

**ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FATALITIES, AUSTRALIA  
MAY 1990**

PHONE INQUIRIES

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• *write to Information Services*, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.

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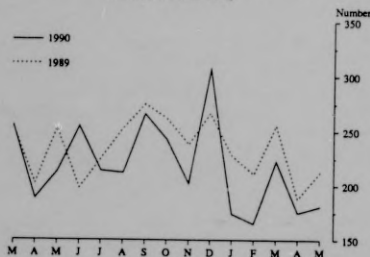
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MAIN FEATURES

PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS, AUSTRALIA  
Monthly, 15 months to May



Road accident deaths in Australia continue at a record low level. The 181 deaths recorded in May was the lowest total for that month since the series began in 1970, continuing the trend evident so far this year. This total represents a decrease of 15.0% from May 1989 (213) but an increase of 3.4% over the total for April 1990 (175).

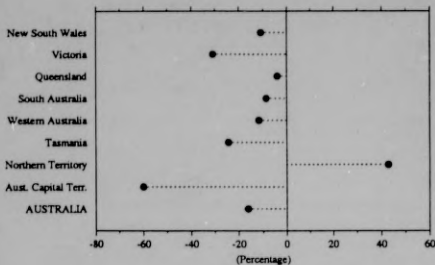
In the year to date, 178 fewer persons have been killed on Australian roads than for the same period last year. This is the lowest number of deaths for any five month period since the series began.

The total number of fatal accidents on our roads showed a similar drop. The 160 accidents in May represented a 15.8% drop on the same month last year (190) but an increase of 0.6% over the previous month (159).

PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS, AUSTRALIA  
During May each year

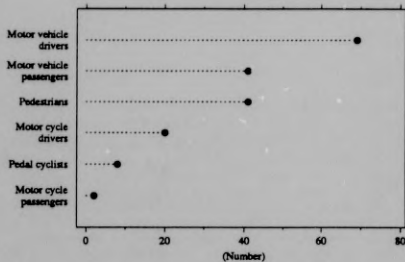


PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS: PERCENTAGE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN THE FIVE MONTHS ENDED MAY 1989 AND 1990



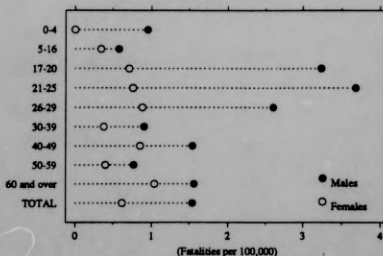
Comparing the five months ended May 1990 with the same period in 1989, only the Northern Territory recorded an increase (from 21 to 30) in the number of fatalities. Decreases were recorded in all States and the Australian Capital Territory.

PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS:  
TYPE OF ROAD USER INVOLVED, MAY 1990



Of the 181 persons killed in road accidents in May 1990, drivers of motor vehicles accounted for 69 (38.1%), passengers in motor vehicles 41 (22.7%), pedestrians 41 (22.7%), drivers of motor cycles 20 (11.0%), pedal cyclists 8 (4.4%) and motor cycle passengers 2 (1.1%).

PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS, BY AGE AND SEX,  
PER 100,000 OF POPULATION WITHIN EACH GROUP, MAY 1990  
(Preliminary estimated resident population at 31 Dec. 1989)



Fatality rates in May 1990 were highest amongst males in the 17-25 age range. Overall, the rate for males was more than double that for females.

TABLE 1. PERSONS KILLED IN ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
<i>Year—</i>									
1984	1,037	657	505	232	220	83	50	37	2,821
1985	1,067	683	502	268	243	78	67	33	2,941
1986	1,029	668	481	288	228	91	71	32	2,888
1987	959	705	442	256	213	77	84	36	2,772
1988	1,037	701	539	222	229	75	51	32	2,886
1989	r960	771	r428	219	242	80	61	34	r2,795
<i>1989—</i>									
March	82	80	42	18	20	8	3	3	256
April	45	59	24	23	14	5	10	8	188
May	77	67	31	12	15	7	4	—	213
June	97	72	27	19	21	10	7	2	255
July	75	52	42	9	22	6	7	1	214
August	64	65	32	15	22	7	4	3	r266
September	r93	81	36	19	23	6	4	4	r243
October	r96	50	41	26	21	1	4	4	r243
November	69	39	51	13	17	5	6	2	202
December	124	65	r48	25	30	4	8	3	r307
<i>1990 p—</i>									
January	52	48	23	16	16	8	r9	2	r174
February	r52	44	28	16	14	9	2	—	r165
March	88	55	32	20	13	7	7	1	223
April	r57	r38	r30	15	r24	6	5	—	r175
May	56	55	32	18	9	1	7	3	181
<i>Five months ended—</i>									
May 1989	342	347	151	93	86	41	21	15	1,096
May 1990p	305	240	145	85	76	31	30	6	918

TABLE 2. FATAL ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
<i>Year—</i>									
1984	910	584	448	205	203	77	45	35	2,507
1985	954	605	452	239	219	69	59	30	2,627
1986	908	610	421	259	208	78	63	30	2,577
1987	858	626	400	230	193	67	80	33	2,487
1988	912	615	483	204	199	68	46	32	2,559
1989	r783	678	r376	199	213	68	57	28	r2,402
<i>1989—</i>									
March	72	73	33	16	18	7	3	3	225
April	40	54	22	19	13	5	9	4	166
May	65	61	30	10	14	7	3	—	190
June	75	63	26	17	17	8	7	2	215
July	64	51	35	9	19	5	7	1	191
August	56	53	28	14	19	6	4	2	182
September	r84	66	33	19	21	5	4	4	r236
October	r67	44	36	23	17	1	4	3	r195
November	63	34	44	13	16	5	6	2	183
December	75	58	r43	23	26	4	7	3	r239
<i>1990p—</i>									
January	43	44	19	13	16	7	r9	2	r153
February	r50	37	24	13	14	6	2	—	r146
March	77	52	28	15	13	7	6	1	199
April	r52	r35	r27	15	r21	6	3	—	r159
May	52	50	26	16	8	1	4	3	160
<i>Five months ended—</i>									
May 1989	299	309	131	81	78	34	18	11	961
May 1990p	274	218	124	72	72	27	24	6	817

TABLE 3. PERSONS KILLED : AGE GROUP AND SEX, MAY 1990 p

Age group	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
MALES									
0-4	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	6
5-16	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	1	9
17-20	4	7	4	2	1	—	1	—	19
21-25	9	5	3	3	2	—	2	—	25
26-29	5	3	2	4	—	—	—	1	15
30-39	6	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	12
40-49	6	2	4	—	1	1	3	—	17
50-59	3	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	6
60 and over	2	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	18
Not stated	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	44	36	19	12	8	1	7	2	129
FEMALES									
0-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-16	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	5
17-20	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	4
21-25	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
26-29	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	5
30-39	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	5
40-49	1	4	2	1	—	—	—	1	9
50-59	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
60 and over	6	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	15
Not stated	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	12	19	13	6	1	—	—	1	52
PERSONS									
0-4	2	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	6
5-16	4	3	4	1	1	—	—	1	14
17-20	4	8	5	4	1	—	1	—	23
21-25	9	11	3	3	2	—	2	—	30
26-29	5	6	3	5	—	—	—	—	20
30-39	6	6	6	—	3	—	—	—	17
40-49	7	6	6	1	1	1	3	1	26
50-59	4	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	9
60 and over	12	12	6	3	—	—	—	—	33
Not stated	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	56	55	32	18	9	1	7	3	181

TABLE 4. PERSONS KILLED : TYPE OF ROAD USER INVOLVED, MAY 1990 p

Type of road user involved	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Australia
Drivers of—									
Motor vehicles	17	26	15	6	3	1	1	—	69
Motor cycles	6	4	4	2	3	—	—	1	20
Passengers in/on—									
Motor vehicles	15	10	6	4	1	—	3	2	41
Motor cycles	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pedal cyclists	—	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	4
Pedestrians	18	11	3	5	1	—	3	—	41
All others	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All road users	56	55	32	18	9	1	7	3	181

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

## Introduction

This publication contains preliminary details of the number of road fatalities and fatal road traffic accidents that occurred in each State and Territory during the reference month, together with comparable figures for some earlier periods. These details have been compiled on the basis of accident report forms completed by police officers. Figures for this month, and possibly for earlier months, may be revised in future issues of this publication as additional information is received, including advices for persons not previously reported as fatalities but who die within 30 days of the date of the accident from injuries received.

## Related publications

Users may also wish to refer to the following road traffic accident publication which is available on request:

*Road Traffic Accidents Involving Casualties (Admissions to Hospitals), Australia (9405.0) — issued quarterly up to and including December 1986 (and annually thereafter).*

Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia (1101.0)*. The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice (1105.0)* which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

## Symbols and other usages

- r figure or series revised since previous issue
- p preliminary figure or series subject to revision
- nil

W. McLENNAN  
Acting Australian Statistician

