



GOVERNMENT OF  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



**ROAD  
SAFETY**  
COMMISSION

# Western Australian Road Fatalities 2022

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This publication reports on people who have been killed in a reported crash on WA roads or road-related areas that are open to the public. This excludes those killed as a result of premeditated intent to cause harm (including suicide) or if they were in control of a vehicle and the crash was caused by them suffering a medical episode. A fatality is defined as person killed immediately or within 30 days of the crash, as a result of injuries sustained in the crash.

## WA annual road fatalities

	Metropolitan	Regional	WA
2013	88	73	161
2014	80	102	182
2015	74	87	161
2016	76	120	196
2017	69	91	160
2018	61	98	159
2019	65	99	164
2020	62	93	155
2021	67	99	166
2022	63	112	175

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## Fatalities by Police region

Police region	2021	5 Year Average (5YA)	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
<b>Regional</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>17%</b>
Goldfields-Esperance	14	9.4	18	91%
Great Southern	25	19.2	18	-6%
Kimberley	4	7.8	11	41%
Mid West-Gascoyne	9	11.2	10	-11%
Pilbara	5	5.6	6	7%
South West	24	25.0	28	12%
Wheatbelt	18	17.8	21	18%
<b>Metropolitan</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>-3%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Fatalities by urban or rural crash location

Crash location	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
<b>Urban</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>3%</b>
Metro urban	62	59.2	57	-4%
Regional urban	17	12.8	17	33%
<b>Rural</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88.8</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>14%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

Urban and rural classifications are derived by mapping crash locations to the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Significant Urban Areas (SUA). 'Metro urban' includes those crash locations in the Perth SUA. All other SUAs are classified as 'Regional urban'.

## Fatalities by age

Age	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
0-16	12	8.8	8	-9%
17-19	6	8.6	12	40%
20-29	40	36.6	31	-15%
30-39	22	22.8	34	49%
40-49	18	25.2	26	3%
50-59	24	19.0	26	37%
60-69	18	15.0	18	20%
70-79	13	10.2	7	-31%
80+	13	13.6	13	-4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Age-specific fatality rate per 100,000 population

Age	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
0-16	2.0	1.5	1.3	-12%
17-19	6.5	9.2	12.6	37%
20-29	11.4	10.1	8.9	-12%
30-39	5.3	5.7	8.1	44%
40-49	5.0	7.0	7.1	0%
50-59	7.0	5.7	7.4	30%
60-69	6.3	5.5	6.1	11%
70-79	6.7	5.8	3.5	-41%
80+	12.5	14.3	11.9	-17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>4%</b>

Population counts were derived from Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022). Regional population by age and sex, August 2022. Retrieved from < <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/regional-population-age-and-sex/latest-release> >.

## Fatalities by sex

Sex	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Female	38	38.2	44	15%
Male	128	122.6	131	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Fatalities by road user type

Road user type	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Motor vehicle occupant	107	111.0	122	10%
Motorcyclist	34	29.2	33	13%
Pedestrian*	21	16.2	16	-1%
Cyclist	4	4.4	4	-9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

\*Pedestrian may include eRideable users, skateboarders, motorised wheelchair riders, horse riders, scooter riders, etc.

## Fatalities by month

Month	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
January	25	17.0	10	-41%
February	8	10.0	7	-30%
March	11	12.6	15	19%
April	12	15.0	16	7%
May	16	12.8	10	-22%
June	12	13.2	15	14%
July	15	12.2	10	-18%
August	11	13.0	17	31%
September	18	13.4	20	49%
October	10	12.2	14	15%
November	14	14.0	17	21%
December	14	15.4	24	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Fatalities by speed limit

Speed limit	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
20	1	1.2	1	-17%
40	1	0.8	2	150%
50	20	19.0	16	-16%
60	22	20.2	28	39%
70	10	11.6	14	21%
80	16	15.4	16	4%
90	6	8.2	6	-27%
100	14	11.8	12	2%
110	69	68.8	79	15%
Not recorded	7	3.8	1	-74%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Fatalities by crash nature

Crash nature	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
<b>Single vehicle</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>105.6</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>7%</b>
Hit animal	1	1.4	3	114%
Hit object	80	63.2	84	33%
Hit parked vehicle	0	0.2	1	400%
Hit pedestrian	18	14.4	14	-3%
Non-collision	15	25.0	10	-60%
Passenger fell	1	1.4	1	-29%
<b>Multiple vehicle</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>12%</b>
Head on	15	16.0	20	25%
Indirect right angled	6	5.6	3	-46%
Rear end	8	8.6	10	16%
Right angled	18	18.4	22	20%
Sideswipe - opposite direction	0	2.8	4	43%
Sideswipe - same direction	4	2.0	1	-50%
<b>Not recorded</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>160.8</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>9%</b>

## Motor Vehicle Occupant (MVO) fatalities by seatbelt usage

Seatbelt usage	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Not worn	17	23.0	25	9%
Worn	48	56.6	46	-19%
Not recorded	42	31.4	51	62%
<b>Total MVO</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>10%</b>

## Fatalities by behavioural factor suspected

Behavioural factor suspected*	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Alcohol-related	33	34.6	38	10%
Speed-related	54	50.6	38	-25%
Fatigue-related	13	15.4	9	-42%
Inattention-related	28	26.0	21	-19%

\*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.

# Western Australian Road Fatalities 2022

## Fatalities by jurisdiction<sup>1</sup>

Jurisdiction	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Queensland	277	253.2	299	18%
New South Wales	275	329.6	288	-13%
Victoria	231	236.0	240	2%
Western Australia	166	160.8	175	9%
South Australia	99	97.2	71	-27%
Tasmania	35	33.2	50	51%
Northern Territory	35	36.6	47	28%
Australian Capital Territory	11	7.6	18	137%
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1129</b>	<b>1154.2</b>	<b>1188</b>	<b>3%</b>

1. Fatality counts for other jurisdictions were 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](https://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database) >. Population counts were sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022). National, state and territory population, Australia, December 2022. Retrieved from < <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release> >.

## Fatality rate per 100,000 population by jurisdiction<sup>1</sup>

Jurisdiction	2021	5 Year Average	2022	% Change (2022 v 5YA)
Queensland	5.3	5.0	5.6	12%
New South Wales	3.4	4.1	3.5	-14%
Victoria	3.5	3.6	3.6	1%
Western Australia	6.0	6.0	6.3	5%
South Australia	5.5	5.5	3.9	-29%
Tasmania	6.2	6.0	8.7	46%
Northern Territory	14.0	14.7	18.8	28%
Australian Capital Territory	2.4	1.7	3.9	132%
<b>Australia</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-1%</b>

1. Fatality counts for other jurisdictions were 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](https://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database) >. Population counts were sourced from Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2022). National, state and territory population, Australia, December 2022. Retrieved from < <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/population/national-state-and-territory-population/latest-release> >.

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 30 January 2023. 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.