

Analysis of Fatalities over Christmas Period 2008-2016

Christmas Launch
30th November 2017



- **Objective:** to provide data on who, when, where and why fatalities have occurred in recent years in November/December, to inform the An Garda Síochána enforcement strategy, and public awareness, in the high risk end of year period
- **Approach:** Analysis of An Garda Síochána collision data 2008-2016*:
 - Time of day & day of week
 - County & Road Type
 - Road User Profile
 - Contributory Factors

**Note: 2015 and 2016 data is provisional and subject to change*

MONTHLY AVERAGE

- Across 2008-2016, a total of **292 road users were killed** in the months November and December. The average number of fatalities each month for this nine year period was 16 in November and 16 in December.

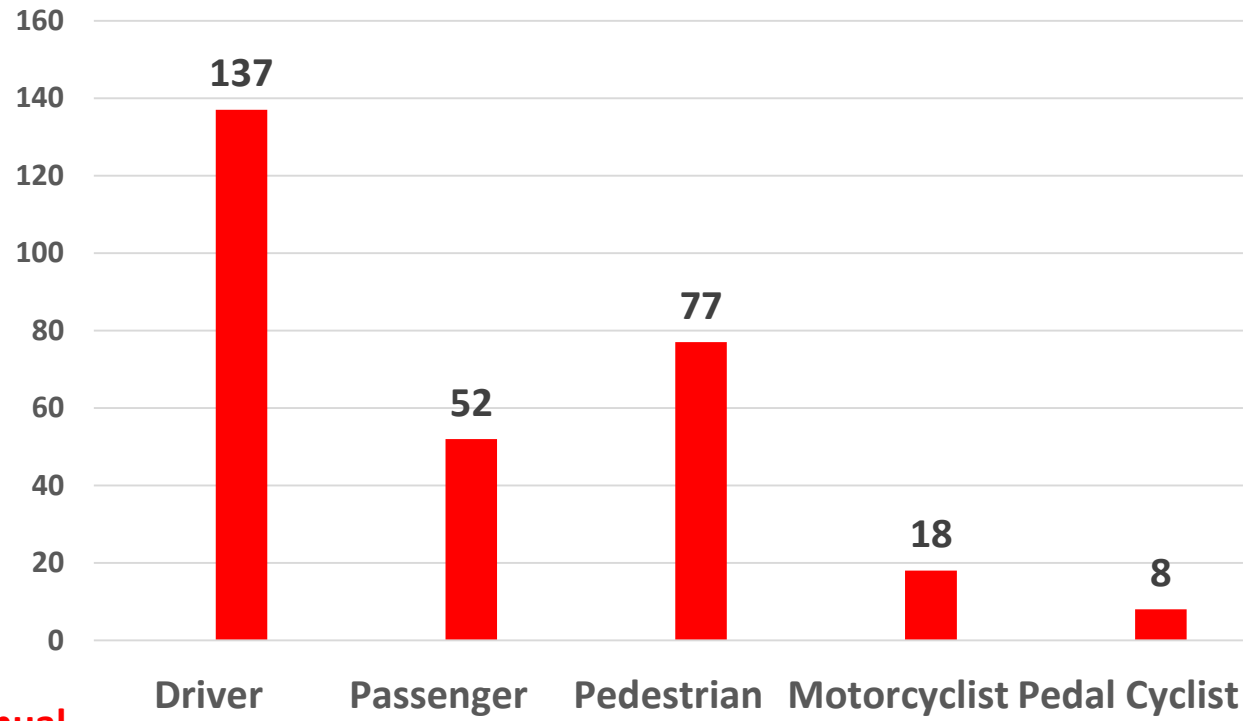
WHERE

- **Dublin, Cork and Galway** had the highest number of RTC fatalities in November and December and accounted for almost a third (32%) of the total number of fatalities that occurred during this time period.

WHEN

- The most dangerous times of day were between 4pm-8pm (33%) and 12pm-4pm (23%), followed by 12am-6am (22%).
- RTC fatalities were most prevalent on **Sundays (21%)**. The most dangerous time of day on Sundays was midnight-6am (24% of Sunday fatalities).

Fatalities Nov/Dec 2008-2016*: Road User Type Killed



**Annual
Average
Nov/Dec****

15 6 9 2 1

****Rounded up to nearest whole number**

**Note: 2015 and 2016 data is provisional and subject to change*

- Drivers represent almost half (47%) of all road users killed in Nov/Dec;
- Pedestrians represent over a quarter (26%) of fatalities, while passengers account for almost one fifth (18%)

Fatalities Nov/Dec 2008-2016*: Most Dangerous Counties

County	No. of fatalities	%
Dublin	36	12
Cork	31	11
Galway	26	9

**2015 and 2016 data is provisional and subject to change*

Dublin

- Majority of those killed were pedestrians (44%), followed by car users (25%) and motorcyclists (19%).
- Urban roads** were higher risk (81% of fatalities).

Cork

- Majority killed were car users (65%), followed by pedestrians (29%).
- 87% of fatalities occurred on rural roads.

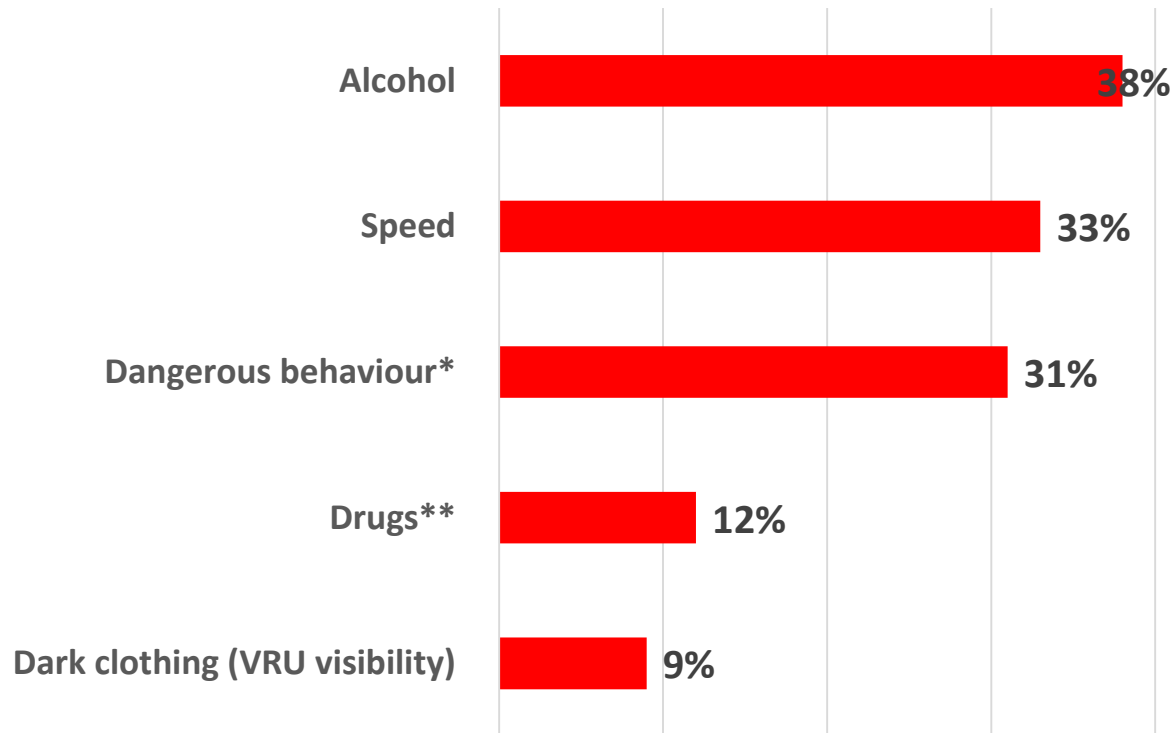
Galway

- Majority killed were car users (62%), followed by pedestrians (15%).
- 65% of fatalities occurred on rural roads.

*** urban roads are roads with a posted speed limit ≤ 60 km/h; whereas rural roads have a posted speed limit of ≥ 80 km/h*

Top 5 Contributory Factors

(Source: Garda fatal investigation files, Pre-Crash Study n=128)



Alcohol:

- 24% of collisions involved a **driver/motorcyclist** who had consumed alcohol, while 13% involved a **pedestrian** who had consumed alcohol. Note, 46% of **pedestrians killed** had consumed alcohol.
- In general, the 'morning after' is a high risk period for alcohol related collisions. From the Pre-Crash Study (full year analysis 2008-2012), it was found that 11% of the 222 fatal collisions in which a driver had consumed alcohol, occurred between the hours of **7am and 11am**.

*Examples include: unsafe overtaking/undertaking manoeuvres, poor observation by motorists/VRUs, non-compliance with traffic signage, other dangerous behaviour.

**Includes prescription and/or illicit drugs. Preliminary data. No analysis conducted to ascertain if levels are within therapeutic range. Results should be interpreted with caution in the context of these caveats.

2013-2014:

- 25% of RTC fatalities in Nov/Dec tested positive for alcohol
(Source: NDRDI** Coroner's data 2013-2014, n=56)

**Preliminary information on potential contributory factors 2015-2016
(AGS/RSA Collision Data, n=60) :**

- Environment – e.g. wet road, fog or ice (8 collisions: 13%)
- Driver lost control (6 collisions: 10%)
- Driver went to wrong side of road (5 collisions: 8%)
- Sun glare/headlights (4 collisions: 7%)

**Note: 2015 and 2016 data is provisional and subject to change*

***National Drug-Related Deaths Index.*

*Note: NDRDI Coroner's data on RTCs is collected by the Health Research Board (HRB) on behalf of the RSA.
Includes cases from closed coroner files where available.*

- **Danger times**
 - Afternoons and early evenings
 - Sunday morning midnight-6am
- **Danger factors**
 - Alcohol (Motorists & Pedestrians)
 - Speeding
 - Dangerous behaviour
 - Dark clothing/visibility for vulnerable road users
- **Highest risk groups**
 - Motorists
 - Pedestrians
 - Passengers

Thank you