



**AUSTRALIAN
AUTOMOBILE
ASSOCIATION**

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Benchmarking the Performance of the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS)

December 2014



↘ Key Changes Since September 2014 Report

Jurisdiction	Previous Status	Current Status
National	GREEN	GREEN
New South Wales	GREEN	GREEN
Victoria	GREEN	GREEN
Queensland	AMBER	AMBER
South Australia	GREEN	RED
Western Australia	GREEN	RED
Tasmania	RED	AMBER
Northern Territory	GREEN	GREEN
Australian Capital Territory	GREEN	GREEN

Road User Groups	Previous Status	Current Status
Drivers	GREEN	GREEN
Passengers	GREEN	GREEN
Pedestrians	GREEN	GREEN
Motorcyclists	AMBER	AMBER
Cyclists	RED	RED

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There has been a higher number of road fatalities in the December 2014 quarter than the September 2014 quarter. The 12 months to December 2014 recorded a decrease in fatalities compared with the same period in 2013. The recent trend in reduction of fatalities is encouraging, and indicates that the NRSS target for reduction in fatalities may be achieved. The ability to achieve the targeted reductions in serious injuries is much less clear.

Analytical Key:

GREEN

On track to meet or exceed NRSS target. Reduction in road crash fatalities equal to or greater than the rate required to achieve NRSS target.

AMBER

Currently ahead of (notional) target but faster rate of improvement required to achieve NRSS target by 2020.

RED

Road crash fatalities are above the notional NRSS target.

↘ Australia's Road Toll: December 2014

It is encouraging that for the second successive year there has been a reduction in Australia's road toll. The national road toll for 2014 was 1,153 - 34 fewer lives were lost on our roads compared with 2013. At this stage Australia is on track to achieve one of its targets set under the *National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020* (NRSS) to reduce fatalities by 30 per cent by 2020. Sadly, over the first four years of the NRSS, 4,827 people have lost their lives.

Queensland and New South Wales performed strongly in 2014 reducing their fatalities by 17.7 per cent and 7.2 per cent respectively. At the other end of the spectrum Western Australia and South Australia saw their respective road tolls increase by 11.7 per cent and 9.2 per cent.

Significant concerns remain around vulnerable road users, with cyclists and motorcyclists currently on track to fall short of the NRSS fatality target.

Furthermore, we remain very concerned about the estimated 32,500 serious injuries incurred on our roads each year. Australia's state and territory governments have no common definition on what constitutes a serious injury. Without any accurate data, there is no way to monitor whether safety measures have had an effect on serious injuries. The review of the National Road Safety Strategy found that progress in reducing serious injury numbers was difficult to determine because of the lack of reliable, nationally consistent, non-fatal crash data.

The AAA is encouraged by the recent release of the National Road Safety Action Plan 2015–2017. The plan, developed to support the implementation of the NRSS, has listed a range of priority actions to be taken by governments over the next three years. These include the use of risk assessment models to evaluate and prioritise infrastructure investment, as well as actions targeted at measurement and reporting of serious injuries, and improvements in road safety for vulnerable road users.

We urge Governments to implement these actions so that further improvements in the road toll are realised.



James Goodwin

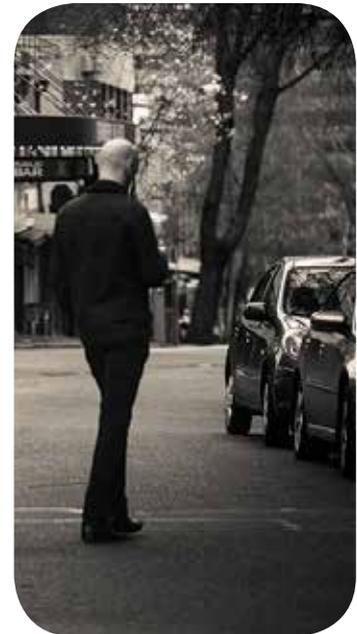
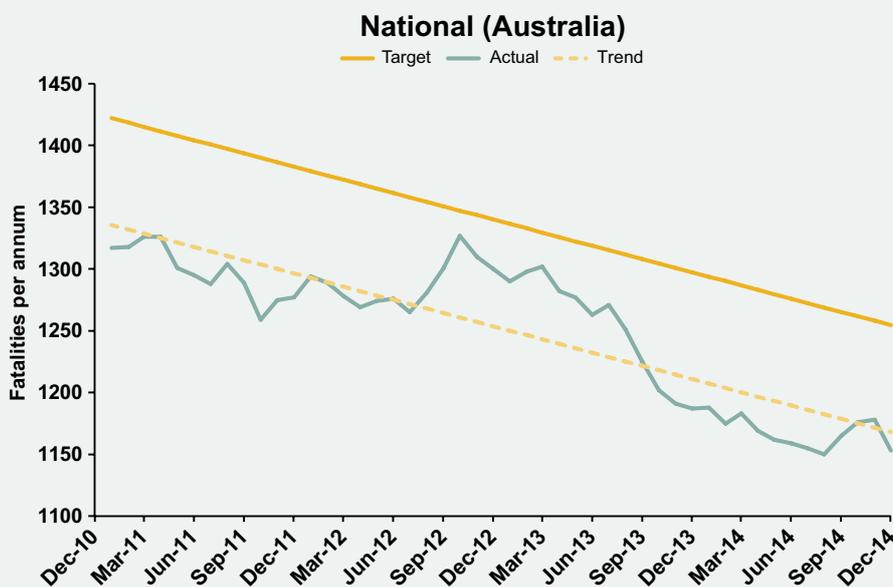
Acting Chief Executive
Australian Automobile Association

↘ National Snapshot

Status: **GREEN**

The NRSS aims to achieve a reduction of at least 30 per cent in road fatalities and serious injuries by 2020. Since the road safety strategy commenced, we have seen a 14.8 per cent decline in the 12-month road toll, which is slightly ahead of the rate required to achieve the 2020 target.

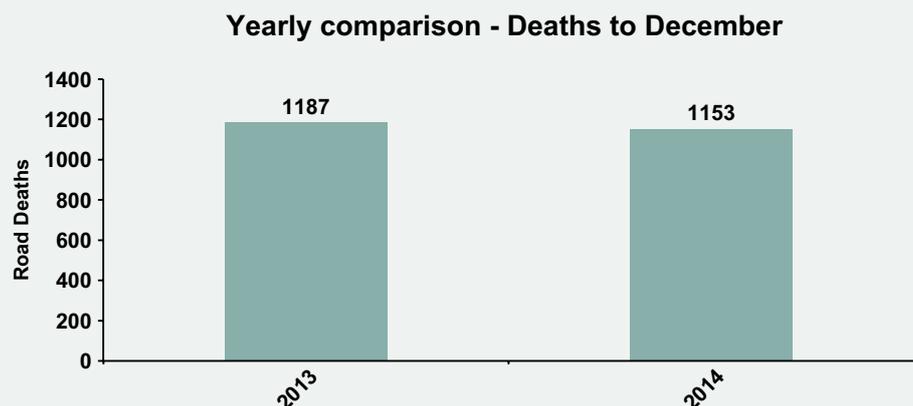
In 2014, there were 1,153 fatalities on Australian roads, down from 1,187 the previous year. There were 297 fatalities in the quarter ending December 2014, a 1.7 per cent increase on the 292 recorded in the quarter ending September 2014.



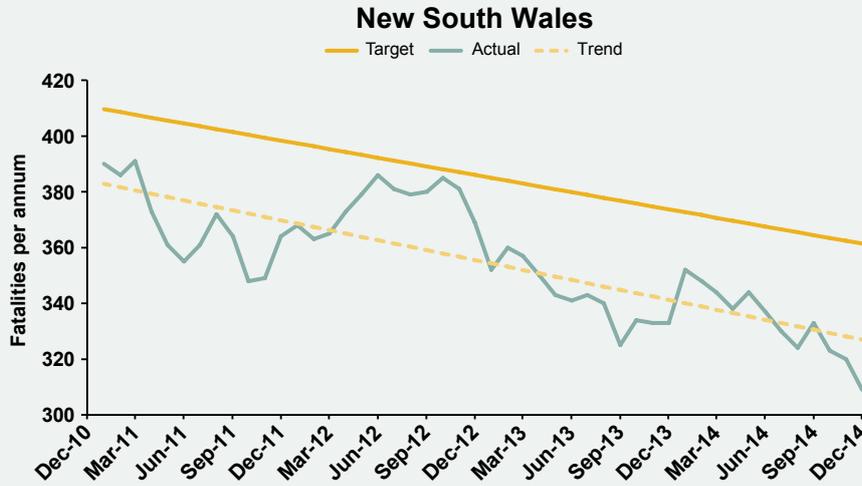
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↘ Comparative Performance - Past 12 Months

There has been a 2.8 per cent decrease in the road toll in 2014, compared with 2013.



State and Territory Analysis



New South Wales

Status: **GREEN**

- 309 road deaths occurred in the 12 months ending December 2014, compared to 333 deaths in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 7.2 per cent **decrease** on a year earlier.



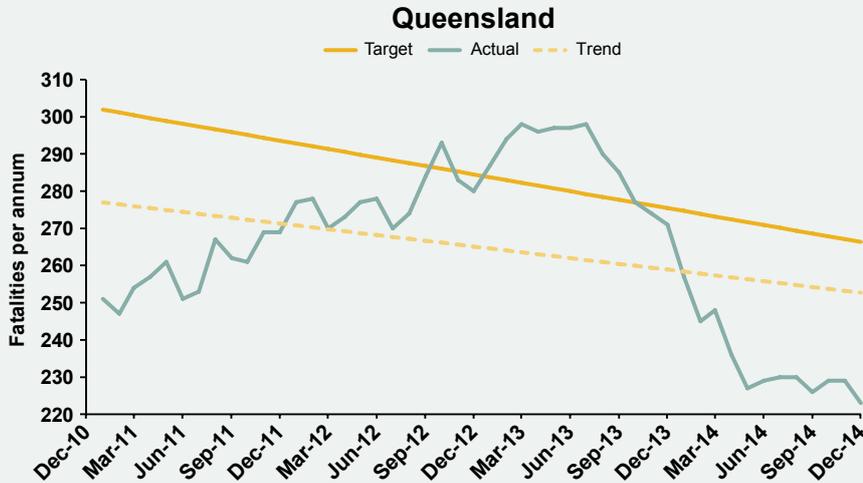
Victoria

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, Victoria recorded 249 deaths, compared to 243 deaths in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 2.5 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.



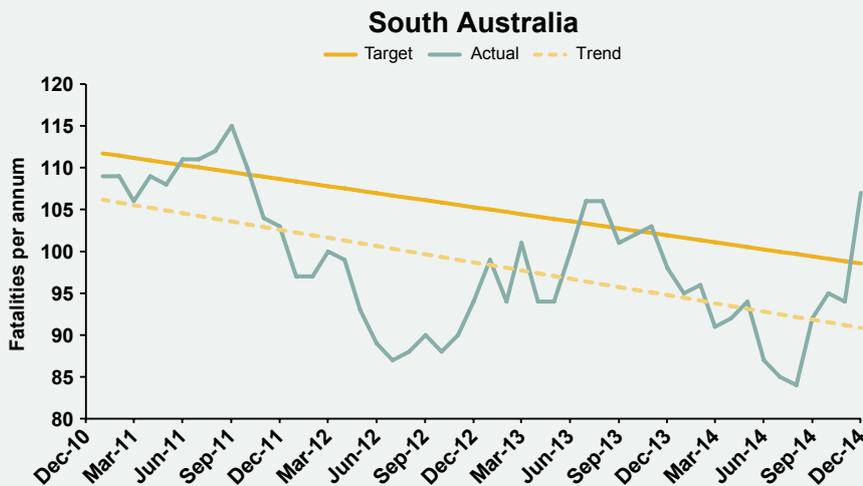
State and Territory Analysis



Queensland

Status: **AMBER**

- In the past 12 months, 223 people have died on Queensland roads, compared to 271 deaths in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 17.7 per cent **decrease** on a year ago.



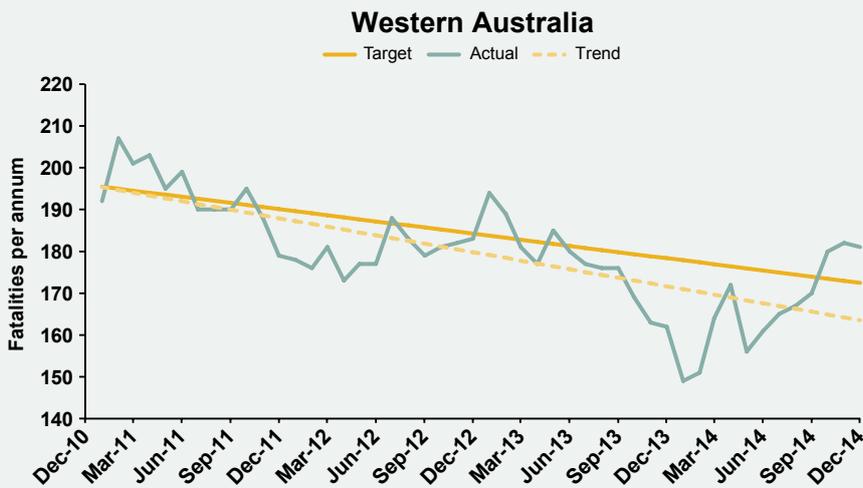
South Australia

Status: **RED**

- In the past 12 months, 107 deaths occurred on South Australian roads, compared to 98 deaths in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 9.2 per cent **increase** over the past year.



State and Territory Analysis

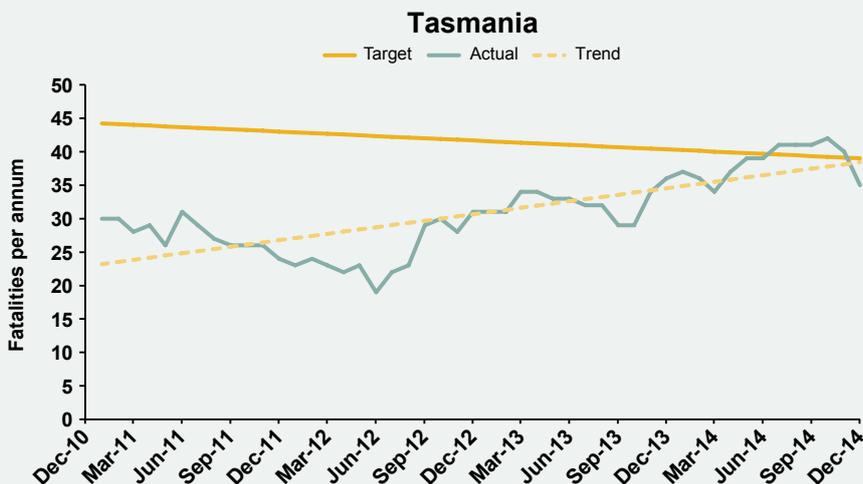


Western Australia

Status: **RED**

- In the past 12 months, 181 people were killed on Western Australian roads, up from 162 over the same period in 2013.
- This is a 11.7 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.

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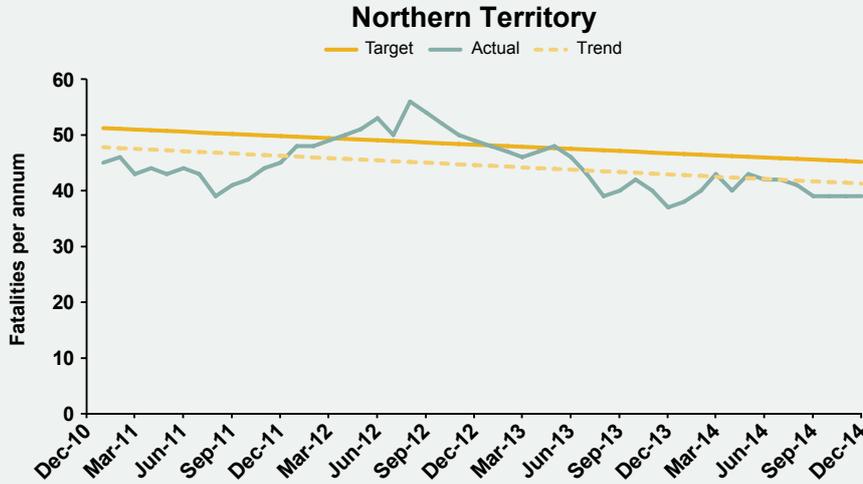


Tasmania

Status: **AMBER**

- In the past 12 months, 35 people died on Tasmanian roads, compared to 36 deaths in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 2.8 per cent **decrease** on a year earlier.

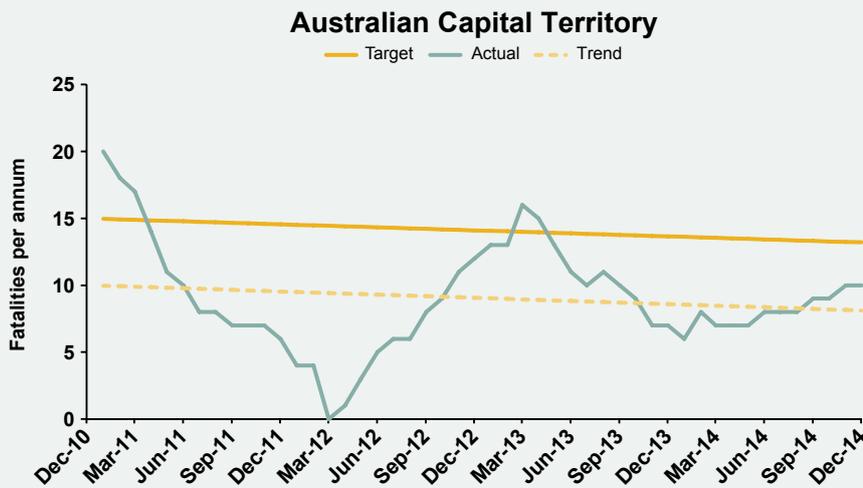
State and Territory Analysis



Northern Territory

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, 39 people died on Northern Territory roads, up from 37 in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 5.4 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.



Australian Capital Territory

Status: **GREEN**

- The ACT recorded 10 deaths in the past 12 months, up from 7 in the same period in 2013.
- This is a 42.9 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.



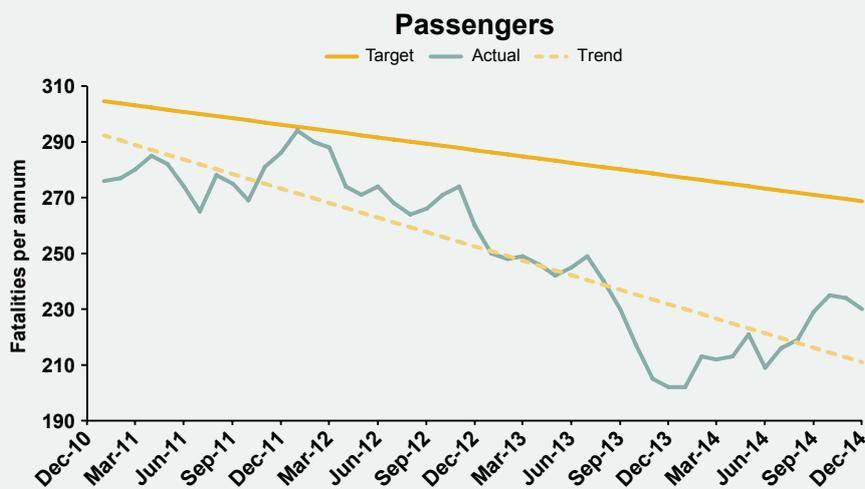
Analysis: Road User Groups



Drivers

Status: **GREEN**

- There have been 532 driver deaths on Australian roads in the past 12 months, down from 557 that occurred in the corresponding period in 2013.
- This is a 4.5 per cent **decrease** over the past year.



Passengers

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, 230 deaths on Australian roads have been passengers, compared with 202 deaths over the same period in 2013.
- This is a 13.9 per cent **increase**.

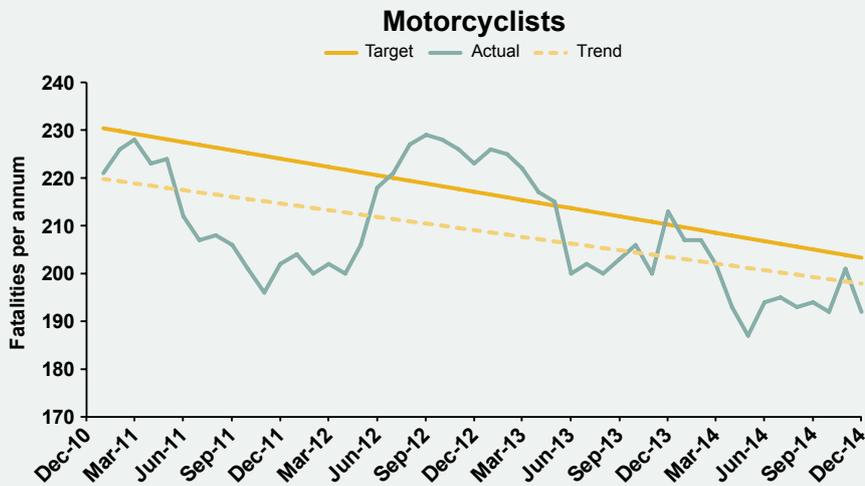


Pedestrians

Status: **GREEN**

- There have been 151 pedestrian deaths on Australian roads over the 12 months to December 2014, compared with 158 deaths over the same period in 2013.
- This represents a 4.4 per cent **decrease**.

Analysis: Road User Groups



Motorcyclists

Status: **AMBER**

- There have been 192 motorcyclist deaths on Australian roads over the past 12 months, down from 213 in the corresponding period for 2013.
- This is a 9.9 per cent decrease.



Cyclists

Status: **RED**

- 45 cyclists have died on Australian roads over the past 12 months, compared with 50 deaths over the same period for 2013.
- This is a 10 per cent decrease.



Analysis: Road Deaths by Population

Annual Road Deaths per 100,000 Population
12 months to December 2014



The National Road Safety Strategy does not include a target for the fatality rate based on population, but it is still a useful indicator to determine priority areas. The data show that the most populous states of New South Wales and Victoria have fewer road deaths in proportion to their population than the other jurisdictions, while more attention is needed to reduce deaths in the Northern Territory, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

Analysis: Potential Lives Saved

If the other jurisdictions were able to achieve the New South Wales fatality rate of 4.11 per 100,000 population, 193 lives could be saved nationally, with 75 in Western Australia, 38 in South Australia and 29 in the Northern Territory.

Jurisdiction	Current number of fatalities	Current fatality rate per 100,000 population	Number of fatalities at 4.11 per 100,000 population	Potential lives saved
NSW	309	4.11	309	0
VIC	249	4.26	240	9
QLD	223	4.72	194	29
SA	107	6.35	69	38
WA	181	7.03	106	75
TAS	35	6.8	21	14
NT	39	15.91	10	29
ACT	10	2.59	10	0
National	1,153	4.91	960	193

* Jurisdictions with a rate currently lower than 4.11 would not be anticipated to increase the number of fatalities.



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FOR ROAD SAFETY
2011-2020**



Note: The data used to produce this information have been sourced from the Australian Road Deaths Database: www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx, accessed on 14 January 2015 and Road Deaths Australia December 2014 monthly bulletin ISSN 1449-1168.

