

Feature article: Easter Road Toll

In this section, the characteristics of road fatalities in Queensland for the Easter Long Weekend reporting period during 2006 are analysed and compared with the same reporting period for 2001 to 2005.

There were four people killed in road crashes within Queensland during the 2006 Easter long weekend reporting period (Thursday 13 April to Monday 17 April). This represents one fatality greater than the 2005 Easter long weekend reporting period.

Three fatalities (or 75%) were pedestrians (all aged 70-79 years), and one fatality (or 25%) was a motorcyclist.

There were two male fatalities (or 50%) and two female fatalities (or 50%).

Three fatalities (or 75%) were 70-79 year olds (all pedestrians), and one fatality (or 25%) was a 40-49 year old.

Two fatalities (or 50%) were involved in hit pedestrian type crashes, one fatality (or 25%) was involved in a sideswipe type crash and one fatality (or 25%) was involved in a hit object type crash.

Two fatalities (or 50%) occurred within 0 - 50 km/h zones, one fatality (or 25%) occurred within a 60 km/h zone, and one fatality (or 25%) occurred within a 100 - 110 km/h speed zone.

One fatality (or 25%) was involved in a speed related crash, one fatality (25%) was involved in an alcohol related crash and no fatalities were involved in fatigue related crashes.

Table 1: Road fatalities during the Easter Long Weekend reporting period by day of week, Queensland, 2001 to 2006

Day	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Thursday	0	0	1	0	0	1
Friday	1	2	1	1	2	0
Saturday	1	0	1	0	1	0
Sunday	3	1	1	0	0	0
Monday	1	1	0	0	0	3
Total	6	4	4	1	3	4

Table 2: Road fatalities during the Easter Long Weekend reporting period by road user type, Queensland, 2001 to 2006

Road User	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Driver	4	2	2	1	1	0
Passenger	1	2	2	0	0	0
Pedestrian	0	0	0	0	2	3
Motorcycle Rider	1	0	0	0	0	1
Bicycle Rider	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	6	4	4	1	3	4

Table 3: National road fatalities during the Easter Long Weekend reporting period by State/Territory, 2001 to 2006

State	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Queensland	6	4	4	1	3	4
New South Wales	4	7	8	8	5	9
Victoria	6	10	7	3	8	3
South Australia	1	1	0	1	7	2
Western Australia	5	2	7	1	2	2
Tasmania	0	1	2	1	1	0
Northern Territory	1	0	0	0	0	1
Australian Capital Territory	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	23	25	28	15	26	21

Updated figures for the 2005 Queensland Road Toll

In this section, the characteristics of road fatalities within Queensland for 2005 updated as at 19 June 2005 are analysed and compared with the years 2000 to 2004.

Queensland's road toll for 2005 is 330 fatalities. This is 19 fatalities (or 6.1%) greater than 2004 and 13 fatalities (4.2%) greater than the 2000-2004 five year average.

This represents a rate of 8.32 fatalities per 100,000 population. This is an increase in the 2004 fatality rate which was 8.01.

During 2005, 157 fatalities (or 48%) were drivers, 66 fatalities (or 20%) were passengers, 64 fatalities (or 19%) were motorcyclists, 38 fatalities (or 12%) were pedestrians and five fatalities (or 2%) were bicyclists.

Table 4: Fatalities listed by Road User Type, Queensland

Road User Type	2005	2004	2000-04 average	Variation in '05 from 2000-04 average (%)
Drivers	157	146	146.0	7.5%
Passengers	66	74	79.2	-16.7%
Motorcyclists	64	48	41.0	56.1%
Pedestrians	38	34	42.2	-10.0%
Bicyclists	5	9	8.4	-40.5%
Total	330	311	316.8	4.2%

There was a reduction in passenger fatalities during 2005, eight fatalities (or 10.8%) fewer than the previous year and 13 fatalities (or 16.7%) fewer than the previous five year average. There were 64 motorcyclist fatalities during 2005, this is 16 fatalities (or 33.3%) more than the previous year, and 23 fatalities (or 56.1%) greater than the previous five year average. The number of bicyclist fatalities decreased by four fatalities (or 44.4%) compared with the previous year, and three fatalities (or 40.5%) fewer than the previous five year average.

There were 245 male fatalities (or 75%), 83 female fatalities (or 25%) and two fatalities were of undetermined gender.

Seventy-three fatalities (or 22%) were 17-24 year olds, and 55 fatalities (or 17%) were 30-39 year olds.

One hundred and nineteen fatalities (or 36%) were involved in hit object type crashes and 66 fatalities (or 20%) were involved in head-on type crashes.

One hundred and seventy-seven people (or 54%) were killed within 100 - 110 km/h zones.

Restraint use could be determined for 154 vehicle occupant fatalities. Of those 154, 38 fatalities (or 25%) were not wearing a seat belt.

One hundred and fourteen fatalities (or 35%) were involved in alcohol related crashes, 69 fatalities (or 21%) were involved in speed related crashes and 53 fatalities (or 16%) were involved in fatigue related crashes.

Table 5 shows the age group of fatalities for 2005 compared with 2004 and the previous five year average. During 2005, mature adult fatalities were 34 fatalities (or 24.3%) greater than the previous year, and 25 fatalities (or 16.6%) greater than the previous five year average. Young adult road users aged 17 to 24 years showed a decrease of 15 fatalities (or 17.0%) compared with the previous year, and were 10 fatalities (or 11.6%) fewer than the previous five year average.

Table 5: Fatalities listed by age group, Queensland

Age Group	2005	2004	2000-04 average	Variation in '05 from 2000-04 average (%)
Children (0-16)	31	25	27.6	12.3%
Young adults (17-24)	73	88	82.6	-11.6%
Mature adults (25-59)	174	140	149.2	16.6%
Senior adults (60+)	52	58	57.4	-9.4%
Total	330	311	316.8	4.2%

Table 6 shows the geographic distribution of fatalities for 2005 by Police Region. North Coast Police Region recorded the greatest number of fatalities which was 77 fatalities or 23% of the Queensland road toll. Far Northern Region which recorded the greatest increase in road fatalities for 2005, having 16 fatalities (or 133%) greater than the previous year. Central Region recorded 10 fatalities (or 28%) greater than the previous year and Northern Region recorded six fatalities (or 27%) greater than the previous year.

The number of road fatalities within the Metropolitan South Region was 15 fatalities (or 34%) fewer than the previous year and three fatalities (or 8%) fewer than the previous five year average. North Coast Region recorded four fatalities (or 5%) fewer than the previous year, however this is one fatality (or 2%) greater than the previous five year average.

Table 6: Fatalities listed by Police Region, Queensland

Region	2005	2004	2000-04 average	Variation in '05 from 2000-04 average (%)
Metropolitan North	19	12	19.2	-1.0%
Metropolitan South	29	44	31.6	-8.2%
South Eastern	46	45	45.4	1.3%
Southern	57	59	56.6	0.7%
North Coast	77	81	75.8	1.6%
Central	46	36	43.6	5.5%
Northern	28	22	22.0	27.3%
Far Northern	28	12	22.6	23.9%
Total	330	311	317	4.2%

Updated figures for the 2005 Queensland Road Toll

In this section, the characteristics of road fatalities within Queensland for 2005 updated as at 19 June 2005 are analysed and compared with the years 2000 to 2004.

National Road Toll

The preliminary road toll for all Australian states and territories for 2005 is 1,303. This is an increase of 19 fatalities when compared with 2004 (Table 4).

The national road toll per 100,000 population in 2005 was 7.96. Queensland's road toll per 100,000 of 8.32 is 4.5% greater than the overall Australian rate. Compared with the previous year, the Queensland fatality rate per 100,000 population increased by 3.9%. The Queensland road fatality rate ranked fifth in the Nation with Victoria, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia having lower fatality per capita rates.

Summary

The road toll for Queensland during the year 2005 was 19 greater than the previous year. There were reductions in the number of passenger, bicyclist and young adult road user fatalities however there were increases in the number of motorcyclist, driver, pedestrian and mature adult road user fatalities. There was a reduction in the number of fatalities within Metropolitan South, Southern and North Coast Police Regions and an increase in the number of fatalities within the Metropolitan North, South Eastern, Central, Northern and Far Northern Police Regions.

Table 4: 2005 Road Toll compared with 2004, Australian States and Territories

	Road fatalities		Road toll per 100,000 population		Road toll per 100,000 population: % change 2004 to 2005
	2005	2004	2005	2004	
Queensland	330	311	8.32	8.01	3.9%
New South Wales	517	521	7.63	7.74	-1.4%
Victoria	346	343	6.89	6.90	-0.1%
South Australia	147	139	9.53	9.06	5.2%
Western Australia	162	178	8.06	8.98	-10.3%
Tasmania	50	58	10.30	12.03	-14.4%
Northern Territory	55	35	27.12	17.51	54.9%
ACT	26	10	8.00	3.09	159.0%
Australian Total	1303	1284	7.96	7.91	0.6%

Updated Christmas / New Year road toll in review

Within Queensland, there were 20 road fatalities during the 2005/2006 Christmas/New Year period. This is 10 fatalities (or 100%) greater than the previous five year average.

Seven fatalities (or 35%) were drivers, seven fatalities (or 35%) were passengers, three fatalities (or 15%) were motorcyclists, two fatalities (or 10%) were pedestrians and one fatality (or 5%) was a bicyclist.

There were 11 male fatalities (or 55%) and nine female fatalities (or 45%).

Six fatalities (or 30%) were 17-24 year olds, four fatalities (or 20%) were 40-49 year olds, two fatalities (or 10%) were 30-39 year olds, two fatalities (or 10%) were 0-4 year olds and two fatalities were 12-16 year olds.

Nine fatalities (or 45%) were involved in hit object type crashes. Four fatalities (or 20%) were involved in head-on type crashes and four fatalities (or 20%) were involved in angle type crashes.

Eleven people (or 55%) were killed within 100 - 110 km/h zones.

Restraint use could be determined for eight vehicle occupant fatalities. Of those eight, one fatality (or 12%) was not wearing a seatbelt.

There were six fatalities (or 46%) as a result of crashes involving a young adult driver or rider.

Eight fatalities (or 40%) were involved in fatigue type crashes, six fatalities (or 30%) were involved in alcohol related crashes, five fatalities (or 25%) were involved in speed related crashes and four fatalities (or 20.0%) were involved in illegal maneuver type crashes.

Table 7: Daily road fatalities Christmas/New Year period, 2000 to 2006

Daily road fatalities, Queensland						
Date	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
23 December	0	0	0	2	1	1
24 December	1	0	0	0	0	1
25 December	0	3	0	0	2	2
26 December	1	0	1	3	1	0
27 December	0	1	1	0	0	5
28 December	1	0	0	2	0	0
29 December	2	0	0	0	0	0
30 December	0	2	0	0	1	1
31 December	2	0	0	3	0	2
1 January	0	0	1	4	1	0
2 January	0	0	0	1	0	2
3 January	0	1	1	1	1	1
4 January	1	0	1	0	0	0
5 January	0	0	0	2	0	1
6 January	1	1	2	1	0	4
Total	9	8	7	19	7	20

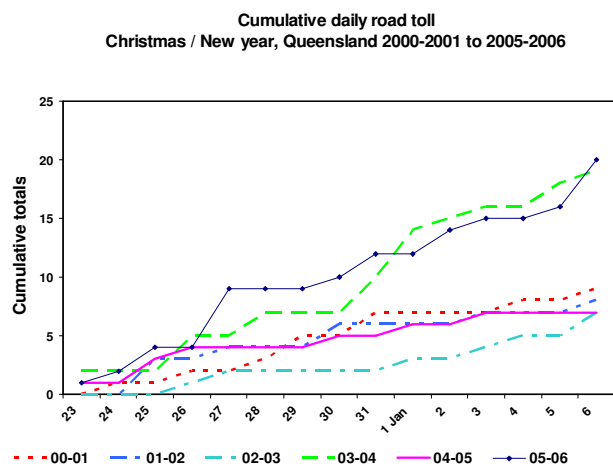
This report is from the Land Transport & Safety Division's Road Crash Information System. Where noted, the figures in this report are based on provisional information and are released on this basis.

This report is also available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.roadsafety.qld.gov.au>

Table 8: Cumulative daily road fatalities Christmas/New Year period, 2000 to 2006

Cumulative daily road fatalities, Queensland							
Date	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	5 yr Avg	05/06
23 December	0	0	0	2	1	0.6	1
24 December	1	0	0	2	1	0.8	2
25 December	1	3	0	2	3	1.8	4
26 December	2	3	1	5	4	3.0	4
27 December	2	4	2	5	4	3.4	9
28 December	3	4	2	7	4	4.0	9
29 December	5	4	2	7	4	4.4	9
30 December	5	6	2	7	5	5.0	10
31 December	7	6	2	10	5	6.0	12
1 January	7	6	3	14	6	7.2	12
2 January	7	6	3	15	6	7.4	14
3 January	7	7	4	16	7	8.2	15
4 January	8	7	5	16	7	8.6	15
5 January	8	7	5	18	7	9.0	16
6 January	9	8	7	19	7	10.0	20

Figure 1: Cumulative daily road fatalities Christmas/New Year period, 2000 to 2006



Five road fatalities (or 25%) occurred on 27 December 2005 and four fatalities (or 20%) occurred on 6 January 2006.

Eight fatalities (or 40%) occurred between the hours of 4am to 10am and eight fatalities (or 40%) occurred between noon and 6pm.

Table 9: Fatalities by time of day during the 2005/2006 Christmas/New Year period

Time of Day	Fatalities
Midnight - 2am	1
2am - 4am	1
4am - 6am	3
6am - 8am	2
8am - 10am	3
10am - noon	1
Noon - 2pm	3
2pm - 4pm	3
4pm - 6pm	2
10pm - midnight	1
Total	20

Updated Christmas / New Year road toll in review

Five fatalities (or 25%) occurred within the North Coast Police Region, four fatalities (or 20%) occurred within the South Eastern Police Region and three fatalities (or 15%) occurred within the Southern Police Region.

Table 10: Road fatalities by Police Region and District 2005/2006 Christmas/New Year period

Police Region	Police District	Fatalities
Central	Rockhampton(22)	1
Far Northern	Innisfail(26)	2
Metropolitan North	Brisbane West(28)	1
	Pine Rivers(29)	1
Metropolitan South	South Brisbane(3)	1
North Coast	Maryborough(17)	1
	Redcliffe(15)	2
	Sunshine Coast(18)	2
Northern	Townsville(24)	2
South Eastern	Gold Coast(7)	1
	Logan(6)	3
Southern	Ipswich(13)	2
	Toowoomba(11)	1
Total		20