



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development  
and Local Government

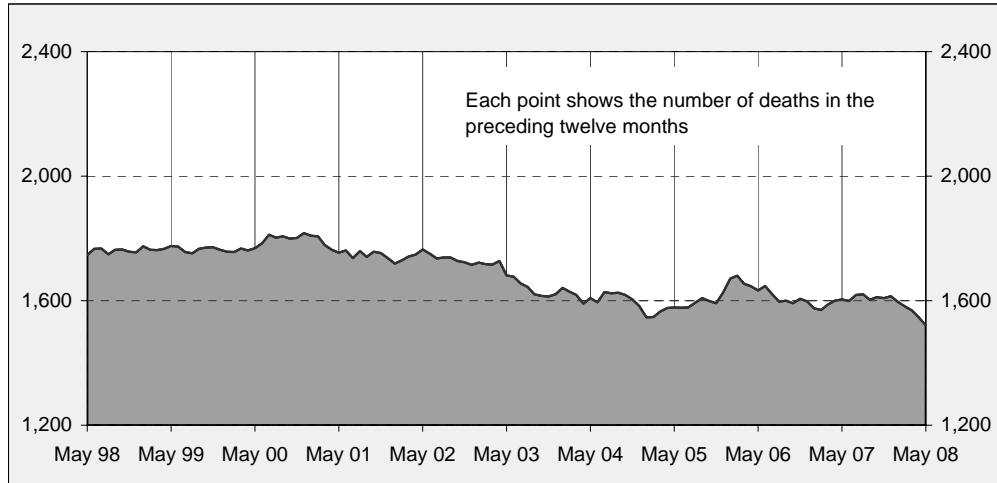
# Road Deaths Australia

## Monthly Bulletin

ISSN 1449-1168

May 2008

### Australian road deaths for 12 months to date — last 10 years



#### Inquiries

For further information about data in this bulletin, contact:

Road Safety Research and Statistics  
Road Safety Branch  
GPO Box 594,  
Canberra, ACT 2601  
Email: [roadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:roadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au)  
Internet: [www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au)

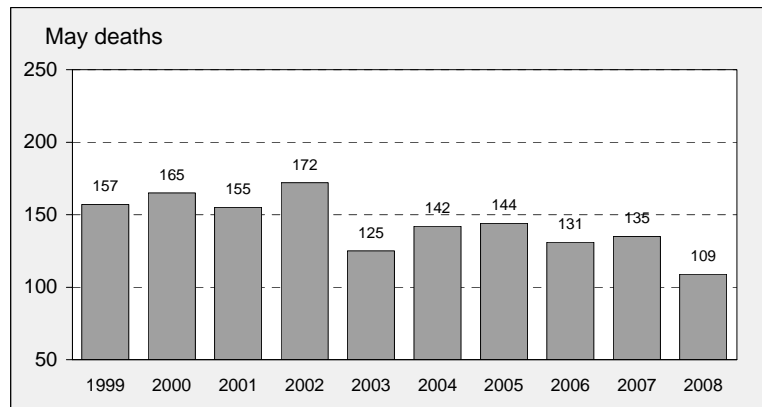
#### Data Sources

The data presented here are obtained from the following sources:

- Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW
- Vicroads
- Queensland Transport
- Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure, South Australia
- Western Australia Police
- Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, Tasmania
- Department of Planning and Infrastructure, Northern Territory
- Territory and Municipal Services, ACT

• Road deaths from recent months are preliminary and subject to revision.

### Australian road deaths for May — last 10 years



### This month's key figures

There was a total of 109 road deaths in May 2008.  
- this is an 19.3 per cent decrease from the May 2007 figure.

There have been 582 road deaths in 2008 to the end of May.  
- this is a 13.8 per cent decrease from the same 5 month period in 2007.

#### Notice :

Due to an organisational restructure, Road Safety (and publication of *Road Deaths Australia*) is now part of the Infrastructure and Surface Transport Policy Division. Redirection links will be provided on the ATSB website.

# NUMBER OF ROAD CRASH DEATHS IN EACH STATE / TERRITORY

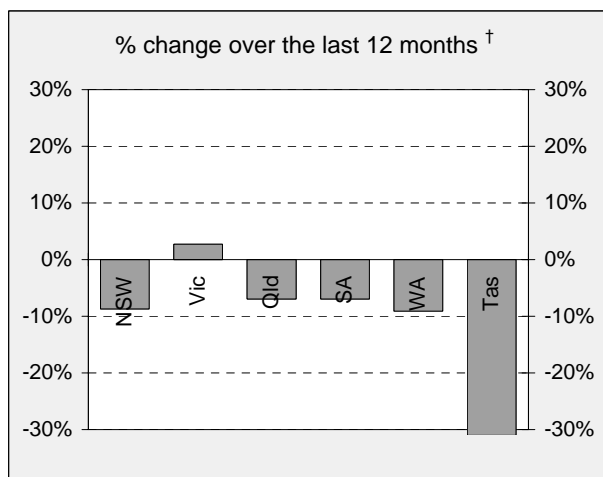
## Road deaths by State/Territory

for current month, year to date, 12 months ended May, and five year trend

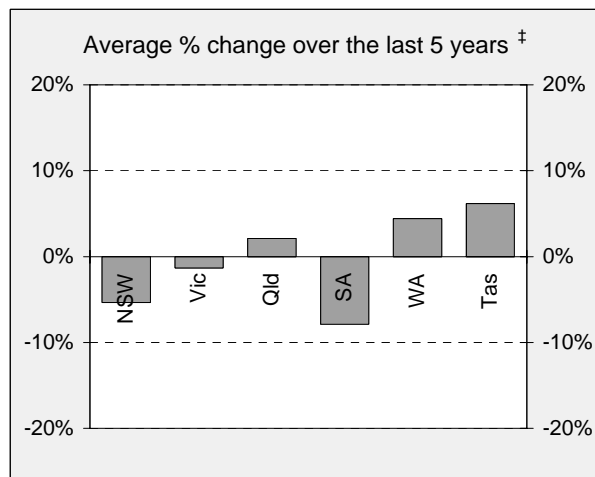
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
<b>Current month</b>									
May 2008	25	25	21	6	17	3	10	2	109
May 2007	33	26	41	8	21	2	3	1	135
% change	-24.2	-3.8	-48.8	-25.0	-19.0	50.0	233.3	100.0	-19.3
<b>Year to date</b>									
Jan 2008 - May 2008	149	138	127	36	80	22	24	6	582
Jan 2007 - May 2007	188	129	153	53	105	27	14	6	675
% change	-20.7	7.0	-17.0	-32.1	-23.8	-18.5	71.4	0.0	-13.8
<b>12-months to date</b>									
Jun 2007 - May 2008	409	341	334	107	210	40	66	14	1,521
Jun 2006 - May 2007	448	332	359	115	231	58	45	16	1,604
Difference	-39	9	-25	-8	-21	-18	21	-2	-83
% change	-8.7	2.7	-7.0	-7.0	-9.1	-31.0	46.7	-12.5	-5.2
<b>Average annual % change over 5 years<sup>a</sup></b>									
YE May 2003 to YE May 2008	-5.3	-1.3	2.1	-7.9	4.4	6.2	2.2	7.2	-1.3

<sup>a</sup> This represents the average annual exponential change between the annual count of 5 years ago and the current annual count

## Percentage change in deaths in each State



<sup>†</sup> Percentage change between the 12-month periods



<sup>‡</sup> Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend from the year ending March 2003 to the year ending March 2008.

# NUMBER OF DEATHS IN EACH ROAD USER GROUP

## Road deaths by road user group and gender

for 12 months ended May 2008, May 2007 and five year trend

	Drivers	Passengers	Pedestrians	Motor-cyclists <sup>a</sup>	Cyclists	All road users <sup>b</sup>
<b>Males</b>						
Jun 2007 - May 2008	585	168	118	211	27	1,109
Jun 2006 - May 2007	606	184	140	226	39	1,195
% change	-3.5	-8.7	-15.7	-6.6	-30.8	-7.2
<b>Females</b>						
Jun 2007 - May 2008	158	154	74	21	3	410
Jun 2006 - May 2007	183	133	73	14	4	407
% change	-13.7	15.8	1.4	50.0	-25.0	0.7
<b>Persons<sup>c</sup></b>						
Jun 2007 - May 2008	745	322	192	232	30	1,521
Jun 2006 - May 2007	790	318	213	240	43	1,604
% change	-5.7	1.3	-9.9	-3.3	-30.2	-5.2
<b>Average annual % change over 5 years<sup>d</sup></b>						
YE May 2003 to YE May 2008	-0.5	-4.8	-3.6	4.1	-0.9	-1.3

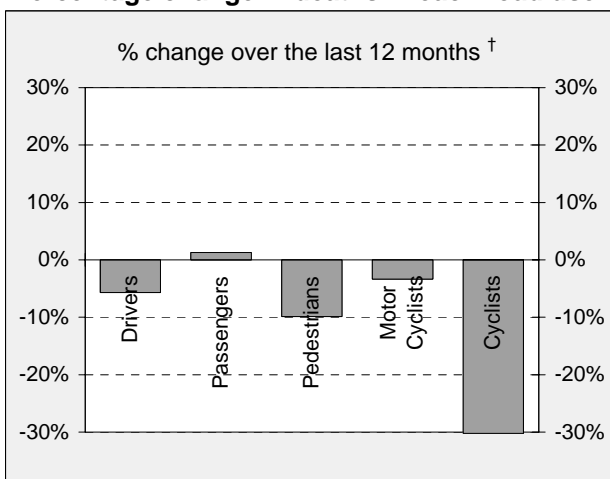
<sup>a</sup> Includes pillion passengers

<sup>b</sup> Includes road users not separately specified

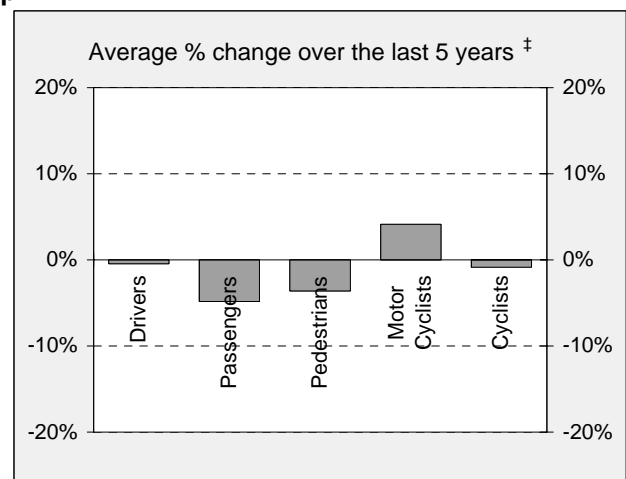
<sup>c</sup> Includes road users with unstated gender

<sup>d</sup> Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last five 12-month period.

## Percentage change in deaths in each road user group



† Percentage change between the 12-month periods of Jun 2006 - May 2007 and Jun 2007 - May 2008

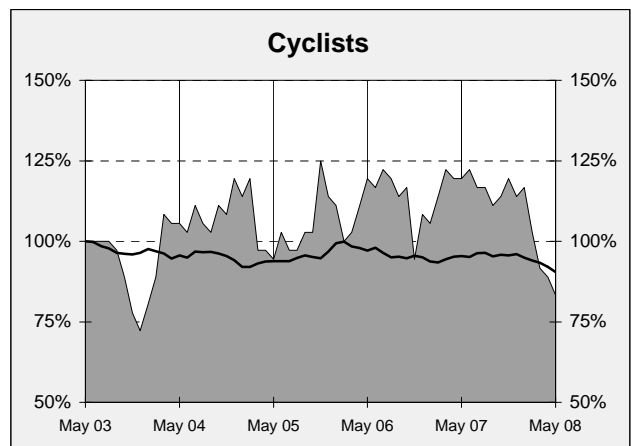
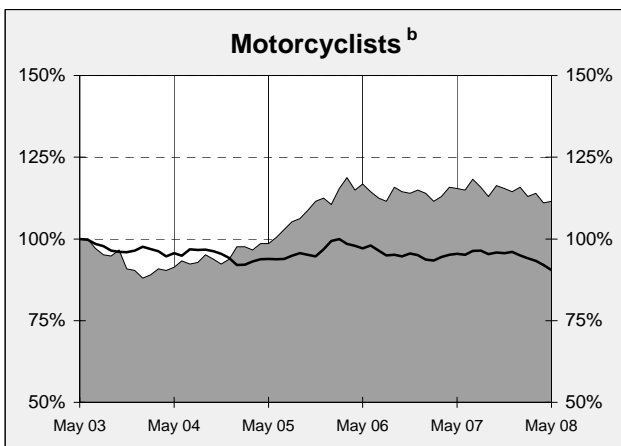
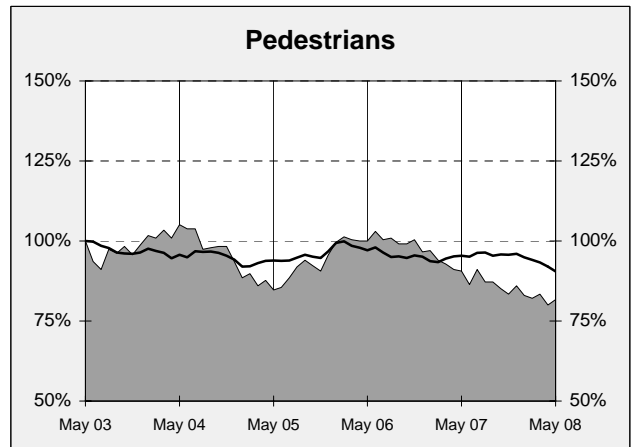
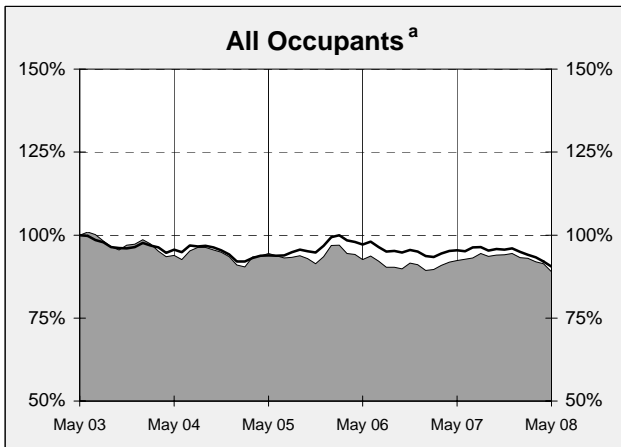
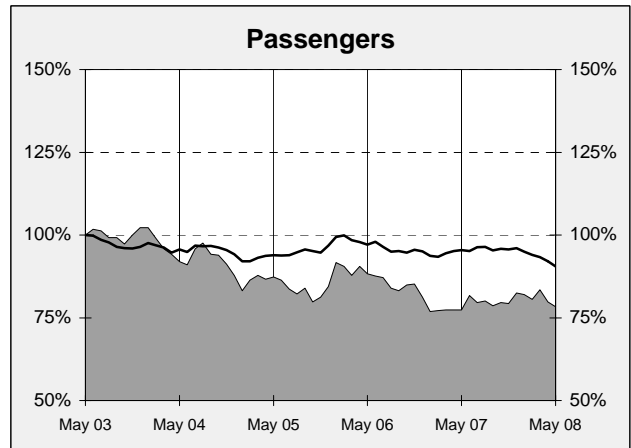
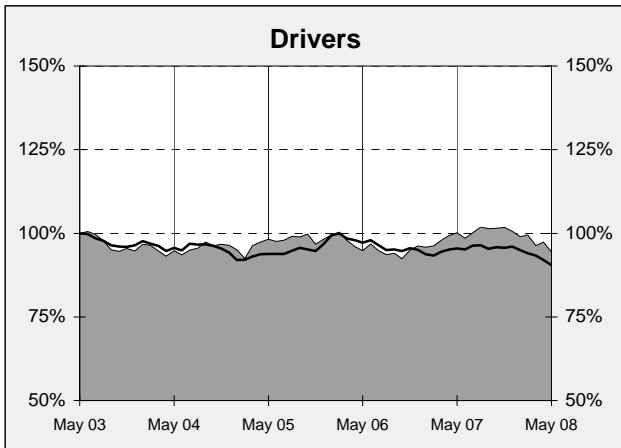
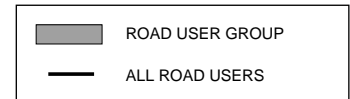


‡ Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend over the period beginning with the 12 months to Mar 03 and ending with the 12 months to Mar 08.

# DEATHS IN EACH ROAD USER GROUP - TRENDS

## Annual deaths in each road user group - last 5 years

The number shown at each month represents the number of deaths in the preceding 12 months expressed as a percentage of the number of deaths in the 12 months to May 2003.



a Comprises drivers and passengers

b Includes pillion passengers

## NUMBER OF FATAL ROAD CRASHES IN EACH STATE / TERRITORY

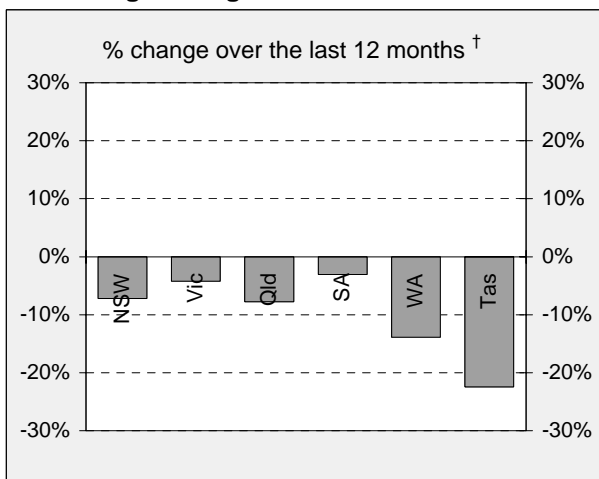
### Fatal crashes by State/Territory

for current month, year to date, 12 months ended May, and five year trend.

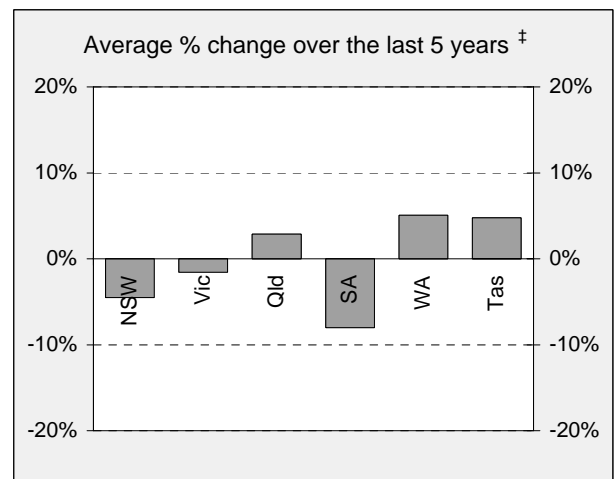
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
<b>Current month</b>									
May 2008	25	22	21	6	16	3	10	2	105
May 2007	31	24	38	7	19	2	3	1	125
% change	<b>-19.4</b>	<b>-8.3</b>	<b>-44.7</b>	<b>-14.3</b>	<b>-15.8</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>233.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-16.0</b>
<b>Year to date</b>									
Jan 2008 - May 2008	143	125	113	33	71	21	24	6	536
Jan 2007 - May 2007	175	119	142	45	99	22	13	6	621
% change	<b>-18.3</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>-20.4</b>	<b>-26.7</b>	<b>-28.3</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-13.7</b>
<b>12 months to date</b>									
Jun 2007 - May 2008	386	295	309	95	186	38	57	14	1,380
Jun 2006 - May 2007	416	308	335	98	216	49	41	15	1,478
% change	<b>-7.2</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>-7.8</b>	<b>-3.1</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>-22.4</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>-6.6</b>
<b>Average annual % change over 5 years<sup>a</sup></b>									
YE May 2003 to YE May 2008	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>-8.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>-0.8</b>

<sup>a</sup> Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last five 12-month periods

### Percentage change in fatal crashes in each State



† Percentage change between the 12-month periods



‡ Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend from the year ending March 2003 to the year ending March 2008.

## FATAL CRASHES INVOLVING TRUCKS OR BUSES

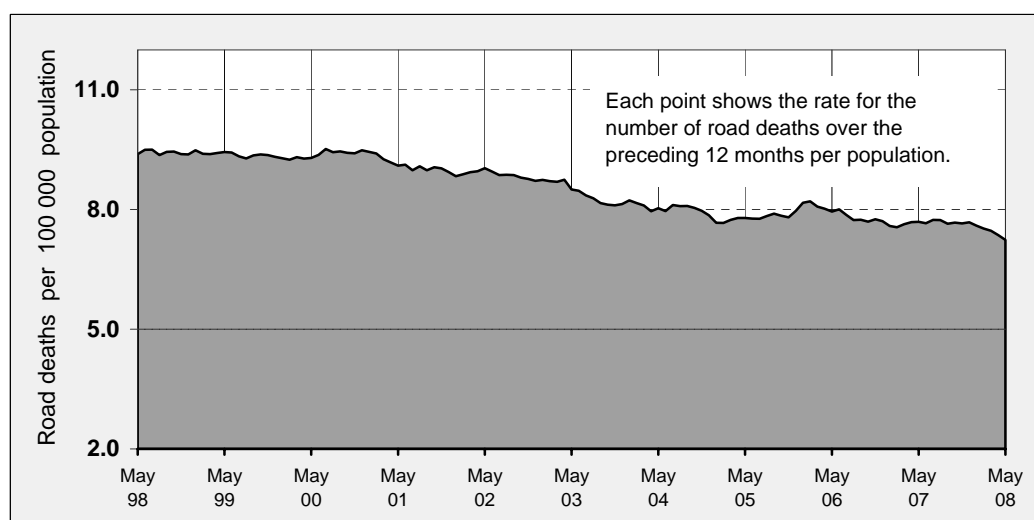
Analysis of fatal crashes involving heavy vehicles is now published in a separate quarterly bulletin

## ROAD DEATH RATES

### Road deaths per 100 000 population

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
<b>12-months to date</b>									
Jun 2007 - May 2008	5.9	6.5	7.9	6.8	9.9	8.1	30.6	4.1	7.2
Jun 2006 - May 2007	6.5	6.4	8.7	7.3	11.1	11.8	21.2	4.8	7.7
<b>Calendar year</b>									
2007	6.5	6.4	8.6	7.8	11.2	9.1	26.0	4.1	7.7
2002	8.5	8.2	8.7	10.1	9.3	7.8	27.6	3.1	8.7

### Australian road deaths per year per 100 000 population - moving 12-monthly data



## CHARACTERISTICS OF FATAL CRASHES

Proportion (per cent) of fatal crashes by speed limit, crash type, time of day, and time of week. Two years ended May 2008 and two years ended May 2003

	Speed limit (km/h) <sup>a</sup>			Time of Day	
	Up to 60	65-95	100+	Day	Night <sup>b</sup>
Jun 2006 - May 2008	31.2%	22.3%	46.5%	56.5%	43.5%
Jun 2001 - May 2003	32.0%	21.4%	46.6%	55.9%	44.1%
	Crash Type			Time of week	
	Pedestrian crash	Other single veh. Crash	Other multiple veh. crash	Week day	Week-end <sup>c</sup>
Jun 2006 - May 2008	14.1%	47.0%	38.9%	58.5%	41.5%
Jun 2001 - May 2003	16.6%	43.8%	39.6%	59.4%	40.6%

<sup>a</sup> Excludes ACT

<sup>b</sup> 6:00 pm to 5:59 am

<sup>c</sup> 6:00 pm Friday to 5:59 am Monday

# ROAD DEATHS BY AGE, GENDER AND ROAD USER GROUP

## Road deaths by age and gender

for 12 months ended May 2008 and May 2007

	0-16 years	17-20 years	21-25 years	26-39 years	40-59 years	60+ years	All deaths <sup>a</sup>
<b>Males</b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	53	147	152	292	283	178	1,109
Jun 2006 - May 2007	63	166	153	333	280	197	1,195
% change	-15.9	-11.4	-0.7	-12.3	1.1	-9.6	-7.2
<b>Females</b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	47	38	39	76	102	104	410
Jun 2006 - May 2007	40	51	46	69	94	106	407
% change	17.5	-25.5	-15.2	10.1	8.5	-1.9	0.7
<b>Persons<sup>b</sup></b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	101	185	191	368	385	282	1,521
Jun 2006 - May 2007	105	217	199	402	374	303	1,604
% change	-3.8	-14.7	-4.0	-8.5	2.9	-6.9	-5.2

a Includes road users with unstated age

b Includes road users with unstated gender

## Road deaths by age for each main road user group

	0-16 years	17-20 years	21-25 years	26-39 years	40-59 years	60+ years	All deaths <sup>a</sup>
<b>Occupants<sup>b</sup></b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	72	153	134	241	255	206	1,067
Jun 2006 - May 2007	68	179	143	267	237	211	1,108
% change	5.9	-14.5	-6.3	-9.7	7.6	-2.4	-3.7
<b>Motorcyclists<sup>c</sup></b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	6	21	37	83	71	14	232
Jun 2006 - May 2007	7	19	40	89	73	12	240
% change	-14.3	10.5	-7.5	-6.7	-2.7	16.7	-3.3
<b>Pedestrians</b>							
Jun 2007 - May 2008	18	10	18	39	46	58	192
Jun 2006 - May 2007	21	17	14	38	48	74	213
% change	-14.3	-41.2	28.6	2.6	-4.2	-21.6	-9.9

a Includes road users with unstated age

b Comprises drivers and passengers

c Includes pillion passengers

## 1. 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, and the death occurred within 30 days from injuries sustained in the crash. If it is determined that a crash was deliberate (for example suicide), the crash and deaths are excluded from this bulletin.

Road deaths from recent months are preliminary and subject to revision.

## 2. Other sources for the tables in this bulletin

The underlying database used to produce this bulletin is available for online querying and data extraction at

[http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/safety/road\\_fatality\\_statistics/fatal\\_road\\_crash\\_database.aspx](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/roads/safety/road_fatality_statistics/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx)

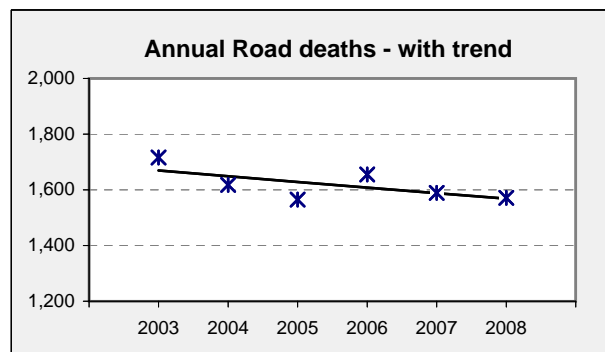
## 3. Estimation of five year trends

In this bulletin, the figures for the 'Average annual % change over 5 years' are calculated by fitting an exponential trend line to the last six data points (years 0 to 5).

The Excel function `—logest—` performs the fit. The resulting trend line represents a constant annual percent change over the period. An example is given below :

Example : Average Annual Change in Road Deaths

Road deaths - year ended March			
	A	B	% Change
0	2003	1,716	
1	2004	1,618	-5.7%
2	2005	1,565	-3.3%
3	2006	1,655	5.8%
4	2007	1,589	-4.0%
5	2008	1,571	-1.1%
Average =			-1.2%



Average annual growth =  $\text{Index}(\text{Logest}(B1:B6, A1:A6), 1) - 1 = -1.2\%$