



BENCHMARKING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY



Australian
Automobile
Association

December 2017



Table of contents

Key Changes	Key Changes Since September 2017 Report	4
Foreword	Australia's Road Toll: December 2017	5
Section One	National Overview	7
Section Two	Analysis: States and Territories	8
Section Three	Analysis: Road User Groups	12
Section Four	Analysis: Road Deaths by Population	15

Key Changes

Key Changes Since September 2017 Report

There has been an increase in the number of road fatalities from the September 2017 quarter to the December 2017 quarter. The 12 months to December 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	Red
NT	Amber
ACT	Amber

Previous National Status

Red



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

User Groups

Previous

Current

Drivers	Red	Red
Passengers	Green	Green
Pedestrians	Red	Red
Motorcyclists	Red	Red
Cyclists	Red	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 12 January 2018 and Road Deaths Australia December 2017 monthly bulletin ISSN 1449-1168.

Foreword

Australia's Road Toll: December 2017

States Plunge Into The Red Over Road Toll

The Australian Automobile Association's (AAA) Benchmarking of the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) has tracked 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.

For the first time in the history of this benchmarking, all states of Australia have been given a red light warning for being above the notional NRSS targets.

Only the nation's territories, the NT and ACT, recorded amber light codes for being ahead of the notional target, but still need a greater improvement rate to achieve the 2020 goal.

In December 2017 the nation recorded its worst month of road fatalities in six years. Road deaths during the month numbered 129, the highest since November 2011 when 134 people died.

There were 339 road deaths recorded in the December quarter, compared to 324 in the September quarter, representing an increase of 4.6 per cent.

There was a rise in passenger deaths over the 2017 calendar year, however it is the only road user category to achieve a green light under the NRSS targets. All other categories of road users, such as drivers and cyclists were over the target. There was a 31 per cent increase in fatalities of cyclists during the year.

The overall road toll for the 2017 calendar year was 1,225 people. The figure represents a 5.3 per cent decrease in fatalities compared to the previous year. However, the figures exceeded the notional 2017 target by 99 lost lives.

When assessed by state, the deaths per 100,000 population was highest in the Northern Territory and lowest in Victoria (excluding the ACT).

The results of this benchmark report indicate it is increasingly unlikely that Australia will achieve the NRSS target. A significant increase in Commonwealth funding and leadership is required to improve this outlook.

The AAA has urged the Government to adopt the recommendations made in its National Road Safety Platform to get the strategy back on track.



Michael Bradley

Chief Executive
Australian Automobile Association

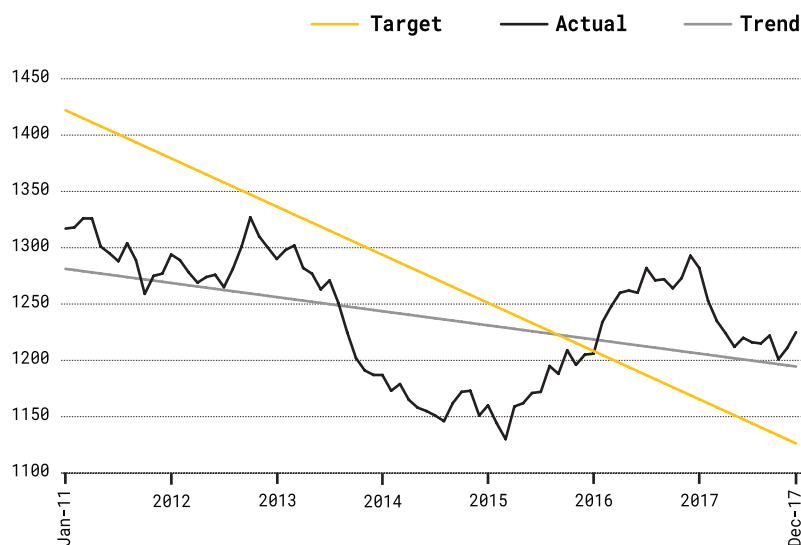


Section One

National Overview

National (Australia) fatalities per annum

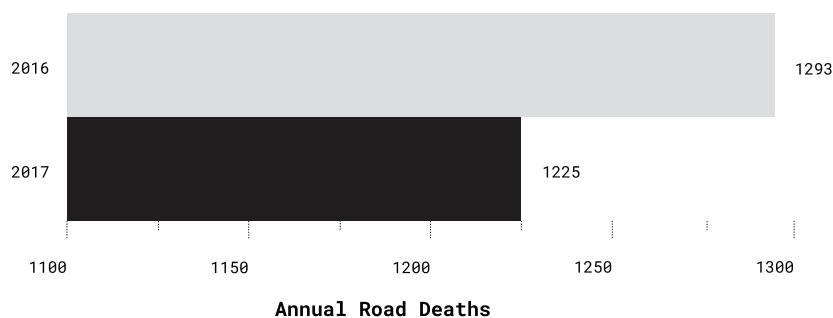
Red



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 a 9.5 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 December 2017, there were 1,225 fatalities on Australian roads, a decrease from 1,293 in the previous calendar year. There were 339 fatalities in the quarter ending December 2017, a 4.6 per cent increase on the 324 recorded in the quarter ending September 2017.

Comparative Performance — Past 12 Months



Yearly Comparison — Past 12 months

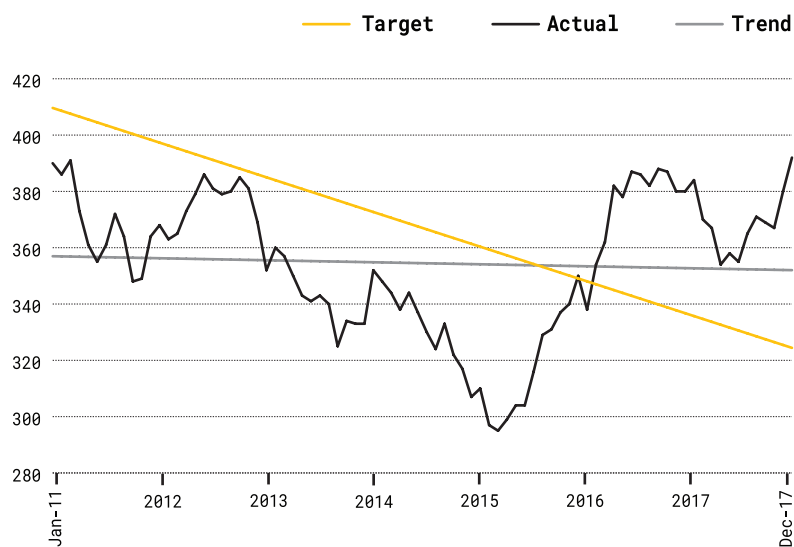
There has been a 5.3 per cent decrease in the road toll in the 12 months ending December 2017, compared with a year earlier.

Section Two

Analysis: States and Territories

New South Wales fatalities per annum

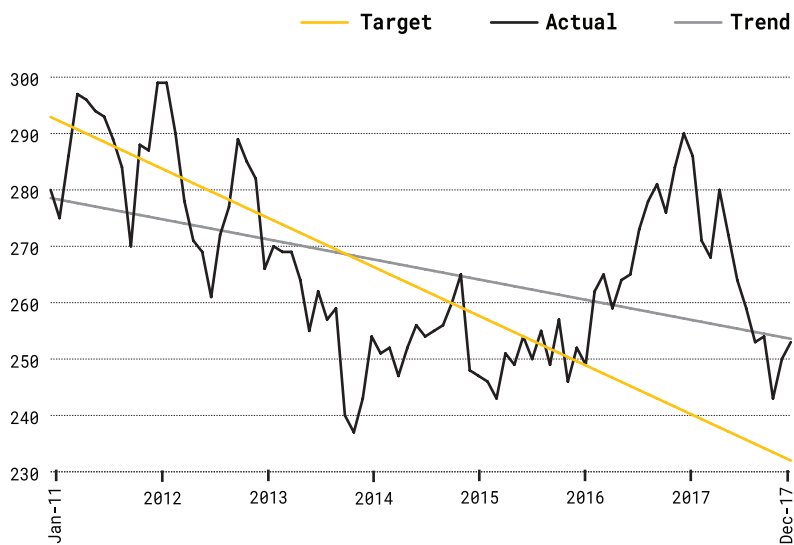
Red



- 392 road deaths occurred in the 12 months ending December 2017, compared to 380 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- An increase of 3.2 per cent.

Victoria fatalities per annum

Red

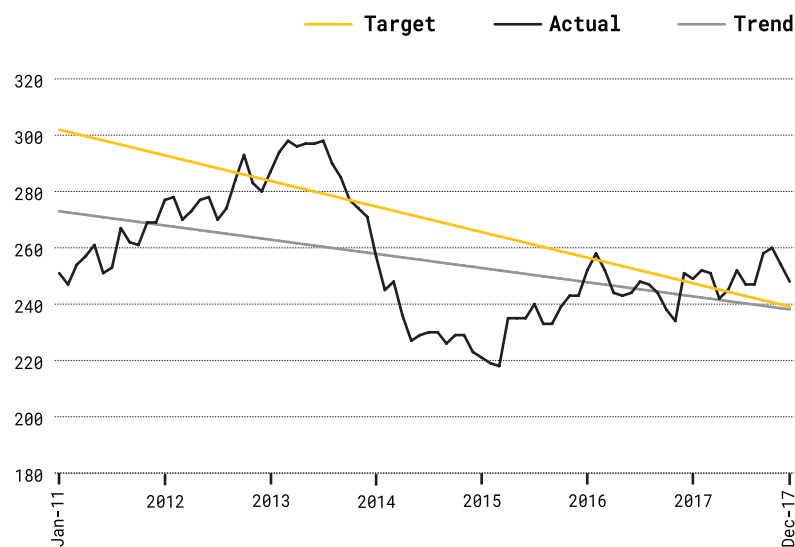


- In the past 12 months, Victoria recorded 253 deaths, compared to 290 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 12.8 per cent decrease compared to a year earlier.

Section Two

Queensland fatalities per annum

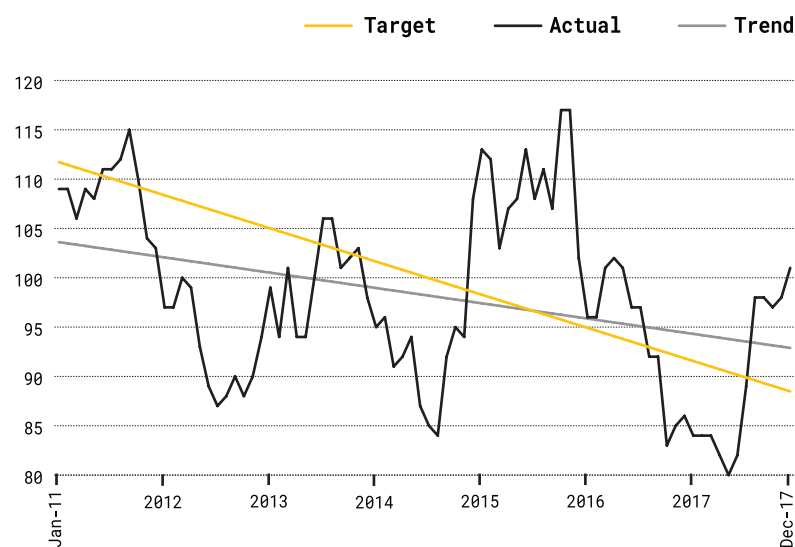
Red



- In the past 12 months, Queensland has recorded 248 deaths, compared to 251 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- A 1.2 per cent decrease compared to a year earlier.

South Australia fatalities per annum

Red



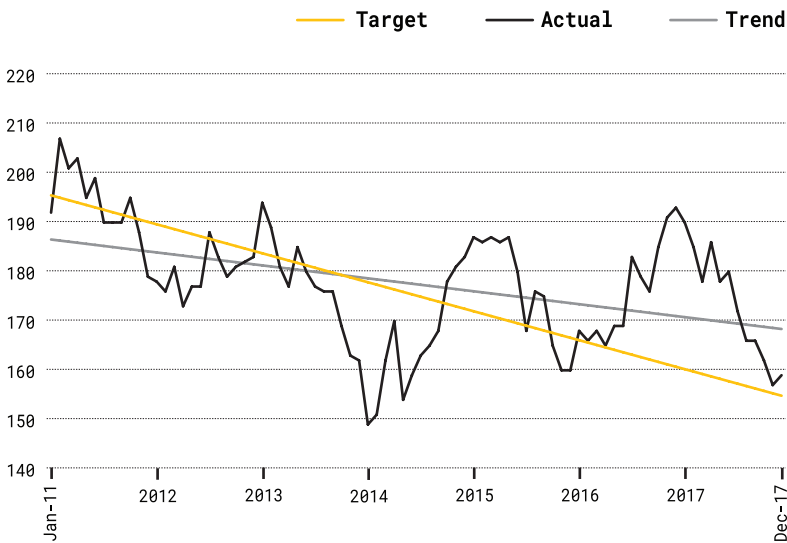
- In the past 12 months, 101 deaths occurred on South Australian roads, compared to 86 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- An increase of 17.4 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Section Two

Analysis: States and Territories

Western Australia fatalities per annum

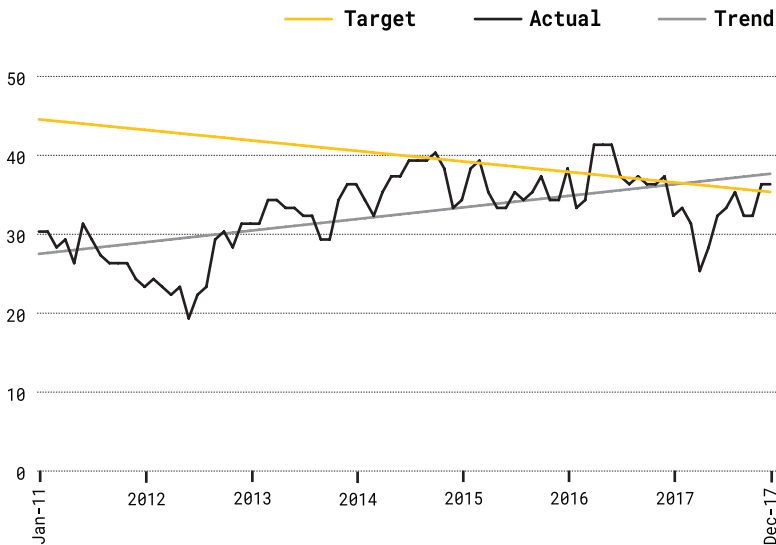
Red



- In the past 12 months, 159 people were killed on Western Australian roads, compared to 193 in the same period in 2016.
- This is a decrease of 17.6 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Tasmania fatalities per annum

Red

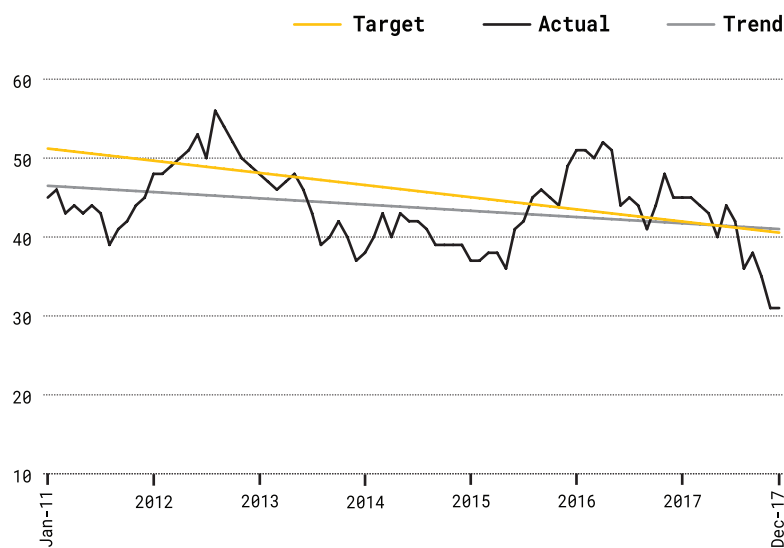


- In the past 12 months, 36 people died on Tasmanian roads, compared to 37 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 2.7 per cent decrease on a year earlier.

Section Two

Northern Territory fatalities per annum

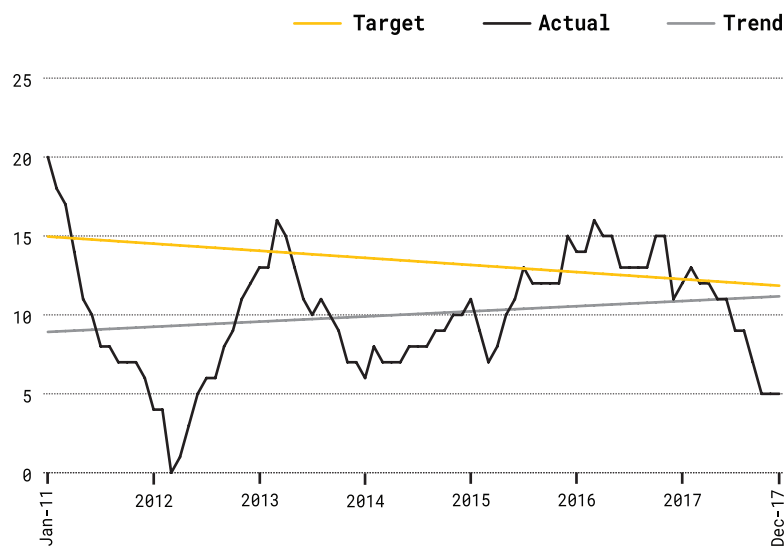
Amber



- In the past 12 months, 31 deaths occurred on Northern Territory roads, compared to 45 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a decrease of 31.1 per cent compared to a year earlier.

Australian Capital Territory fatalities per annum

Amber



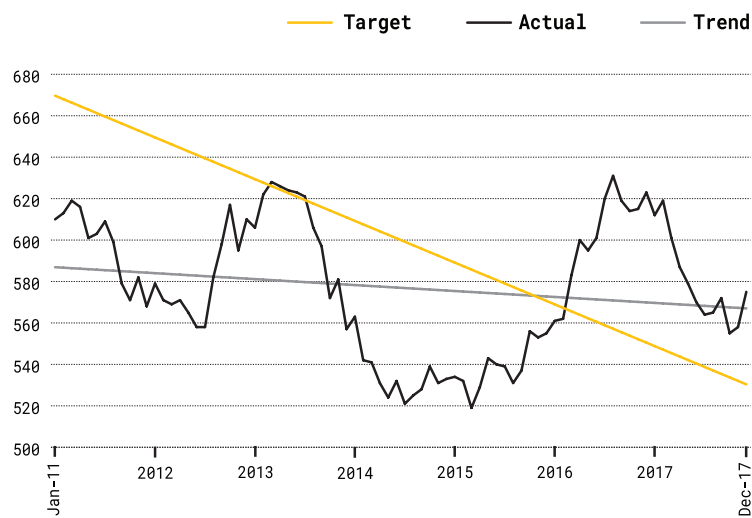
- The ACT recorded 5 deaths in the past 12 months, compared to 11 deaths in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 54.5 per cent decrease on a year earlier.

Section Three

Analysis: Road User Groups

Drivers fatalities per annum

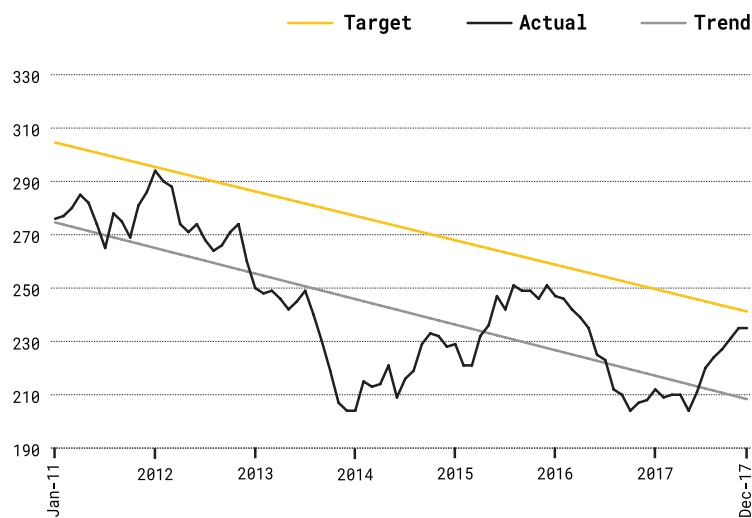
Red



- There have been 575 driver deaths on Australian roads in the past 12 months, a decrease from 623 that occurred in the corresponding period in 2016.
- A decrease of 7.7 per cent over the past year.

Passengers fatalities per annum

Green

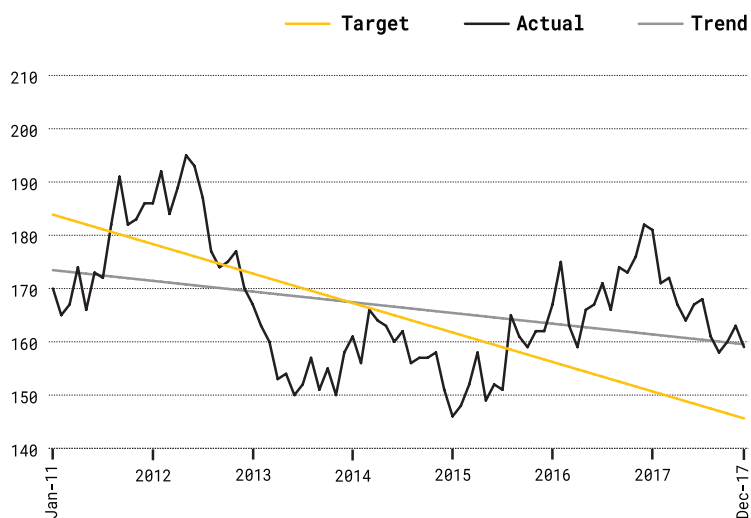


- In the past 12 months, 235 deaths on Australian roads have been passengers, compared with 208 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This is an increase of 13.0 per cent.

Section Three

Pedestrians fatalities per annum

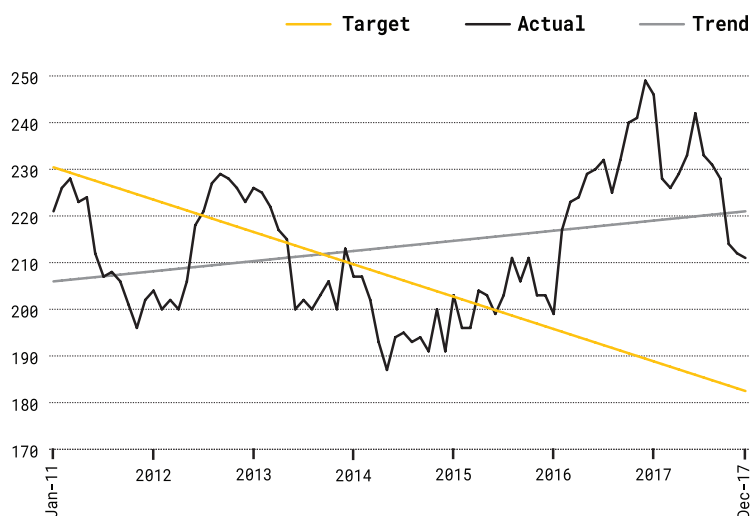
Red



- There have been 159 pedestrian deaths on Australian roads over the 12 months, a decrease from 182 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This represents a decrease of 12.6 per cent.

Motorcyclists fatalities per annum

Red

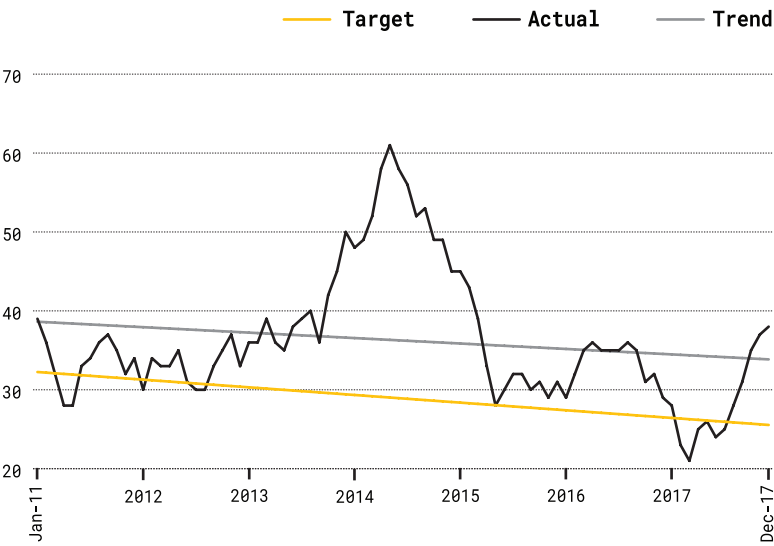


- There have been 211 motorcyclist deaths on Australian roads over the past 12 months, compared to 249 in the same period in 2016.
- This is a 15.3 per cent decrease.

Analysis: Road User Groups

Cyclists fatalities per annum

Red

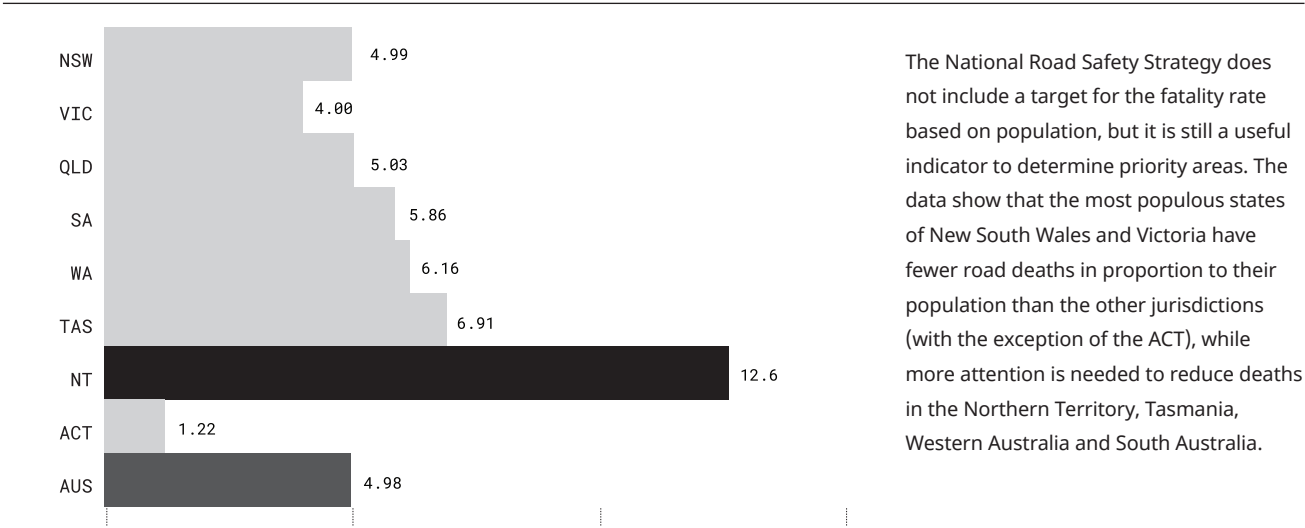


- 38 cyclists have died on Australian roads over the past 12 months, an increase from 29 deaths over the same period in 2016.
- This is an increase of 31.0 per cent.

Section Four

Analysis: Road Deaths by Population

Annual Road Deaths per 100,000 population



Analysis: Potential Lives Saved

	Current number of fatalities	Current fatality rate per 100,000 population	Number of fatalities at 4.00 per 100,000 population	Potential lives saved
NSW	392	4.99	314	78
VIC	253	4.00	253	0
QLD	248	5.03	197	51
SA	101	5.86	69	32
WA	159	6.16	103	56
TAS	36	6.91	21	15
NT	31	12.6	10	21
ACT*	5	1.22	5	0
AUS	1225	4.98	972	253

If the other jurisdictions were able to achieve the Victorian fatality rate of 4.00 per 100,000 population, 253 lives could be saved nationally, with 78 in New South Wales, 56 in Western Australia , 51 in Queensland and 32 in South Australia.

* jurisdictions with a rate currently lower than 4.00 would not be anticipated to increase the number of fatalities.

Mailing Address:

GPO Box 1555
Canberra ACT 2601

02 6247 7311

@aaacomms

www.aaa.asn.au

Address:

103 Northbourne Ave
Canberra ACT 2601

**Proudly supporting**

Decade of Action for
Road Safety 2011–2020