

Reported Road Casualties Scotland 2024 - Key Findings Report

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Introduction

Information in this report is based on the Reported Road Casualties, Transport Scotland's annual National Statistics publication on injury road collisions in Scotland.

These statistics are based on information Police Scotland collect for road collisions where someone has been injured or killed. Collisions in which there are no injuries, or collisions not reported to the police are therefore not included in these figures.

A casualty is someone who was injured or killed in a collision. Depending on the severity of the injury, Police Scotland classifies the casualty as killed, seriously injured or slightly injured.

The statistics in the publication are used by Transport Scotland, Police Scotland, Local Authorities and road safety professionals to target interventions to make Scotland's roads safer.



Number of casualties

There were 5,734 road casualties reported in 2024. This is 100 or 2% lower than 2023, and a decrease of 48% compared to 2015.

This is the first yearly fall in the total number of casualties since 2020, the first year of the pandemic.

The Department for Transport (DfT) [estimate](#) that motor traffic volume has increased in Scotland each year since 2020, with a 2% increase in 2024. Traffic levels are now 1% higher than pre-pandemic levels (2019).

Total number of casualties, 2015 - 2024.



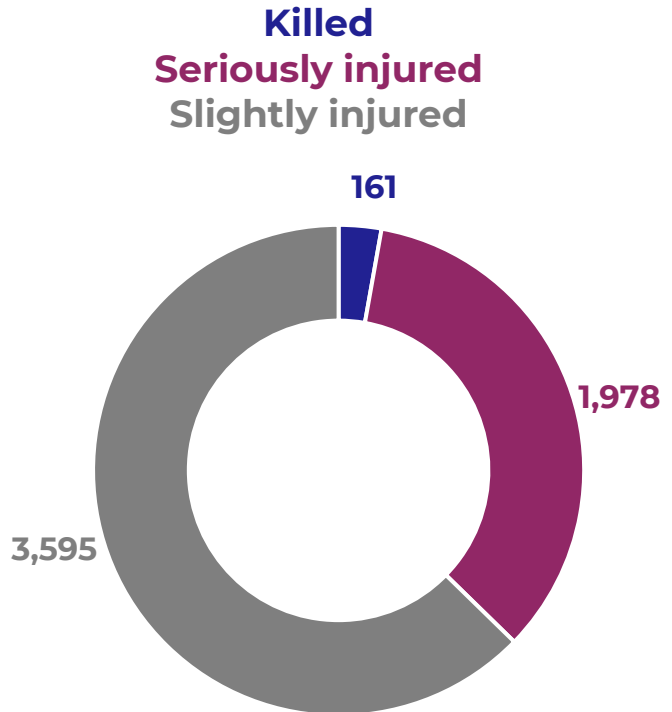
The number of casualties recorded in 2024 is the fourth lowest since annual records began in 1950.

Casualties by severity

In 2024, 161 people were killed, 1,978 people were seriously injured and 3,595 people were slightly injured in road collisions.

There were 495 child casualties reported in 2024, representing 9% of all casualties. Three children were killed, and 160 children were seriously injured.

Road casualties by severity, 2024



The number of people seriously injured rose by 1% and the number of people slightly injured fell by 4%.

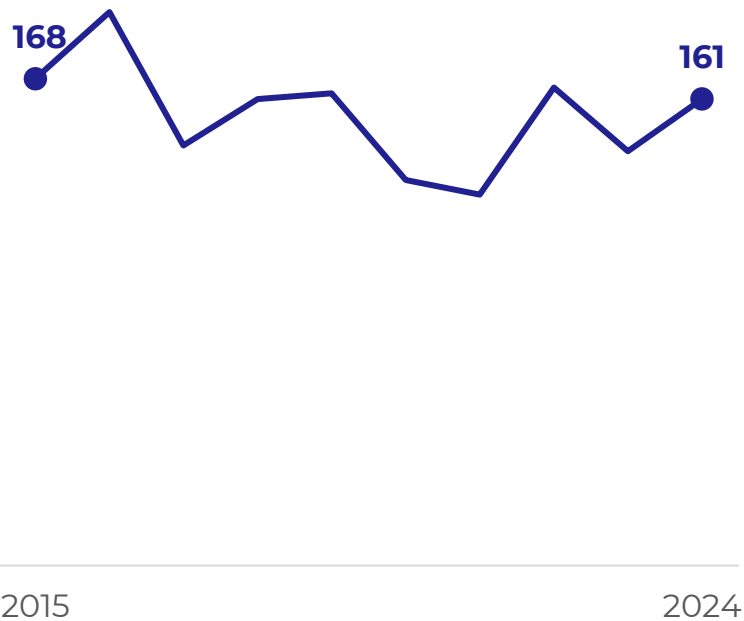
Number of people killed

In 2024, the number of people killed rose by 18, from 143 to 161.

This compares with 168 fatalities a decade ago.

Prior to recent years, there had been a long-term downward trend in fatalities. Since 2000, the number of people killed has decreased by 51%.

Total number of people killed, 2015 - 2024.

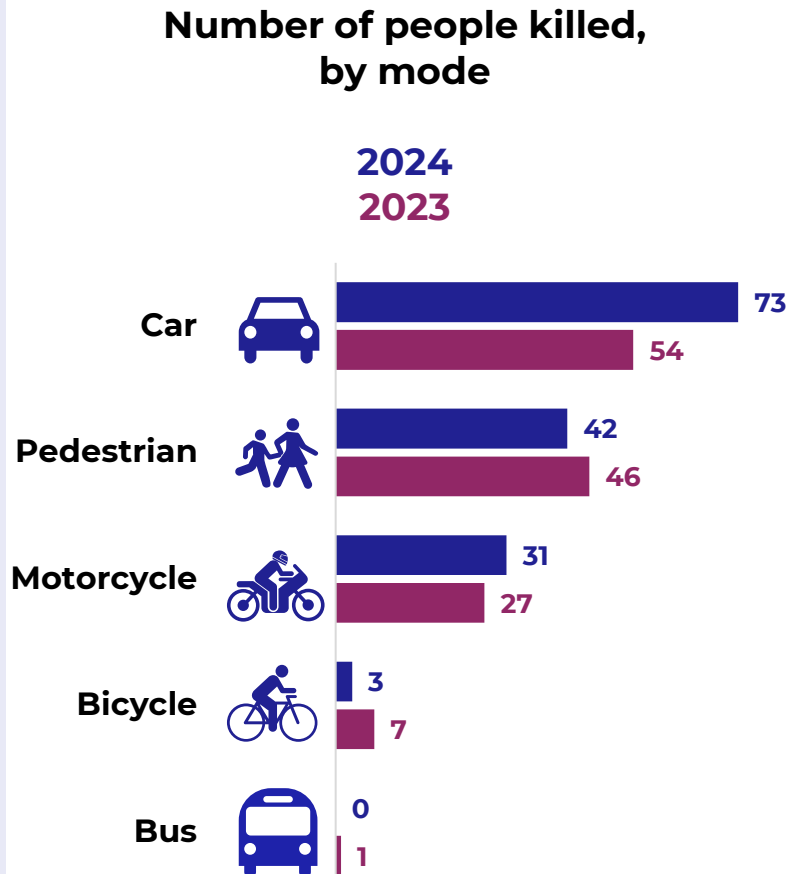


The number of people killed in 2024 is the fifth lowest since records began.

Casualties by mode

Car was the mode of transport with the highest number of casualties (3,412), and the highest number of people killed (73), followed by pedestrians (899 casualties, 42 killed).

Compared to last year, the total reported casualties increased very slightly for cars (up 0.1%) but fell for pedestrians (down 5%), pedal cyclists (down 2%), and motorcycles (down 5%).



Compared to 2023, the number of people killed decreased for pedestrians and pedal cyclists but increased for motor cyclists and cars.

Assessment of 2030 targets

Scotland's Road Safety Framework sets out the vision for road safety in Scotland. It includes specific casualty reduction targets to be achieved by 2030.

To illustrate the reductions necessary, the following table shows the figures for the 2014-2018 baseline period, the latest position, and the eventual target levels.



Target description	2014-2018 average	2024	2030 target
People killed (50% reduction)	174	161	87
People seriously injured* (50% reduction)	2,727	1,978	1,364
Children (aged < 16) killed (3 year average) (60% reduction)	6	4	3
Children (aged < 16) seriously injured * (60% reduction)	259	160	155

* Please note that due to changes in severity recording, the number of seriously and slightly injured people cannot be directly compared to those reported in previous years. Progress against these targets has been calculated on the basis of adjusted figures provided by the Department for Transport.

International comparisons

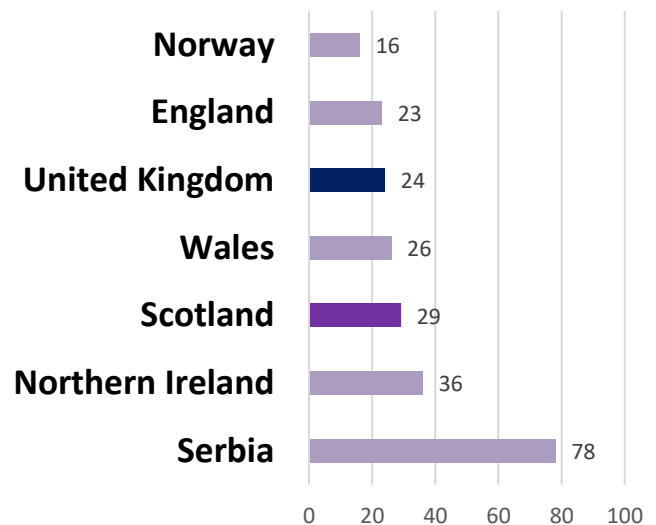
According to provisional comparisons, in 2024 Scotland had the ninth lowest rate of people killed in road collisions out of a list of 37 comparable countries.

In Scotland, 29 people were killed for every million people in the population. This figure was higher than for the United Kingdom as a whole, where 24 people were killed for every million people in the population.

The list of countries with comparable road casualty figures includes most European countries and selected developed countries Worldwide.

Of the countries compared, Norway had the lowest number of road deaths per million population (16), whereas Serbia had the highest (78).

Number of people killed per million population 2024 (provisional), selected countries



The number of people killed as a proportion of the population has historically been higher in Scotland than in the UK as a whole.

Key Resources

Key Reported Road Casualties Scotland presents provisional annual headline figures for road casualties reported to the police in Scotland. It is usually published in May.

Reported Road Casualties Scotland presents the final annual figures for road casualties reported to the police in Scotland. This publication also provides detailed statistics and analysis on the circumstances of road casualties. It is usually published in October.

Both publications are available on the [Transport Scotland](#) website. The website also provides more information about [Transport Scotland's approach](#) to maintaining and improving road safety.



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