhondda Cynon Taf	955	682	729	628	644	592	-38
Merthyr Tydfil	226	185	179	147	145	165	-27
South Wales Police Force	5,249	4,105	4,072	3,268	3,319	3,200	-39
Caerphilly	493	297	260	264	315	292	-41
Blaenau Gwent	242	203	120	146	165	155	-36
Torfaen	184	177	121	123	143	202	10
Monmouthshire	300	193	193	179	236	173	-42
Newport	515	404	321	329	371	446	-13
Gwent Police Force	1,734	1,274	1,015	1,041	1,230	1,268	-27
Wales	12,513	9,955	9,406	8,565	8,335	8,208	-34

(a) Caution should be exercised when making comparisons between individual local authorities; relatively small changes in the number of casualties can generate large percentage changes.

Key quality information:

Source: Police recorded road casualties in Wales

Status: National Statistics

Description: The statistics refer to casualties resulting from personal injury accidents on public roads reported to the police and forwarded to the Welsh Government. The police compile statistical data about road traffic accidents and casualties (called Stats19 data) for the Welsh Government and the Department for Transport (DfT). This follows police attendance at accidents that involve any personal injury, together with members of the public reporting personal injury accidents directly to the police. The figures are based on information available to the Government 14 weeks after the end of the latest quarter.

A casualty is defined as, a person killed or injured in an accident. One accident may give rise to several casualties. Casualties are subdivided into killed, seriously injured and slightly injured categories. Casualties reported as killed include only those cases where death occurs in less than 30 days as a result of the accident. They do not include those who died as a result of natural causes (e.g. heart attack) rather than as a result of the accident, nor do they include confirmed suicides.

Uses of data There are a variety of organisations that use the Welsh road traffic accident and casualty data. The Welsh Government uses road traffic collision and casualty data to help set road safety policy. It is also used for performance indicators, both for the Welsh Government's Transport Strategy and for some Health Performance indicators. They are also component indicators in the Welsh Government's Child Poverty, Programme for Government and Sustainable Development indicators.

Other users include Highway Authorities, covering the Welsh Government, which is responsible for the motorway and trunk road network, and local authorities, which are responsible for other roads in Wales. Other bodies involved in road safety include the Safety Camera Partnership, Trunk Road Agents, and Police & Community Safety Partnerships.

Quality: The figures shown may change in future if there are late amendments. Similarly, the figures for earlier years may differ from those previously published. The figures cover only road accidents reported to the police involving personal injury.

There is some possibility of under-reporting and under-recording as well as for the misclassification of accidents though these are minimised by local authorities and the Welsh Government conducting a number of data validations. For example, Welsh Government data analysts may query the location of an accident with a police force when the grid reference of an accident is in a different local authority to the one specified in the data return. These issues are discussed in more detail in a Statistical Article 'Quality Report for Welsh Road Casualties'.

This article also summarises the sources and methods used to compile the road accident and casualty figures for Wales. It also reviews the quality of the resulting figures in terms of the six dimensions of statistical quality of the European Statistical System. The aim is to provide background information about road casualty statistics for Wales in a single document for all users of the published statistics. It is available from the following link: <http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/police-recorded-road-casualties/quality-report/?lang=en>

Data quality issue for the 2012 data Between April 2012 and the beginning of 2013, South Wales police made changes to their procedures for recording road traffic accidents and casualties which led to a lower number of slight and serious casualties being recorded for South Wales than would have been the case with the procedures used in previous years, or with the processes in place for later in 2013. This means that the comparison of 2013 with 2012 overstates the change in slight and serious casualties. This issue does not affect the measure of road traffic fatalities.

Links to further information: This First Release will be followed by a number of Statistical Bulletins that are intended to provide users with more information about road accident and casualties in Wales during 2014. Most of these Bulletins focus on particular groups of road users that are either at higher risk of involvement in an accident or are more vulnerable in terms of becoming a casualty, if involved in an accident. All these Bulletins will be available from the following link:
<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/?topic=Transport&lang=en>

In addition to this regular statistical release a new website will shortly be available which disseminates statistics on road safety in a new format. The Local Road Safety interactive tool will show the location of casualties by road user type for local authority areas across Wales in a map format and will allow users to view bespoke road accident data on the map. The website will be available in both English and Welsh and a link to it will be available here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/statistics-and-research/?topic=Transport>

Road Accident statistics for Wales will be added to the StatsWales website in the coming months:

<https://statswales.wales.gov.uk>

Results for Great Britain will be published by the Department for Transport in June 2015 in 'Reported road casualties in Great Britain main results: 2015'; available from the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport/about/statistics>



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