

Section 7 - Traffic Accidents

This section provides some general statistics on the injury road traffic accidents occurred in Hong Kong and the casualties as a result of them. The traffic injury accident data collected by the Police are coded and stored in a Traffic Accident Database System (TRADS) which is managed by the Road Safety and Standards Division (RSSD) of the Transport Department.

The RSSD uses these data to identify locations of accident blacksites for investigations and remedial measures. The database also serves as an important reference and basis in the formulation of road safety strategies, publicity/education programmes and in the review of road safety legislation and policies.

Table 7.1 Road Traffic Injury Accidents By Class Of Vehicle Involved 1991-2000

(unit in no. of accidents)

Accidents involving:	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
All classes of vehicles	15 327	15 322	15 469	15 440	14 812	14 397	14 776	14 014	14714	14949
All motor vehicles	14 961	15 010	15 103	14 971	14 325	13 816	14 136	13 414	13796	14946
Motor cycle	2 610	2 556	2 617	2 632	2 722	2 731	2 676	2 317	2528	2674
Private car	5 745	5 981	6 287	6 450	6 137	5 790	5 995	5 836	5925	6053
Public light bus	931	951	886	892	787	977	950	891	995	1008
Light goods vehicle	4 335	4 080	3 966	3 767	3 358	3 034	3 111	2 776	2801	2892
Medium goods vehicle	933	1 111	1 124	1 175	1 101	1 026	1 095	969	976	947
Heavy goods vehicle	59	35	58	77	64	67	78	66	84	90
(All goods vehicles)	(4 993)	(4 863)	(4 784)	(4 651)	(4 202)	(3 868)	(4 000)	(3 524)	(3561)	(3644)
Franchised Public bus	1 306	1 384	1 320	1 351	1 438	1 463	1 573	1 593	1802	1838
Non Franchised Public bus	101	107	143	102	94	89	103	99	380	362
Taxi	3 648	3 668	3 485	3 290	3 019	2 982	3 045	2 865	2819	2932
Tram	140	144	148	121	101	88	73	84	83	71
Light rail vehicle	20	29	21	16	18	15	15	16	30	24
Bicycle	451	501	569	645	638	687	782	837	1260	1230

Note: In a single accident, there may be more than one class of vehicle involved.

Table 7.2 Accident Involvement By Class Of Motor Vehicle 1991-2000

(unit in no. of vehicles involved)

Class of motor vehicle	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Motor cycle	2 649	2 593	2 647	2 683	2 761	2 779	2 718	2 354	2561	2724
Private car	6 833	7 231	7 717	7 984	7 634	7 283	7 460	7 145	7227	7461
Public light bus	977	988	930	930	816	1 027	982	926	1049	1055
Light goods vehicle	4 982	4 765	4 494	4 246	3 772	3 372	3 490	3 075	3114	3232
Medium & heavy goods vehicles	1 103	1 288	1 383	1 452	1 408	1 270	1 330	1 218	1235	1217
Franchised Public bus	1 332	1 428	1 354	1 387	1 473	1 506	1 631	1 645	1 871#	1909
Non-franchised Public bus	102	110	148	106	95	90	105	104	394#	379
Taxi	4 070	4 131	3 885	3 683	3 350	3 336	3 346	3 181	3101	3274
All motor vehicles *	22 704	23 112	23 140	23 054	21 918	21 160	21 568	20 152	20842	21530

Note : * All motor vehicles exclude bicycles, handcarts and unknown.

The sudden rise was probably due to change of vehicle class recognition from being visually distinguished by Police officers to direct extraction from Valid III through matching of vehicle registration number.

Table 7.3 Age Of Road Traffic Casualties By Class Of Road User 1991-2000

Age/Role	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<u>Under 20</u>										
Pedestrian	2 069	1 945	1 714	1 836	1 533	1 474	1 442	1 450	1257	1203
Passenger	1 664	1 728	1 604	1 758	1 662	1 488	1 561	1 502	1353	1172
Driver	329	365	356	387	348	382	401	424	621	577
(Sub-total)	4 062	4 038	3 674	3 981	3 543	3 344	3 404	3 376	3231	2952
<u>20-39</u>										
Pedestrian	1 675	1 596	1 693	1 618	1 556	1 491	1 546	1 330	1339	1311
Passenger	3 706	3 918	3 904	3 693	3 669	3 421	3 576	3 573	3258	3202
Driver	5 609	5 524	5 609	5 526	5 376	4 929	4 915	4 590	4734	4829
(Sub-total)	10 990	11 038	11 206	10 837	10 601	9 841	10 037	9 493	9331	9342
<u>40-59</u>										
Pedestrian	1 114	1 099	1 152	1 131	1 090	1 053	1 144	1 030	1057	1083
Passenger	1 049	1 125	1 225	1 123	1 133	1 272	1 470	1 454	1519	1478
Driver	1 262	1 374	1 405	1 487	1 426	1 505	1 581	1 647	1857	2047
(Sub-total)	3 425	3 598	3 782	3 741	3 649	3 830	4 195	4 131	4433	4610
<u>60 & over</u>										
Pedestrian	1 451	1 356	1 436	1 363	1 238	1 227	1 128	1 097	1039	1013
Passenger	530	597	619	627	624	653	719	720	773	809
Driver	151	138	175	179	175	183	185	198	180	190
(Sub-total)	2 132	2 091	2 230	2 169	2 037	2 063	2 032	2 015	1992	2012
<u>All ages *</u>										
Pedestrian	6 326	6 009	6 006	5 964	5 435	5 266	5 321	4 933	4830	4785
Passenger	6 957	7 371	7 354	7 205	7 107	6 857	7 366	7 280	7153	6970
Driver	7 353	7 403	7 549	7 580	7 331	7 019	7 106	6 863	7439	7674
(Total)	20 636	20 783	20 909	20 749	19 973	19 142	19 793	19 076	19422	19429

Note : * including casualties with age unknown.

Table 7.4 Road Traffic Accidents By Region By Severity 1991-2000

Region	Severity	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Hong Kong Island	Fatal	49	49	58	44	41	36	47	30	32	32
	Serious	764	723	717	759	710	676	676	686	625	634
	Slight	2 935	2 871	2 953	2 839	2 646	2 675	2 464	2 229	2441	2390
	Total	3 748	3 643	3 728	3 642	3 397	3 387	3 187	2 945	3098	3056
Kowloon	Fatal	131	147	151	133	101	82	84	81	69	67
	Serious	1 694	1 544	1 524	1 395	1 338	1 337	1 245	1 141	976	956
	Slight	6 099	6 075	5 802	5 667	5 427	5 143	5 252	4 960	4819	4882
	Total	7 924	7 766	7 477	7 195	6 866	6 562	6 581	6 182	5864	5905
New Territories	Fatal	119	122	125	102	105	134	98	93	101	63
	Serious	1 093	1 161	1 160	1 121	1 183	1 069	1 233	1 276	1207	1248
	Slight	2 406	2 600	2 969	3 355	3 236	3 240	3 677	3 518	4444	4677
	Total	3 618	3 883	4 254	4 578	4 524	4 443	5 008	4 887	5752	5988
All Regions (including islands)	Fatal	300	318	336	279	247	252	229	204	202	162
	Serious	3 561	3 438	3 406	3 279	3 243	3 084	3 154	3 103	2808	2838
	Slight	11 466	11 566	11 727	11 882	11 322	11 061	11 393	10 707	11704	11949
	Total	15 327	15 322	15 469	15 440	14 812	14 397	14 776	14 014	14714	14949

Table 7.5 Road Traffic Injury Accidents by District Boards 1991-2000

District Board		1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Hong Kong	Central & Western	989	966	1015	992	873	870	832	811	905	882
	Eastern	1210	1135	1194	1087	1002	1048	964	866	969	955
	Southern	528	523	505	529	514	533	496	429	405	345
	Wan Chai	1021	1019	1014	1034	1006	936	895	837	807	864
Kowloon	Kowloon City	1632	1626	1528	1546	1453	1461	1433	1258	1137	1181
	Kwun Tong	1578	1494	1397	1366	1379	1267	1308	1271	1181	1205
	Sham Shui Po	1473	1314	1352	1297	1150	1203	1104	1103	994	952
	Wong Tai Sin	908	890	840	782	727	640	794	787	680	664
	Yau Tsim Mong	1882	1955	1866	1761	1680	1654	1633	1553	1521	1556
New Territories & Island	Sha Tin	694	634	767	785	707	699	689	644	1063	1016
	Tai Po	428	465	505	686	684	679	853	831	857	920
	North	328	329	479	487	512	524	542	614	693	652
	Yuen Long	501	651	516	482	453	443	791	766	963	982
	Kwai Tsing	511	572	630	657	634	603	560	574	594	661
	Tsuen Wan	566	669	864	984	992	988	905	915	798	839
	Tuen Mun	592	565	493	497	545	472	599	539	646	683
	Sai Kong	448	485	494	442	476	337	309	210	344	347
	Islands	37	30	10	25	25	40	69	6	157	195
Total		15326	15322	15469	15439	14812	14397	14776	14014	14714	14949

Table 7.6 The top Five Contributory Factors of Traffic Accidents in 2000

	No of Incidents
Contributory Factor –Driver	
Driving too close to vehicle in front	1587
Lost control of vehicle	996
Careless lane changing	826
Turning negligently	768
Trying to avoid collision or otherwise	431
Contributory Factor - Casualty (Driver, Passenger or Pedestrian)	
Crossing road heedless of traffic (elsewhere)	921
Crossing road heedless of traffic (at crossing)	470
Inattentive	391
Falling inside bus/PLB (sudden stopping/starting)	271
Falling on staircase of bus	71
Contributory Factor - Vehicle	
Defective brakes	122
Unidentified vehicle (hit-and-run)	65
Defective tyre	31
Tyre blown out before impact	21
Defective steering	14
Contributory Factor – Accident Environment	
Slippery road (not related to weather)	115
Slippery road (caused by weather)	88
Object or animal in road	74
Pedestrian negligence	60
Potholes	31