

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Valdis Juskevics on Canberra 526068 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CASUALTIES, JUNE QUARTER 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

Introduction

This statement contains preliminary details of road traffic accidents involving casualties which occurred in each State and Territory of Australia during the three months ended 30 June 1976. Comparative details for earlier periods are also shown. This statement will be followed at a later date by the bulletin *Road Traffic Accidents Involving Casualties* (Reference No. 14.9) which will give information in greater detail.

Seasonally adjusted

2. Seasonally adjusted statistics of road traffic accidents involving casualties, persons killed and persons injured, are shown in this statement. Because of the irregular nature of the data, caution should be exercised in interpreting quarter to quarter movements. Details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting these and other series, are given in *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators 1976* (Reference No. 1.10).

Scope

3. Since January 1970 monthly statements of road accident fatalities in each State and Territory have been issued by this Bureau. Quarterly statements of road traffic accidents are issued for the States of Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania by the respective Deputy Commonwealth Statisticians, for the Northern Territory by this office, and for the Australian Capital Territory by the Department of the Capital Territory. Particulars of road traffic accidents classified according to 'Type of road user responsible' and 'Cause of accident' are shown only in statements for South Australia and Tasmania. Separate publications relating to road traffic accidents are not published by the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician in New South Wales but selected quarterly figures for this State are published in the New South Wales Statistical Bulletin.

4. Details of road traffic accidents involving casualties relate to accidents which were reported to the police and which satisfy the following conditions -

- (a) that the accident occurred on any road, street, thoroughfare, etc., open to the public, including railway level crossing;
- (b) that it involved a road vehicle which at the time of the accident was in motion; and
- (c) that the accident resulted in -
 - (i) the death of any person within a period of 30 days of the accident; or
 - (ii) bodily injury to any person to an extent requiring surgical or medical treatment.

5. Accident report forms containing details of approximately 900 accidents which occurred in New South Wales mainly during the June quarter 1975 and in which some 980 motor cyclists (including pillion riders) were injured are not included in the June quarter 1975 figures as they were supplied to the Bureau as part of data referring to the September quarter 1975. Because of the difficulty of classification, these reports cannot be identified as referring to the June quarter 1975. Particulars of these accidents are therefore included in published figures for the September quarter 1975.

6. An investigation currently being undertaken by the A.B.S. into road traffic accident data supplied to it for Victoria, suggests that figures for the number of accidents, and for persons injured may have been understated for 1974 and 1975. Investigations are continuing to determine the level of understatement and whether prior periods are also affected.

Symbols used

- p - preliminary
- r - revised

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CASUALTIES

Australia										Seasonally adjusted
Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Original	
NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS										
Year —										
1973	29,308	14,485	8,643	9,267	5,404	1,479	711	854	70,151	..
1974	29,853	12,542	8,086	9,469	4,742	1,393	575	813	67,473	..
1975	28,217	12,514	8,241	8,793	5,104	1,496	554	869	65,788	..
Quarter ended —										
March 1975	7,045	3,048	1,908	2,150	1,108	377	113	211	15,960	16,454
June 1975	6,182	3,149	2,033	2,240	1,324	397	141	247	15,713	15,895
September 1975	(a) 7,669	2,904	2,139	2,110	1,334	351	147	202	(a) 16,856	(a) 16,837
December 1975	7,321	3,413	2,161	2,293	1,338	371	153	209	17,259	16,578
March 1976	6,743	r3,053	1,836	2,031	1,241	405	110	208	r15,627	r16,091
June 1976	6,823	3,076	2,047	1,859	1,294	375	171	199	15,844	16,060
NUMBER OF FATAL ACCIDENTS										
Year —										
1973	1,082	806	553	276	332	97	50	29	3,225	..
1974	1,121	739	515	342	303	98	41	30	3,189	..
1975	1,150	r784	553	310	259	108	50	32	r3,246	..
Quarter ended —										
March 1975	306	192	117	81	67	30	8	6	807	..
June 1975	289	217	130	89	71	30	13	9	848	..
September 1975	279	180	158	57	53	22	4	7	770	..
December 1975	276	r195	148	83	68	26	15	10	r821	..
March 1976	241	r210	97	86	64	25	8	6	r737	..
June 1976	299	209	122	59	58	25	13	7	792	..
PERSONS KILLED										
Year —										
1973	1,230	935	638	329	358	105	55	29	3,679	..
1974	1,275	806	589	382	334	111	44	31	3,572	..
1975	1,288	910	635	339	304	122	64	32	3,694	..
Quarter ended —										
March 1975	332	219	140	88	78	36	9	6	908	947
June 1975	318	264	143	98	74	35	18	9	959	939
September 1975	320	201	190	60	68	23	20	7	889	899
December 1975	318	226	162	93	84	28	17	10	938	909
March 1976	263	r245	114	100	79	31	9	8	r849	r884
June 1976	341	226	134	64	66	25	13	7	876	858
PERSONS INJURED										
Year —										
1973	39,294	20,011	11,660	12,625	7,377	2,103	1,012	1,122	95,204	..
1974	40,429	17,539	10,627	12,725	6,277	1,911	788	1,042	91,338	..
1975	38,141	17,437	11,019	12,020	6,832	2,137	789	1,124	89,499	..
Quarter ended —										
March 1975	9,594	4,383	2,643	2,937	1,529	537	158	280	22,061	22,533
June 1975	8,388	4,275	2,693	3,016	1,750	586	206	319	21,233	21,605
September 1975	(a) 10,086	3,963	2,812	2,906	1,810	483	209	256	(a) 22,527	(a) 22,742
December 1975	10,073	4,816	2,871	3,161	1,743	529	216	269	23,678	22,585
March 1976	9,249	r4,339	2,559	2,854	1,675	639	133	291	r21,739	r22,181
June 1976	9,215	4,279	2,708	2,484	1,704	507	238	270	21,405	21,821

(a) See paragraph 5 on page 1.