



BENCHMARKING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY



Australian
Automobile
Association

September 2017



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Key Changes

Key Changes Since June 2017 Report

There has been an increase in the number of road fatalities from the June 2017 quarter to the September 2017 quarter. The 12 months to September recorded a decrease in fatalities compared with the same period in 2016. The decrease in the number of fatalities is welcomed however the data indicates that the NRSS target for the reduction in fatalities is unlikely to be achieved. The ability to achieve the targeted reductions in serious injuries is also uncertain.

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.

Current National Status

Red



NSW	Red
VIC	Red
QLD	Red
SA	Red
WA	Red
TAS	Amber
NT	Amber
ACT	Amber

Previous National Status

Red



NSW	Red
VIC	Red
QLD	Red
SA	Amber
WA	Red
TAS	Amber
NT	Red
ACT	Amber

User Groups

Previous

Current

User Groups	Previous	Current
Drivers	Red	Red
Passengers	Green	Green
Pedestrians	Red	Red
Motorcyclists	Red	Red
Cyclists	Amber	Red

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 13 October 2017 and Road Deaths Australia September 2017 monthly bulletin ISSN 1449-1168.

Australia's Road Toll: September 2017

Road toll costing Australia almost \$30 billion every year

The Australian Automobile Association's (AAA) Benchmarking of the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) tracks progress against the NRSS target of reducing road deaths by at least 30 per cent by 2020. All Australian governments committed to this strategy in 2011.

The report finds that in the year to September 2017 there have been 1,237 lives lost on our roads. While this is a 2.7 per cent decrease, it represents 100 more road deaths in the year ending September 2017 than would be required for the overall 2020 NRSS target to be achieved. Road crash fatalities are currently above the targets in all jurisdictions, except for Tasmania, ACT and NT, and above targets for all road user groups, except passengers.

In addition to the psychological burden of lives lost on the road, road trauma has a significant impact on the Australian economy. The Cost of Road Trauma in Australia report, released in September 2017 by the AAA, estimated that road trauma cost Australia almost \$30 billion annually, with the direct cost to government budgets estimated at more than \$3.7 billion per year.

Australia needs an urgent response from our national government in the form of greater leadership and greater funding. As such, in September this year, AAA has released its National Road Safety Platform to outline steps that the Commonwealth can take to improve road safety

The results in this benchmark report indicate that it is unlikely that the National Road Safety Strategy will deliver the targeted 30 per cent reduction in road deaths. To avoid the huge personal and financial costs to the Australian community of road trauma, the AAA urges the Government to adopt the recommendations made in its National Road Safety Platform.



Michael Bradley

Chief Executive
Australian Automobile Association

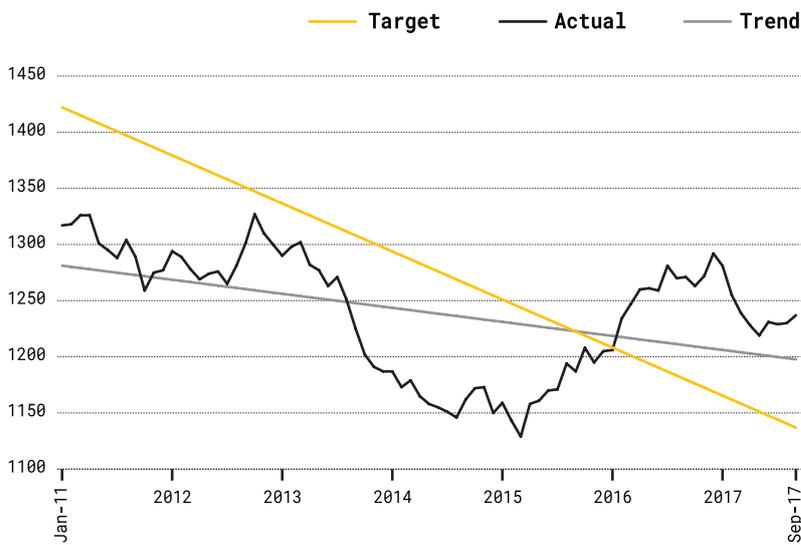


Section One

National Overview

National (Australia) fatalities per annum

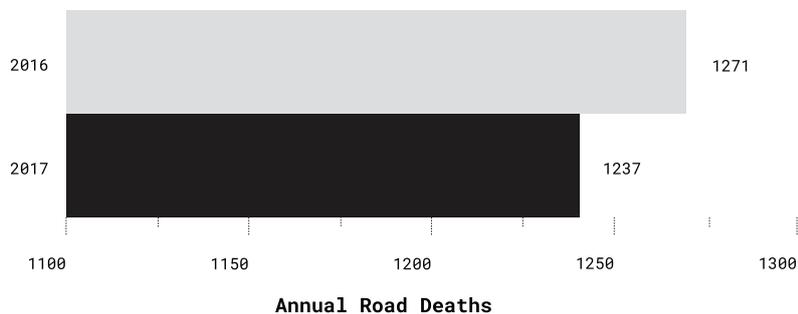
Red



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 an 8.6 per cent decline in the 12-month road toll, which is lower than the rate required to achieve the 2020 target.

In the 12 months ended September, there were 1,237 fatalities on Australian roads, a decrease from 1,271 in the previous calendar year. There were 328 fatalities in the quarter ending September 2017, a 6.1 per cent increase on the 309 recorded in the quarter ending June 2017.

Comparative Performance – Past 12 Months



Yearly Comparison – Deaths to September

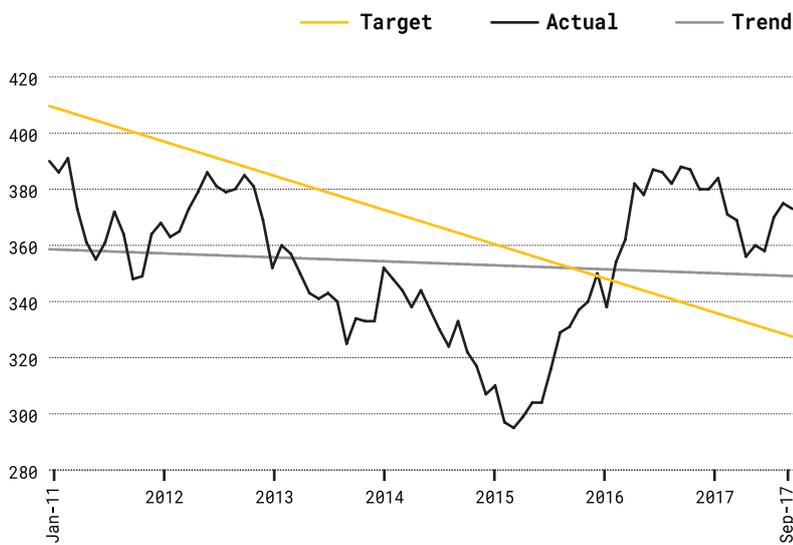
There has been a 2.7 per cent decrease in the road toll in the 12 months ending September 2017, compared with a year earlier.

Section Two

Analysis: States and Territories

New South Wales fatalities per annum

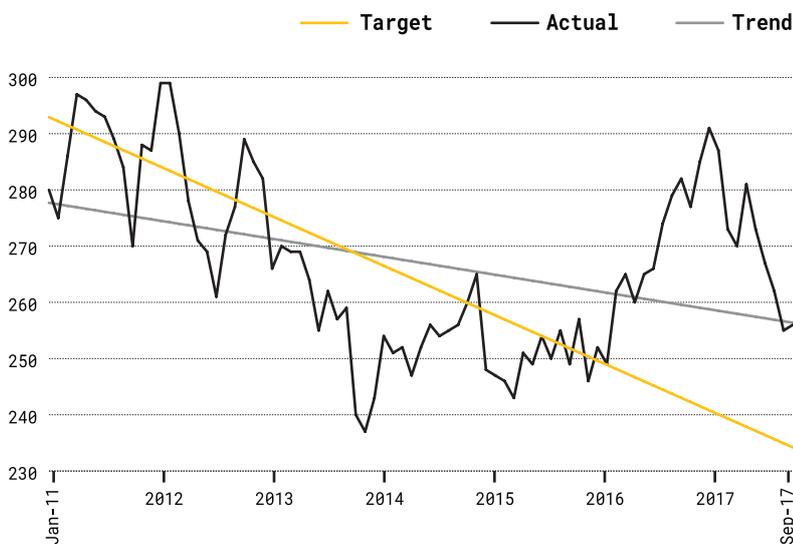
Red



- 373 road deaths occurred in the 12 months ending September 2017, compared to 388 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- A decrease of 3.9 per cent.

Victoria fatalities per annum

Red

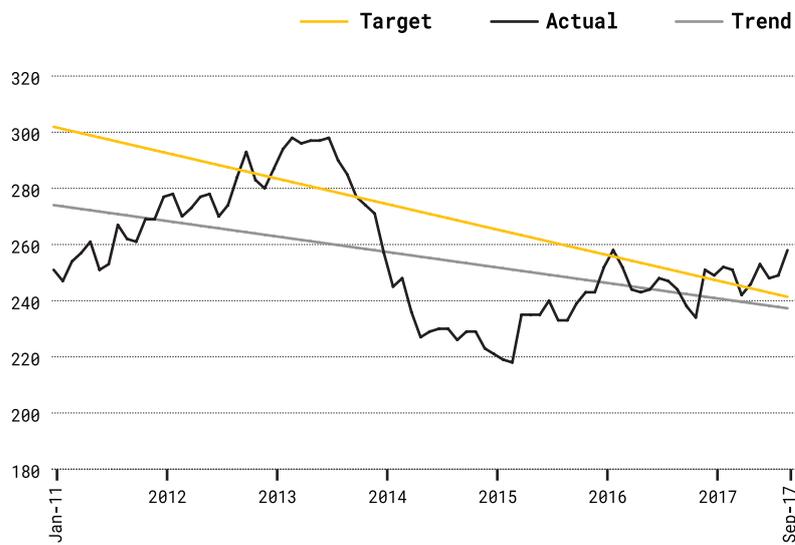


- In the past 12 months, Victoria recorded 256 deaths, compared to 282 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 9.2 per cent decrease compared to a year earlier.

Section Two

Queensland fatalities per annum

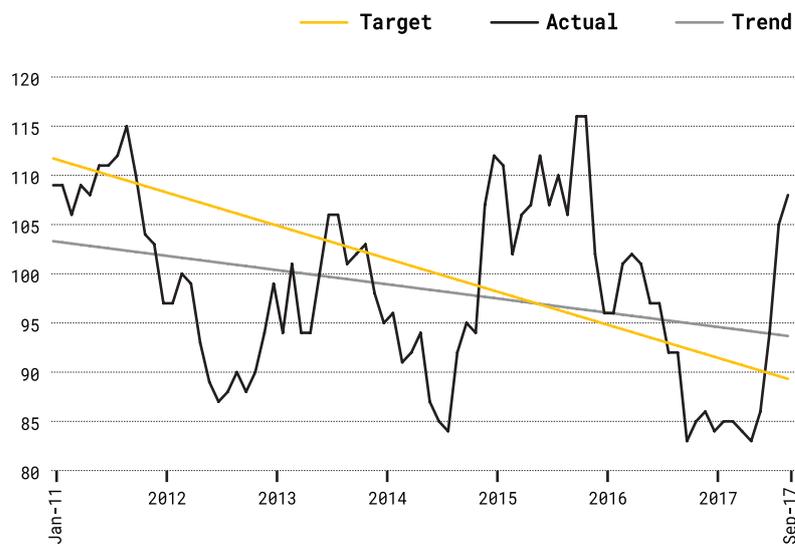
Red



- In the past 12 months, Queensland has recorded 258 deaths, compared to 244 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- A 5.7 per cent increase compared to a year earlier.

South Australia fatalities per annum

Red



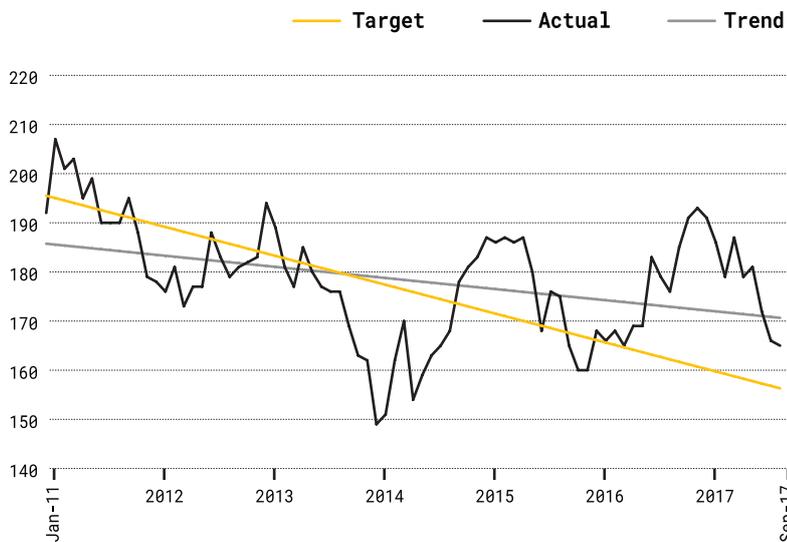
- In the past 12 months, 108 deaths occurred on South Australian roads, compared to 92 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- An increase of 17.4 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Section Two

Analysis: States and Territories

Western Australia fatalities per annum

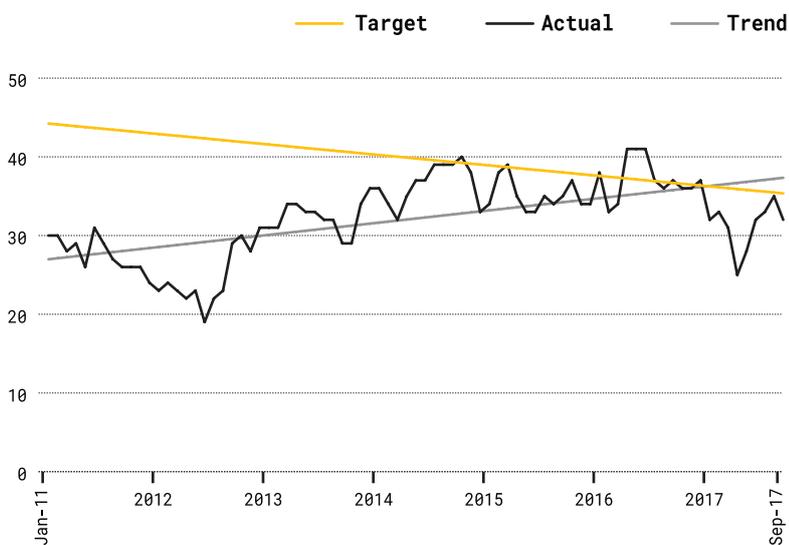
Red



- In the past 12 months, 165 people were killed on Western Australian roads, compared to 176 in the same period in 2016.
- This is a decrease of 6.3 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Tasmania fatalities per annum

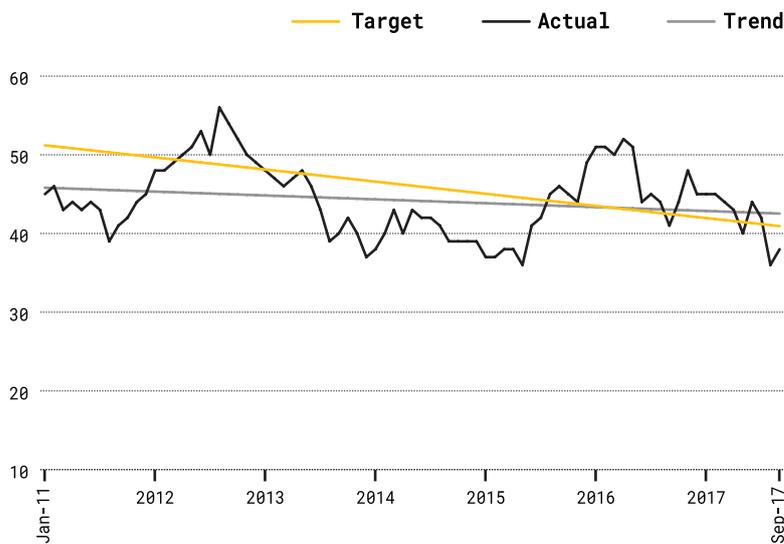
Amber



- In the past 12 months, 32 people died on Tasmanian roads, compared to 37 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 13.5 per cent decrease on a year earlier.

Section Two

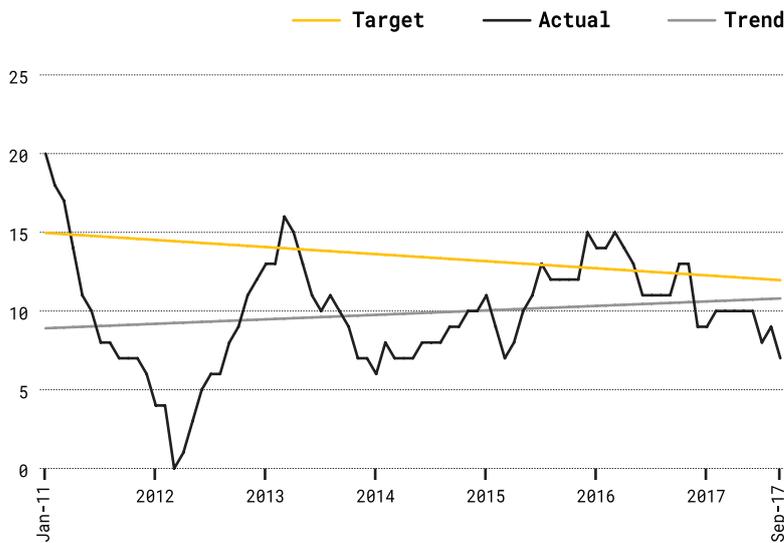
Northern Territory fatalities per annum



Amber

- In the past 12 months, 38 deaths occurred on Northern Territory roads, compared to 41 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a decrease of 7.3 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Australian Capital Territory fatalities per annum



Amber

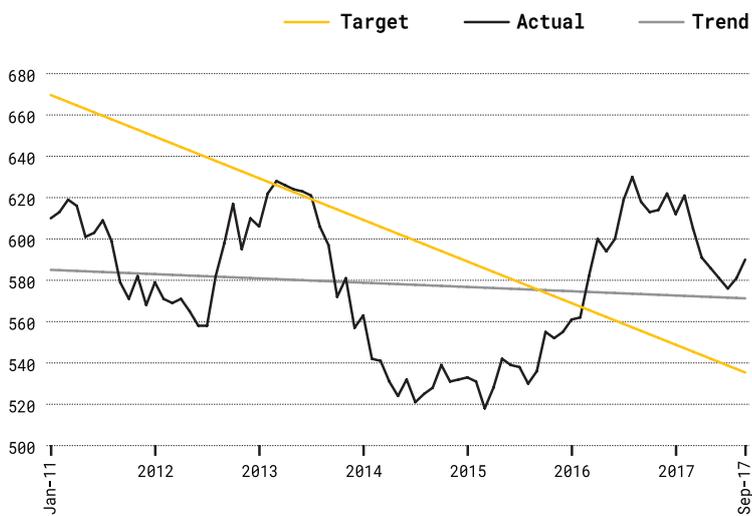
- The ACT recorded 7 deaths in the past 12 months, compared to 11 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 36.4 per cent decrease on a year earlier.

Section Three

Analysis: Road User Groups

Drivers fatalities per annum

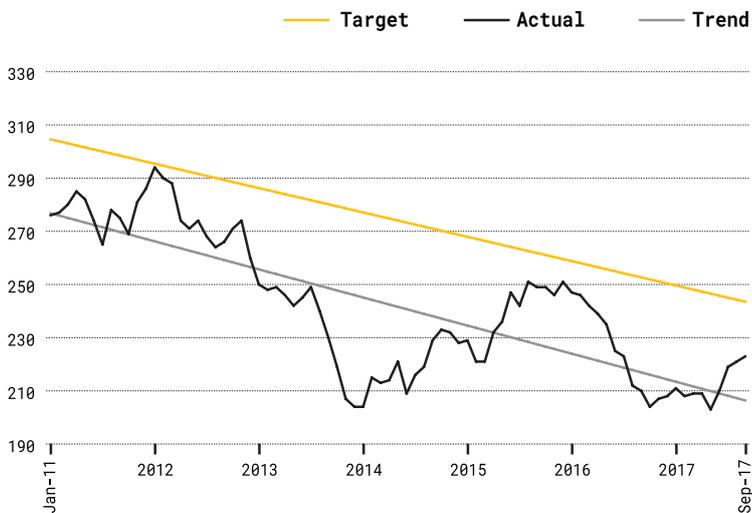
Red



- There have been 590 driver deaths on Australian roads in the past 12 months, a decrease from 618 that occurred in the corresponding period in 2016.
- A decrease of 4.5 per cent over the past year.

Passengers fatalities per annum

Green

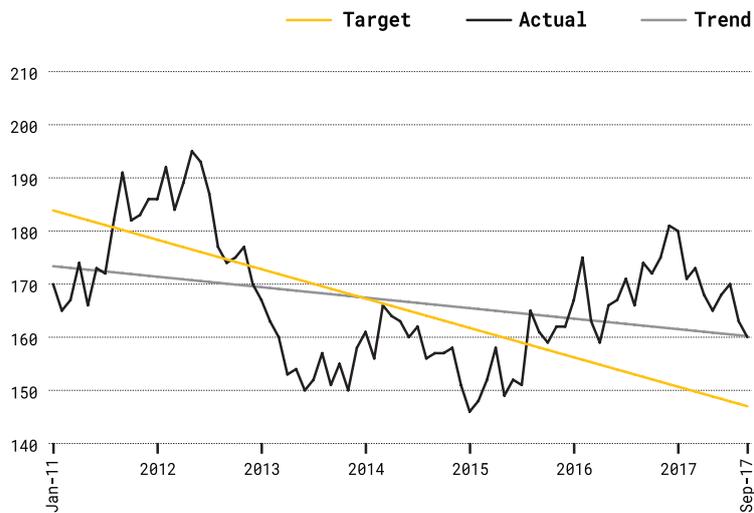


- In the past 12 months, 223 deaths on Australian roads have been passengers, compared with 210 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This is an increase of 6.2 per cent.

Section Three

Pedestrians fatalities per annum

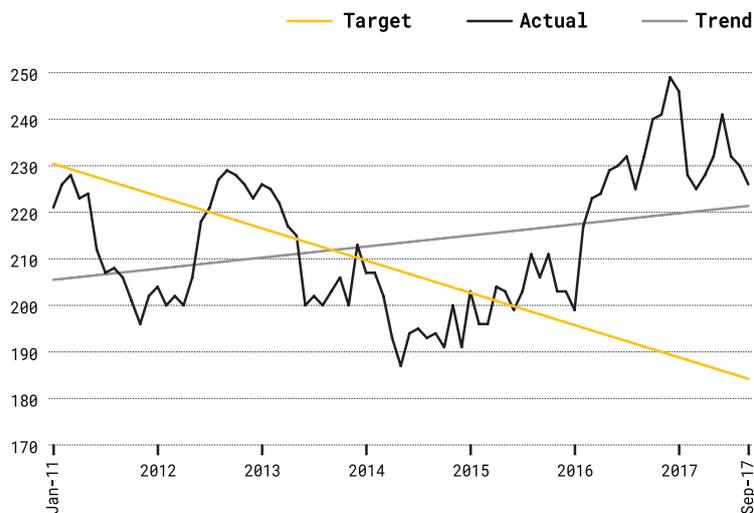
Red



- There have been 160 pedestrian deaths on Australian roads over the 12 months, a decrease from 174 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This represents a decrease of 8.0 per cent.

Motorcyclists fatalities per annum

Red



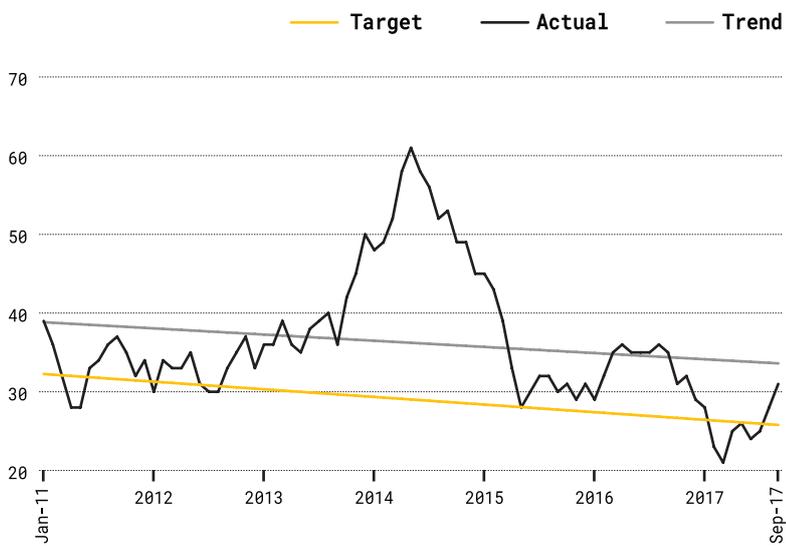
- There have been 226 motorcyclist deaths on Australian roads over the past 12 months, compared to 232 in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 2.6 per cent decrease.

Section Three

Analysis: Road User Groups

Cyclists fatalities per annum

Red

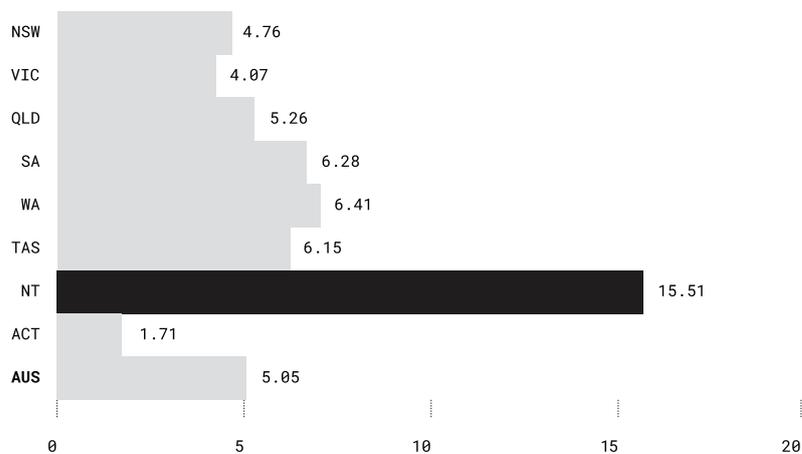


- 31 cyclists have died on Australian roads over the past 12 months, a decrease from 35 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This is a decrease of 11.4 per cent.

Section Four

Analysis: Road Deaths by Population

Annual Road Deaths per 100,000 population



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 (with the exception of the ACT), while more attention is needed to reduce deaths in the Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

Analysis: Potential Lives Saved

	Current number of fatalities	Current fatality rate per 100,000 population	Number of fatalities at 4.07 per 100,000 population	Potential lives saved
NSW	373	4.76	319	54
VIC	256	4.07	256	0
QLD	258	5.26	200	58
SA	108	6.28	70	38
WA	165	6.41	105	60
TAS	32	6.15	21	11
NT	38	15.51	10	28
ACT*	7	1.71	7	0
AUS	1237	5.05	987	250

If the other jurisdictions were able to achieve the Victorian fatality rate of 4.07 per 100,000 population, 250 lives could be saved nationally, with 60 in Western Australia, 58 in Queensland, 54 in New South Wales and 38 in South Australia.

* jurisdictions with a rate currently lower than 4.07 would not be anticipated to increase the number of fatalities.

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