

JUNE 1977

**ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CASUALTIES, JUNE QUARTER 1977
(PRELIMINARY)**

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics —

- ring Mr Valdis Juskevics, Canberra 526068 or our State Office, or*
- write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.*

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

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 1977. 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* (Catalogue No. 9403.0. Previously Ref. 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 1977* (Catalogue No 1308.0. Previously Ref. No. 1.10)

Scope

3. 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.

4. The statistics in this bulletin are compiled from accident reports which are prepared by police officers in the various States and Territories.

5. Australian totals of the number of accidents which involved vehicle damage only are not available as these details are not compiled in all States.

6. Investigations recently conducted by the ABS have revealed that, in spite of the requirement for accidents involving casualties to be reported to the police, some casualty accidents, for the most part involving less severe injuries, have not in fact been reported. In addition, procedural changes adopted in recent years have led to a decrease in the number of accidents being included in the reporting system. Precise measurement of the extent to which these factors have influenced the statistics has not been possible, but they are likely to have operated to a varying degree in all States and Territories. This should be noted when using these statistics for the analysis of trends.

Related publications

Other ABS publications which may be of interest include :

Road Accident Fatalities (Catalogue No. 9401.0. Previously Ref. No. 14.13)(m)

Road Traffic Accidents Involving Casualties (Catalogue No. 9403.0. Previously Ref. No. 14.9)(q)

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (Catalogue No. 1101.0 Previously Ref. No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- p — preliminary
- r — revised

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Australian Statistician

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CASUALTIES

									Australia	
Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Original	Seasonally adjusted
NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS										
Year -										
1974	29,853	12,542	8,086	9,469	4,742	1,393	575	813	67,473	..
1975	28,217	(a)12,514	8,241	8,793	5,104	1,496	554	869	65,788	..
1976	27,393	12,680	7,814	8,090	5,286	1,603	582	833	64,281	..
Quarter ended -										
March 1976	6,743	3,068	1,836	2,031	1,241	405	110	208	15,642	16,237
June 1976	6,823	3,139	2,047	1,859	1,294	375	171	199	15,907	16,016
September 1976	6,569	2,916	1,934	2,065	1,340	390	145	180	15,539	15,603
December 1976	7,258	3,557	1,997	2,135	1,411	433	156	246	17,193	16,406
March 1977	6,448	3,108	1,771	1,889	1,255	339	130	187	15,127	15,707
June 1977 p	6,930	3,210	1,907	1,912	1,396	444	176	232	16,207	16,330
NUMBER OF FATAL ACCIDENTS										
Year -										
1974	1,121	739	515	342	303	98	41	30	3,189	..
1975	1,150	784	553	310	259	108	50	32	3,246	..
1976	1,119	828	497	277	255	97	48	33	3,154	..
Quarter ended -										
March 1976	241	210	97	86	64	25	8	6	737	..
June 1976	299	209	122	59	58	25	13	7	792	..
September 1976	288	187	119	68	66	21	18	12	779	..
December 1976	291	222	159	64	67	26	9	8	846	..
March 1977	264	204	110	78	65	18	4	4	747	..
June 1977 p	269	198	125	76	63	23	17	9	780	..
PERSONS KILLED										
Year -										
1974	1,275	806	589	382	334	111	44	31	3,572	..
1975	1,288	910	635	339	304	122	64	32	3,694	..
1976	1,264	938	569	307	308	108	51	38	3,583	..
Quarter ended -										
March 1976	263	245	114	100	79	31	9	8	849	882
June 1976	341	226	134	64	66	25	13	7	876	865
September 1976	334	212	139	73	84	22	20	15	899	913
December 1976	326	255	182	70	79	30	9	8	959	922
March 1977	307	227	131	89	75	23	4	4	860	893
June 1977 p	312	223	135	88	72	28	19	9	886	876
PERSONS INJURED										
Year -										
1974	40,429	17,539	10,627	12,725	6,277	1,911	788	1,042	91,338	..
1975	38,141	(a)17,437	11,019	12,020	6,832	2,137	789	1,124	89,499	..
1976	37,327	17,653	10,405	11,082	7,058	2,323	814	1,145	87,807	..
Quarter ended -										
March 1976	9,249	4,360	2,559	2,854	1,675	639	133	291	21,760	22,296
June 1976	9,215	4,367	2,708	2,484	1,704	507	238	270	21,493	21,812
September 1976	8,855	3,928	2,488	2,871	1,742	559	221	244	20,908	21,260
December 1976	10,008	4,998	2,650	2,873	1,937	618	222	340	23,646	22,401
March 1977	8,984	3,856	2,306	2,512	1,694	477	178	234	20,241	20,740
June 1977 p	9,446	4,021	2,496	2,621	1,816	660	222	322	21,604	21,939

(a) Late advice of 111 accidents involving 149 injuries which occurred in Victoria during 1975 has recently been received by the ABS. These accidents represent approximately 0.9% of all casualty accidents occurring in Victoria during 1975 and 0.2% of casualty accidents in Australia during the same period. Corresponding figures for the 149 injuries which occurred as a result of these accidents are 0.8% and 0.2% respectively. As the overall effect of these accidents and injuries on figures previously published for Victoria and Australia is negligible, it has been decided not to revise them. However further information about these accidents is available on request from the Victorian office of the ABS.