

ROAD FATALITIES

The number of road motor vehicles is high amongst member countries of the International Transport Forum and reducing road accidents is a concern for all governments. Such concern becomes more challenging with increasing needs for more mobility.

Definition

A road motor vehicle is a road vehicle fitted with an engine whence it derives its sole means of propulsion, and which is normally used for carrying persons or goods or for drawing, on the road, vehicles used for the carriage of persons or goods. They include buses, coaches, trolley buses, goods road vehicles and passenger road motor vehicles. Although tramways (street-cars) are rail borne vehicles they are integrated into the urban road network and considered as road motor vehicles.

Road fatality means any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of a road injury accident. Suicides involving the use of a road motor vehicle are excluded.

Comparability

Road motor vehicles are attributed to the countries where they are registered while deaths are attributed to the countries in which they occur.

Fatalities per million inhabitants can be compared with other causes of death in a country (heart diseases, cancer, HIV, etc.), however when comparing countries road fatality risks, this indicator loses its relevance if countries do not have the same level of motorisation. Fatalities per vehicle-kilometre provides a better measure of fatality risk on road

Overview

The first ten years of the 21st century saw record road safety performance in most countries of the International Transport Forum (ITF). Following three consecutive years of record improvements in 2008, 2009 and 2010, the number of people killed in crashes continued to fall in 2011 recording a drop of 1.1% in ITF member countries (excluding China and India). However, in 2011 one third of ITF countries reported an increase in road fatalities when compared to 2010, including countries used to good road safety performance; Russia (5%), Poland (7%), Germany (9%) and the United Kingdom (3%). These overall positive developments should not hide the economic costs and human tragedies behind the data. While high-income countries look back on a record decade in reducing road fatalities, 90% of global road deaths occur in low and middle income countries and estimates put annual world road fatalities above 1.3 million, with 50 million serious injuries.

networks, but there is currently no harmonisation in the methodology to calculate distances travelled, and not all countries collect this indicator.

The numbers of vehicles entering the existing stock is usually accurate, but information on the numbers of vehicles withdrawn from use is less certain. Shown here are the numbers of road fatalities per million inhabitants and per million vehicles.

Sources

- International Transport Forum (ITF) (2012), "Road Injury Accidents" (Database).
- ITF (2013), *Quarterly Transport Statistics* (Database).

Further information

Analytical publications

- ITF (2013), *IRTAD Road Safety Annual Report*, OECD Publishing.
- ITF (2011), *Reporting on Serious Road Traffic Casualties*, ITF, Paris.
- OECD, ITF (2013), *Cycling, Health and Safety*, OECD Publishing.

Statistical publications

- ITF (2013), *Trends in the Transport Sector*, OECD Publishing.
- ITF (2013), *Key Transport Statistics*, ITF, Paris.

Methodological publications

- ITF, Statistical Office of the European Communities and United Nations Economic Commission (2010), *Illustrated Glossary for Transport Statistics 4th Edition*, OECD Publishing.

Websites

- International Transport Forum, www.internationaltransportforum.org.

Road fatalities

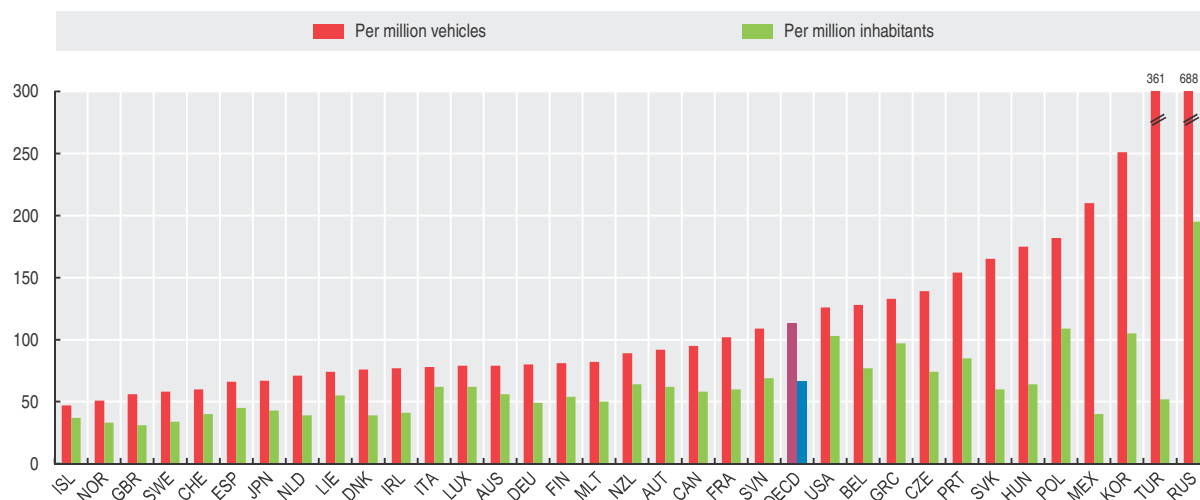
Per million inhabitants


	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Australia	93	95	89	87	81	79	80	77	76	67	68	62	57
Austria	135	122	119	118	115	107	93	88	83	81	76	66	62
Belgium	137	143	144	131	117	112	104	101	100	88	87	77	78
Canada	98	94	89	93	88	85	90	89	84	73	65	64	59
Chile	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Czech Republic	141	145	130	140	142	135	126	104	118	103	86	76	74
Denmark	97	93	80	86	80	68	61	56	74	74	55	46	39
Estonia	169	149	146	164	121	126	126	152	146	98	75	58	75
Finland	83	77	83	80	73	72	72	64	72	65	52	51	54
France	97	93	80	86	80	68	61	56	74	74	55	46	39
Germany	95	91	85	83	80	71	65	62	60	55	51	45	49
Greece	194	187	172	154	146	151	149	149	141	138	129	112	97
Hungary	128	118	122	141	131	128	127	129	123	99	82	74	64
Iceland	76	114	84	101	79	79	64	102	48	38	53	25	38
Ireland	110	109	106	96	84	92	95	86	78	63	53	47	41
Israel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	118	124	125	122	114	105	99	96	86	79	70	68	63
Japan	82	82	79	75	70	66	62	57	52	47	45	45	43
Korea	201	218	171	152	151	137	132	131	127	120	119	111	105
Luxembourg	135	174	159	139	117	109	101	91	96	72	96	63	64
Mexico	50	50	49	46	43	42	43	44	48	47	42	..	..
Netherlands	75	73	67	66	67	54	50	50	48	46	44	39	40
New Zealand	133	120	117	103	114	106	98	94	100	86	89	86	64
Norway	68	76	61	68	61	56	48	52	49	53	44	43	34
Poland	174	164	145	152	148	150	143	137	146	143	120	102	109
Portugal	196	182	162	162	148	123	118	92	92	83	79	88	84
Slovak Republic	125	120	116	116	121	113	111	113	122	112	71	65	60
Slovenia	168	157	140	134	121	137	129	131	145	106	84	67	69
Spain	144	143	135	129	129	111	89	93	85	68	59	54	45
Sweden	65	67	66	63	59	53	49	49	51	43	39	28	34
Switzerland	82	82	75	70	74	69	55	49	51	47	45	42	40
Turkey	92	87	68	63	60	66	67	68	72	60	61	56	52
United Kingdom	61	61	61	60	61	56	55	54	50	43	38	31	31
United States	150	149	148	150	148	146	147	143	136	123	110	106	104
EU 28	119	117	112	110	103	96	91	87	85	78	70	62	60
OECD	115	114	108	106	101	97	94	91	88	80	73	65	63
Brazil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China	..	..	..	..	..	83	76	68	62	55	51	49	46
India	80	76	76	79	79	83	84	92	99	102	106	112	117
Indonesia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	203	202	212	229	246	240	237	230	234	211	195	187	196
South Africa

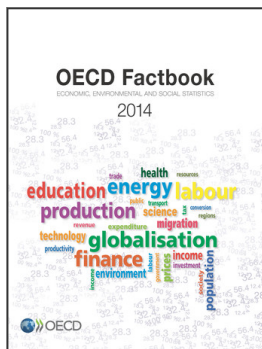
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Road fatalities

2011 or latest available year



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