



**AUSTRALIAN  
AUTOMOBILE  
ASSOCIATION**

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

June 2015



## ↘ Key Changes Since March 2015 Report

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

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

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There has been an increase in the number of road fatalities in the June 2015 quarter compared to the March 2015 quarter. The 12 months to June 2015 also recorded an increase in fatalities compared with the same period in 2014. The increase in fatalities is disappointing, but the data indicate that the NRSS target for reduction in fatalities may still 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: June 2015

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The June 2015 quarter has experienced an increase in road deaths compared to the previous quarter, with 32 more lives being lost on our roads. There has also been a 1.6 per cent increase in the road toll in the 12 months to June 2015, compared with a year earlier.

Despite the increase, Australia is still on track to achieve its target set under the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) to reduce fatalities by 30 per cent by 2020.

At the state and territory level, four of the eight jurisdictions (New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and the Northern Territory) are on track to meet the targeted reduction in road fatalities. Tasmania has experienced an improvement over the June quarter and has been upgraded from red to amber on our traffic light rating system, which indicates that while currently ahead of (notional) target, a faster rate of improvement is required to achieve the target.

Disappointingly, the remaining jurisdictions (Western Australia, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory) are all rated as red, meaning that they have fatality rates above the notional NRSS target.

Analysis of the different road user groups shows that in the year to June 2015, there has been a significant increase in the number of passengers killed compared to the same period in 2014. There has also been an increase in the number of motorcyclists killed over the 12 months to June and this road user group's status has been downgraded from amber to red.

On a positive note, there was a significant reduction of over 44 per cent in the number of cycling fatalities on our roads. While this is a step in the right direction, cyclists are still rated as red on our traffic light rating system.

An ongoing area of concern is the lack of knowledge on how successful the NRSS has been in reducing 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 the effect of safety initiatives on serious injuries.



**Michael Bradley**

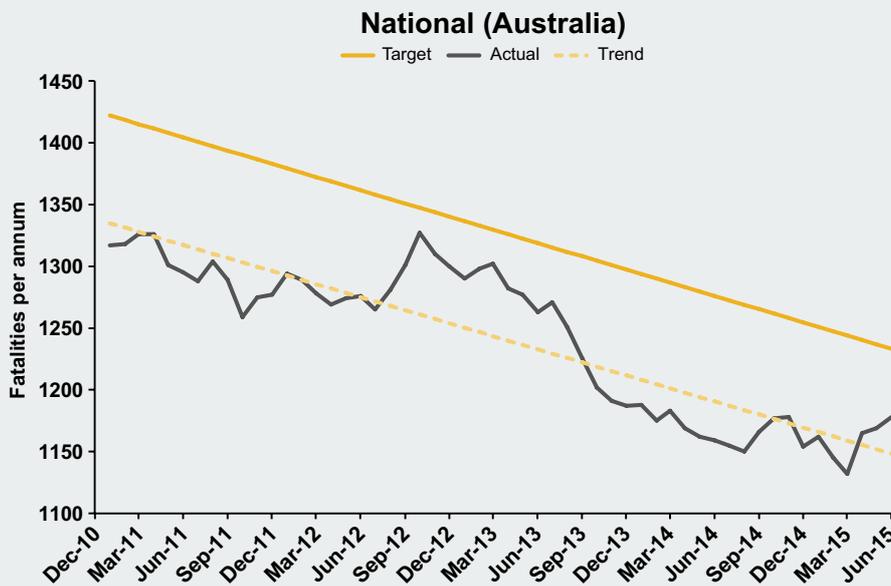
Chief Executive  
Australian Automobile Association

## ↘ 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 12.9 per cent decline in the 12-month road toll, which is slightly ahead of the rate required to achieve the 2020 target.

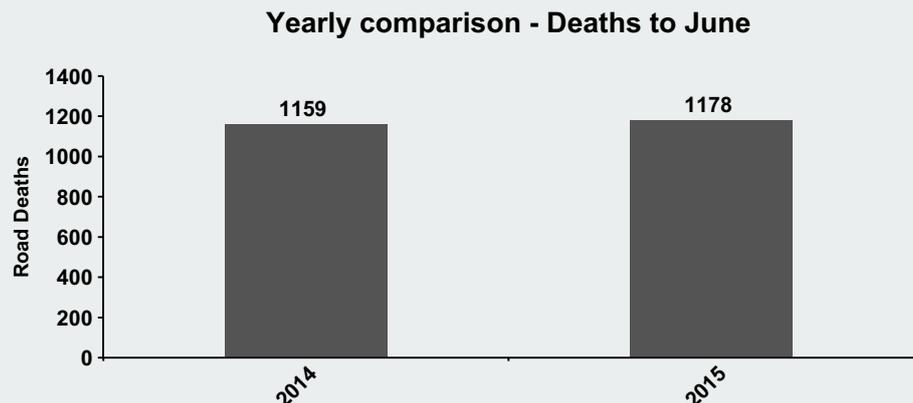
In 2014, there were 1,153 fatalities on Australian roads, down from 1,187 in the previous calendar year. There were 310 fatalities in the quarter ending June 2015, an 11.5 per cent increase on the 278 recorded in the quarter ending March 2015.



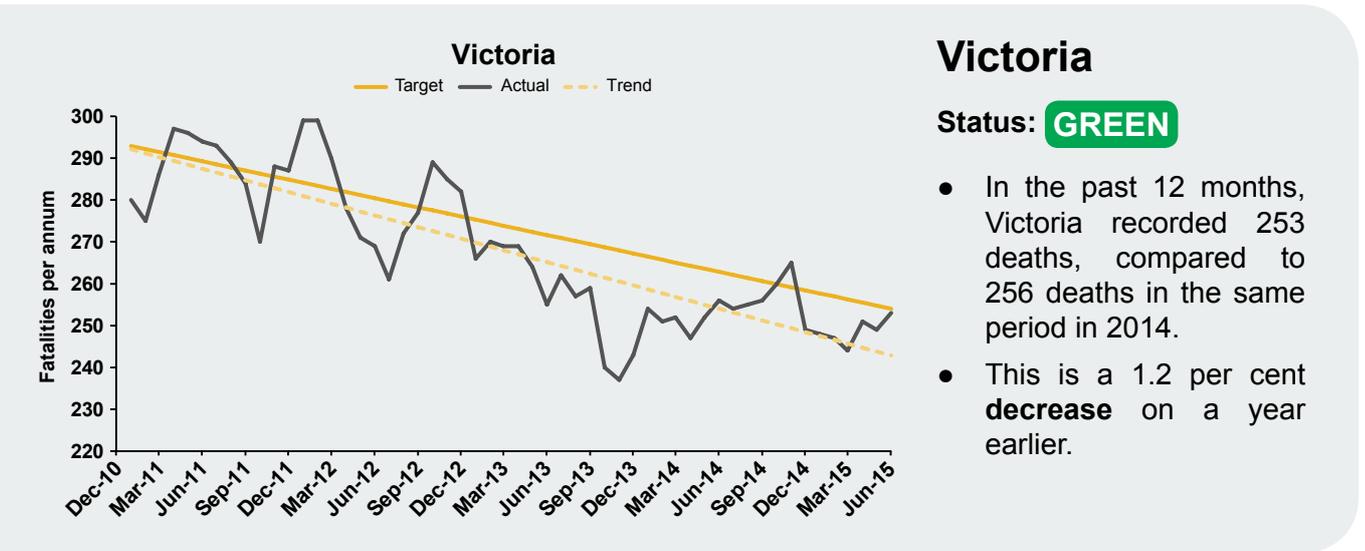
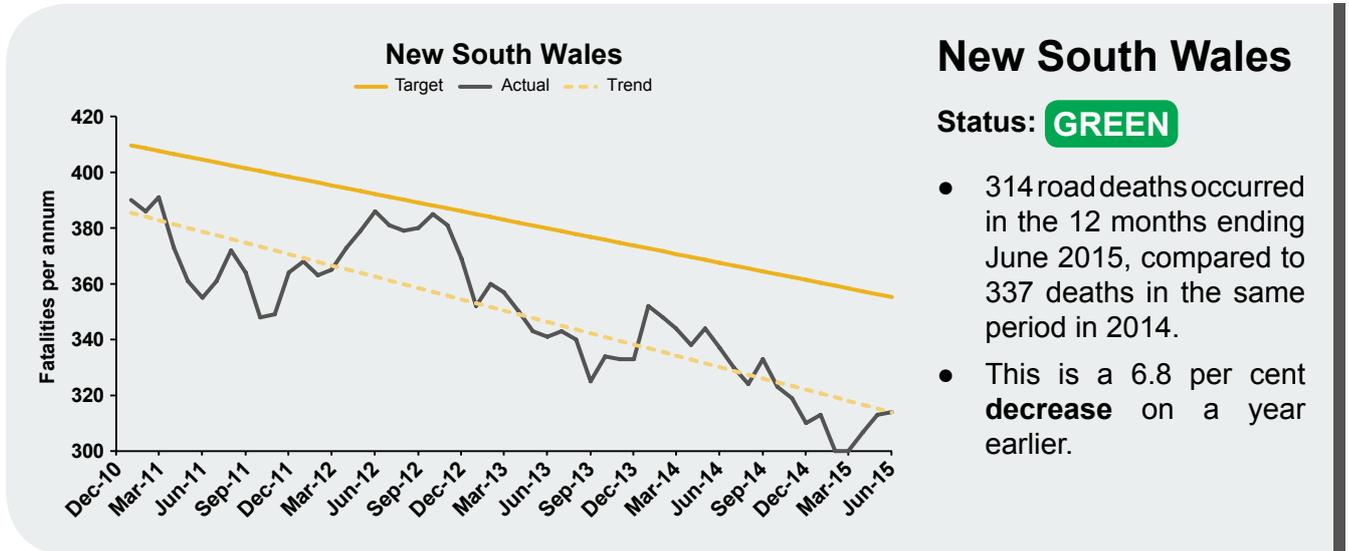
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## ↘ Comparative Performance - Past 12 Months

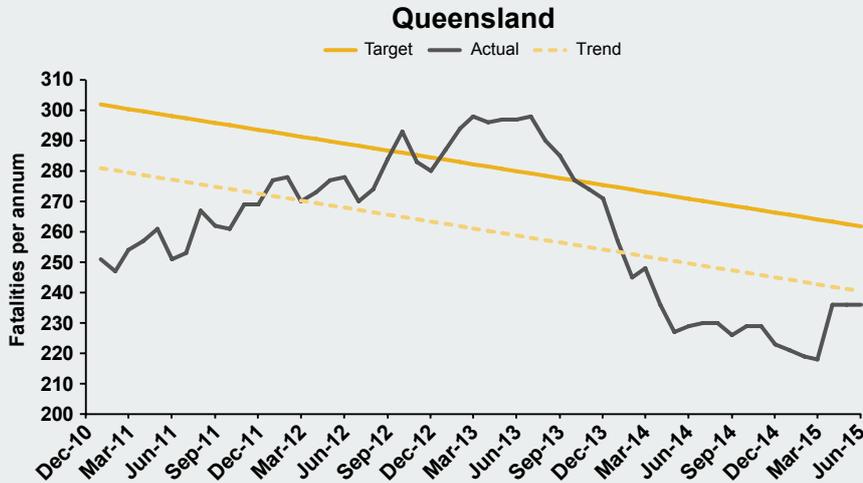
There has been a 1.6 per cent increase in the road toll in the 12 months ending June 2015, compared with a year earlier.



## State and Territory Analysis



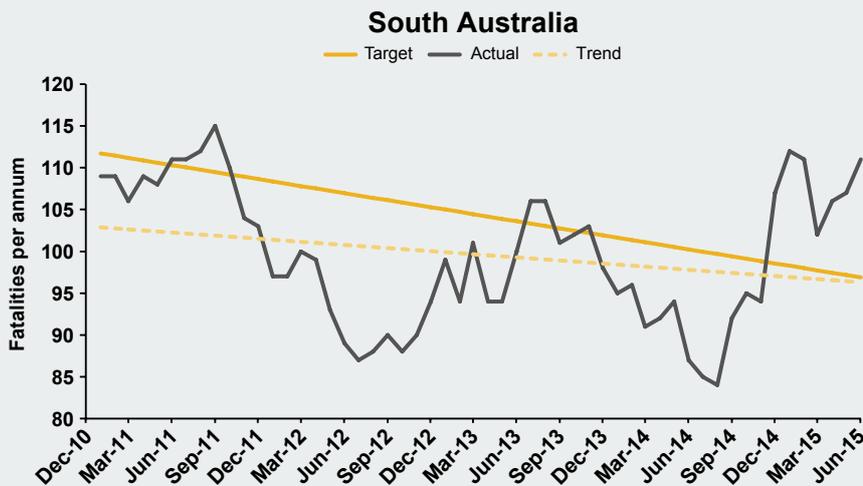
## State and Territory Analysis



### Queensland

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, 236 people have died on Queensland roads, compared to 229 deaths in the same period in 2014.
- This is a 3.1 per cent **increase** on a year ago.



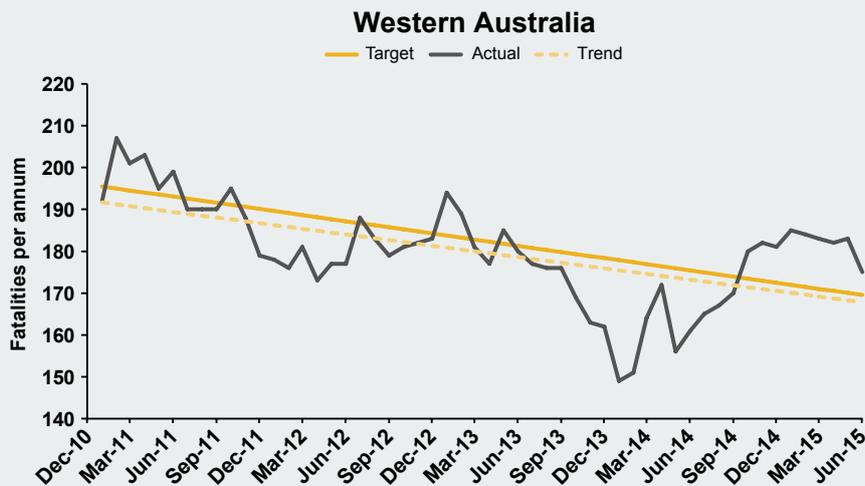
### South Australia

Status: **RED**

- In the past 12 months, 111 deaths occurred on South Australian roads, compared to 87 deaths in the same period in 2014.
- This is a 27.6 per cent **increase** over the past year.



## State and Territory Analysis

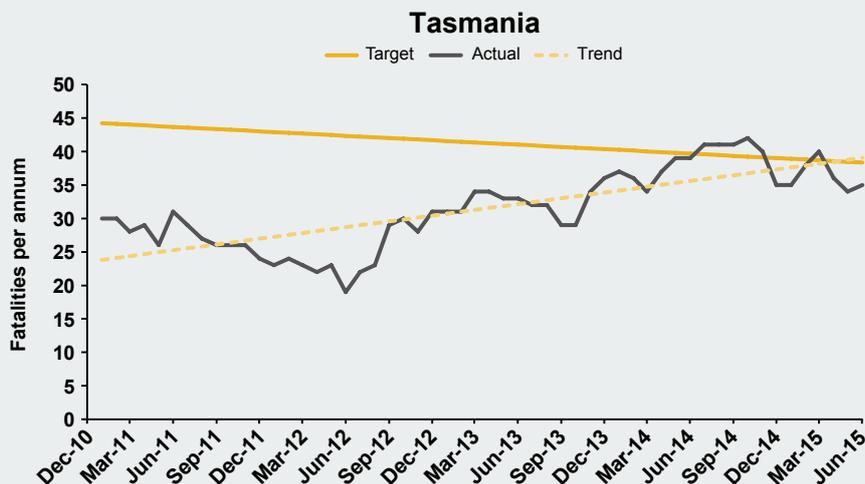


### Western Australia

Status: **RED**

- In the past 12 months, 175 people were killed on Western Australian roads, up from 161 over the same period in 2014.
- This is an 8.7 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.

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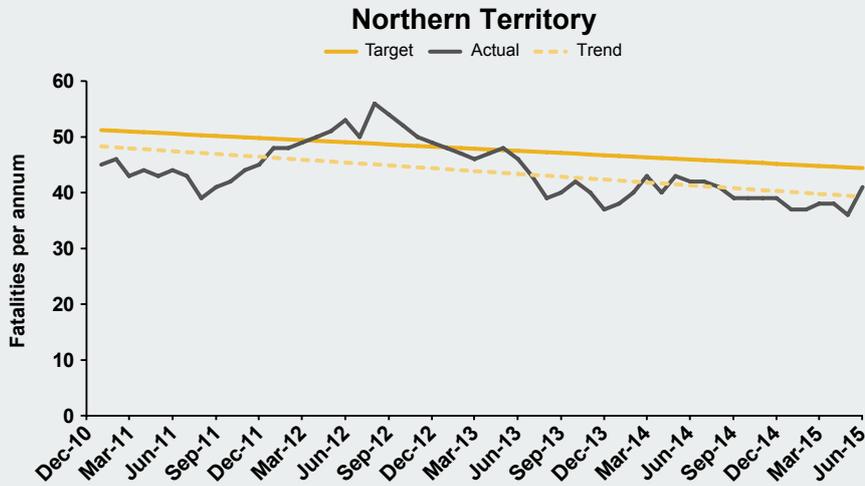


### Tasmania

Status: **AMBER**

- In the past 12 months, 35 people died on Tasmanian roads, compared to 39 deaths in the same period in 2014.
- This is a 10.3 per cent **decrease** on a year earlier.

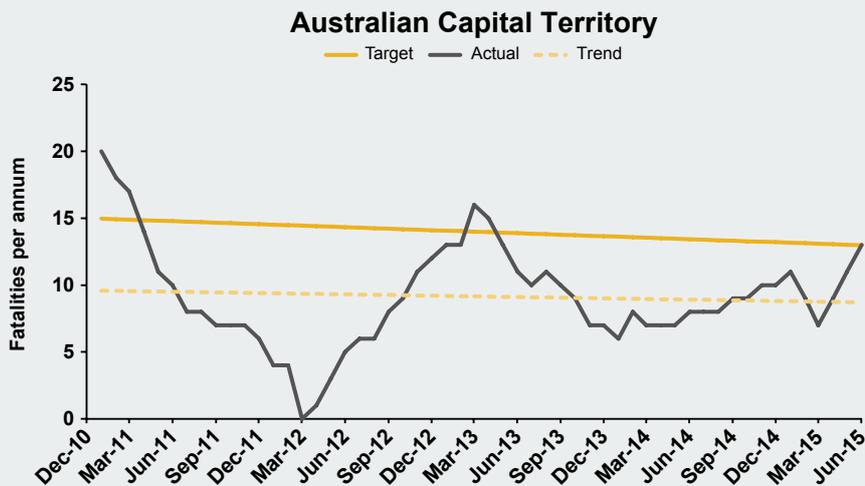
## State and Territory Analysis



### Northern Territory

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, 41 people died on Northern Territory roads, down from 42 in the same period in 2014.
- This is a 2.4 per cent **decrease** on a year earlier.



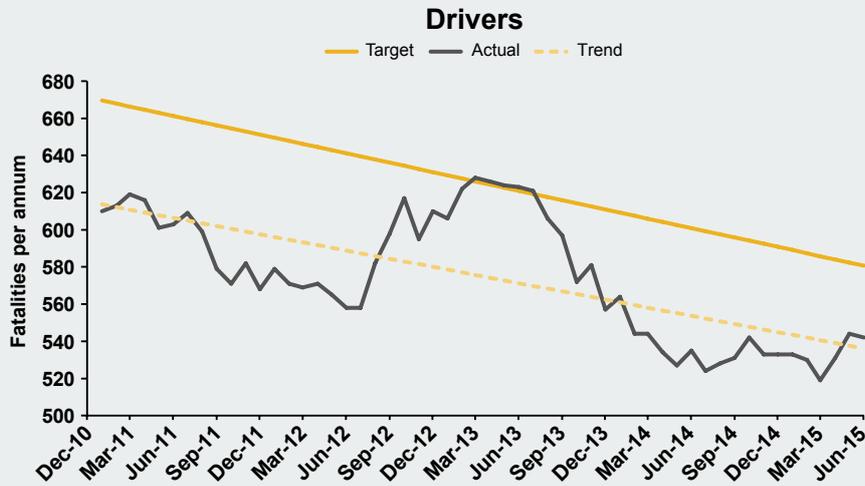
### Australian Capital Territory

Status: **RED**

- The ACT recorded 13 deaths in the past 12 months, compared to 8 in the same period in 2014.
- This is a 62.5 per cent **increase** on a year earlier.



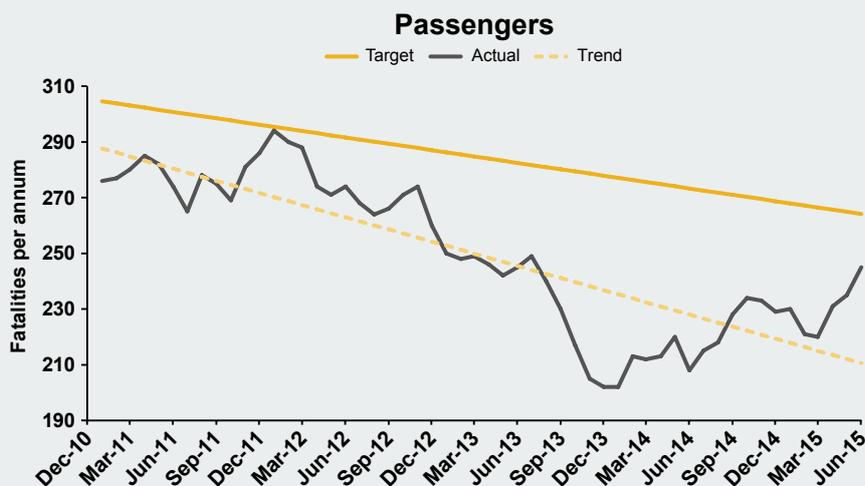
## Analysis: Road User Groups



### Drivers

Status: **GREEN**

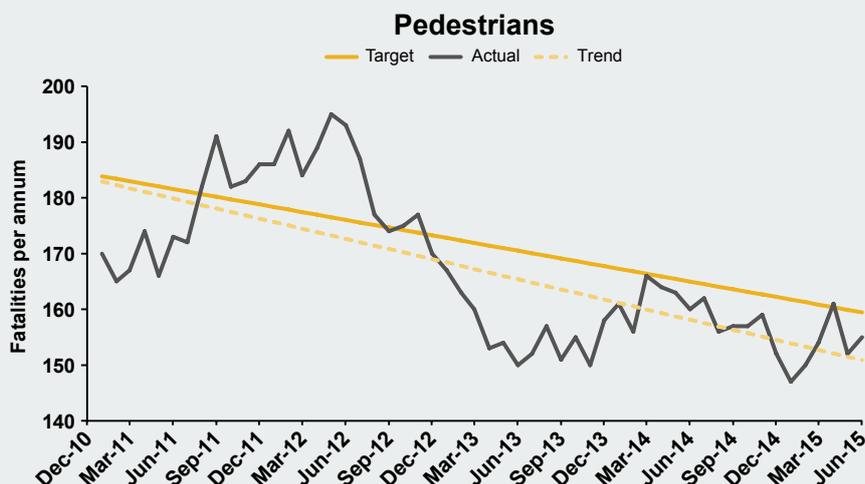
- There have been 542 driver deaths on Australian roads in the past 12 months, an increase from 535 that occurred in the corresponding period in 2014.
- This is a 1.3 per cent **increase** over the past year.



### Passengers

Status: **GREEN**

- In the past 12 months, 245 deaths on Australian roads have been passengers, compared with 208 deaths over the same period in 2014.
- This is a 17.8 per cent **increase**.

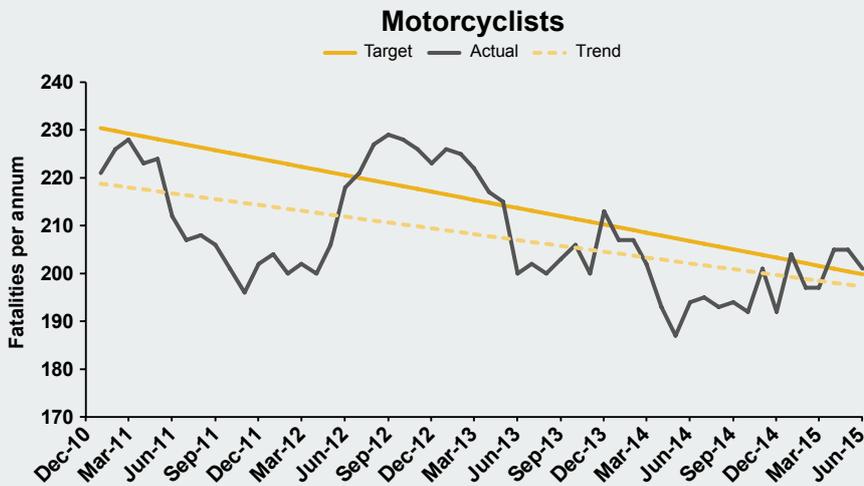


### Pedestrians

Status: **GREEN**

- There have been 155 pedestrian deaths on Australian roads over the 12 months to June 2015, compared with 160 deaths over the same period in 2014.
- This represents a 3.1 per cent **decrease**.

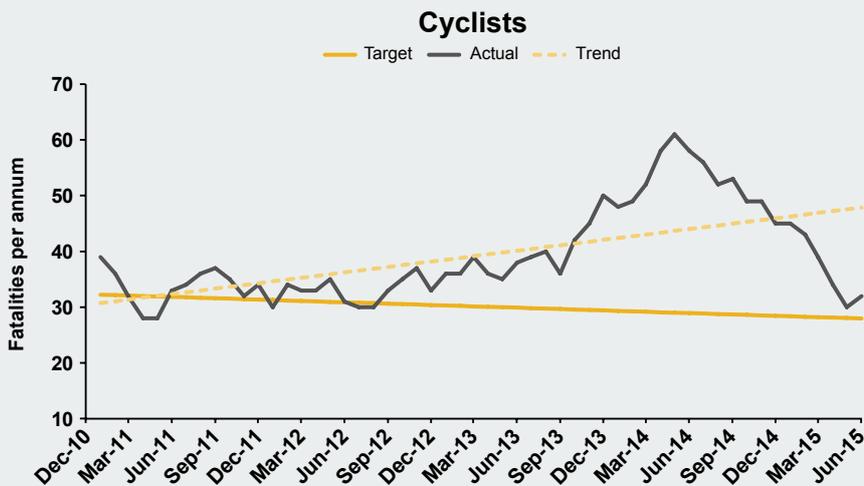
## Analysis: Road User Groups



### Motorcyclists

Status: **RED**

- There have been 201 motorcyclist deaths on Australian roads over the past 12 months, an increase from 194 in the corresponding period for 2014.
- This is a 3.6 per cent increase.



### Cyclists

Status: **RED**

- 32 cyclists have died on Australian roads over the past 12 months, compared with 58 deaths over the same period for 2014.
- This is a 44.8 per cent decrease.



## Analysis: Road Deaths by Population

**Annual Road Deaths per 100,000 Population  
12 months to June 2015**



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, 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 4.15 per 100,000 population, 201 lives could be saved nationally, with 68 in Western Australia, 41 in South Australia and 31 in the Northern Territory.

Jurisdiction	Current number of fatalities	Current fatality rate per 100,000 population	Number of fatalities at 4.15 per 100,000 population	Potential lives saved
NSW	314	4.15	314	0
VIC	253	4.3	244	9
QLD	236	4.97	197	39
SA	111	6.56	70	41
WA	175	6.78	107	68
TAS	35	6.79	21	14
NT	41	16.79	10	31
ACT	13	3.35	13	0
<b>National</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>4.99</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>201</b>

\* Jurisdictions with a rate currently lower than 4.15 would not be anticipated to increase the number of fatalities.



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2011-2020**



Note: The data used to produce this information has been sourced from the Australian Road Deaths Database: [www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal\\_road\\_crash\\_database.aspx](http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx), accessed on 17 July 2015 and Road Deaths Australia June 2015 monthly bulletin ISSN 1449-1168.

