

Transport



Transport

Injury road accidents – national picture

In 2002 the government set out its target for 2010 which was to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured by 40%.

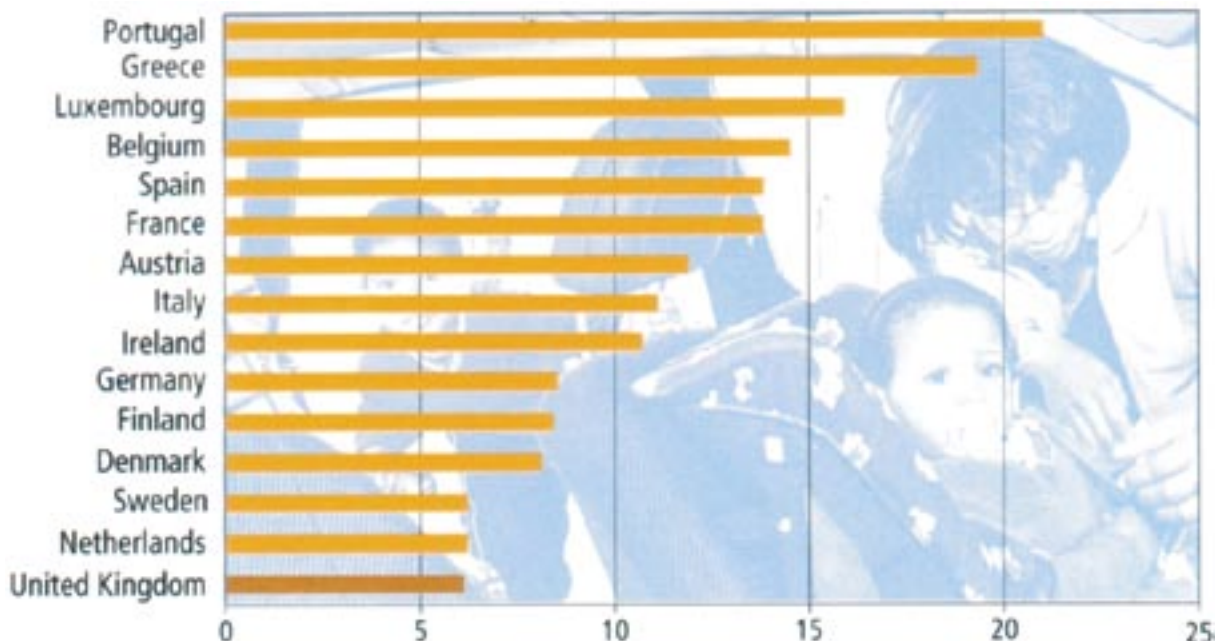
This aim is now being reflected across Europe with the EU signing up to a 50% reduction target of road deaths by 2010.

Progress (Nationally) on these targets to date :

- The number of people killed or seriously injured – down 22%
- The number of children killed or seriously injured – down 40%
- Slight casualty – down 17%.

The chart below shows that the UK has the lowest levels of road fatalities in Europe.

Research conducted by the department of Transport in 1999 revealed that many non fatal injury road accidents are not reported to the Police and when they are the severity of injury is sometimes underestimated.



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In real terms this means that injury accidents could be as much as 2.76 times higher.

- The number of accidents on British Roads decreased by approximately 3% between 2001 and 2002. This is quite a significant reduction when one considers the number of vehicles on the road which increases daily
- In 2003 there were 290,607 reported casualties on the roads this was 4% less than in 2002
- 3508 people died in road accidents in 2003 which was a 3% reduction compared to 2002
- Child casualties fell by 8%. There were 171 child fatalities, 4% less than 2002
- Car user casualties fell by 5% in 2003 on the 2002 level
- Pedestrian deaths showed no change, however serious injuries to pedestrians fell by 11%
- Pedal cycle casualties were about the same level as in 2002 however related deaths fell by 12%
- The number of motorcycle deaths rose by 14% and seriously injured rose by 1%. ⁽¹⁾

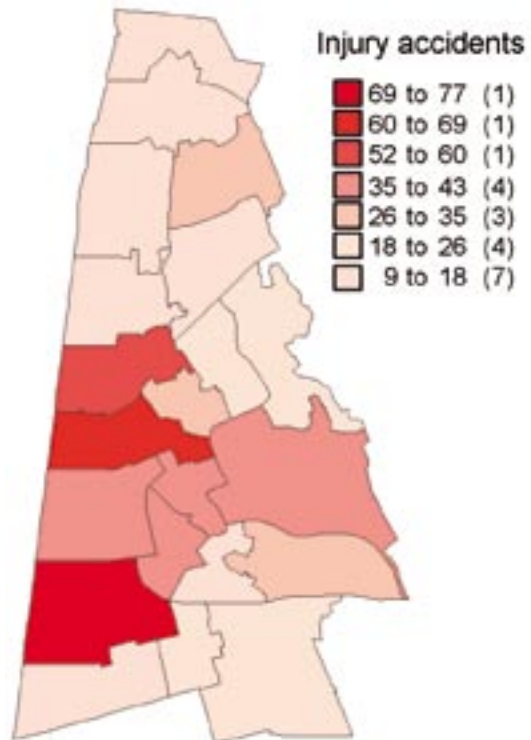
(1) Comparison of Hospital & Police Casualty Data - A National Study : H.F.Simpson

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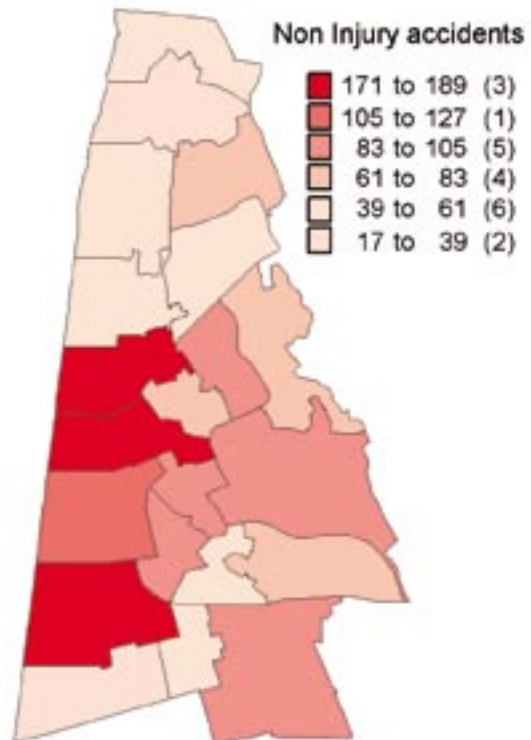
Road Accidents - The Local Picture

This map illustrates the wards which suffer the greatest number of road injury accidents. The data was obtained from the Lancashire Constabulary's incident logging system which contains reports of accidents to the control room.

Waterloo ward accounted for the greatest number of such reports where 51 injury accidents were reported in the 12 month period 1/4/03 to 31/3/04.



This map illustrates non injury accidents reported to the police. The same three areas show the highest levels of collisions.



Disqualified driving

The audit has already ascertained that in Blackpool almost 700 people are arrested each year for drink driving and 188 arrested for driving whilst under the influence of drink or drugs. If we include arrests for taking vehicles without consent, this equates to a large number of people eligible for disqualification from driving each year.

With increasing numbers of speed enforcement, more and more drivers are finding themselves eligible for disqualification.

There is currently no way of knowing how many disqualified drivers there are in Blackpool. A project run by the police 4 years ago showed at that time there were in excess of 1500. At least 10% of disqualified drivers ignore the driving ban and continue to drive without insurance.

For the period 1/4/03 to 31/3/04 there were 199 arrests for disqualified driving. 74% of these gave a Blackpool address.

Many arrests included drink driving and failing to stop after accidents.