

100 Years On – Safer Roads

The fatality rate per 100,000 population in NSW has declined dramatically over the last three decades, from 28.9 in 1970 to 8.1 in 2003. The most recent figures are actually the lowest rates since the early years of last century with the only recorded figure lower occurring in 1908 with 7.6 fatalities per 100,000 population. Yet, in 2003 there were 27 times as many motor vehicles as in 1908.

Year	Killed	Population	Fatalities per 100,000 population
1908	120	1,570,712	7.64
1909	146	1,596,704	9.14
1910	167	1,634,184	10.22
1911	186	1,660,378	11.20
1912	186	1,742,889	10.67
1913	207	1,817,863	11.39
1914	239	1,872,027	12.77
1915	201	1,889,079	10.64
1916	218	1,889,883	11.54
1917	223	1,903,588	11.71
1918	192	1,941,128	9.89
1919	210	1,996,359	10.52
1920	211	2,067,689	10.20
1921	225	2,103,388	10.70
1922	216	2,154,366	10.03
1923	231	2,200,370	10.50
1924	309	2,242,454	13.78
1925	342	2,292,816	14.92
1926	362	2,343,668	15.45
1927	430	2,401,941	17.90
1928	463	2,458,852	18.83
1929	553	2,502,629	22.10
1930	466	2,529,526	18.42
1931	372	2,554,479	14.56
1932	366	2,578,214	14.20
1933	393	2,600,847	15.11
1934	405	2,621,776	15.45
1935	456	2,645,052	17.24
1936	550	2,665,942	20.63
1937	571	2,693,318	21.20
1938	572	2,720,307	21.03
1939	545	2,748,393	19.83
1940	522	2,776,951	18.80
1941	443	2,798,280	15.83
1942	493	2,828,697	17.43
1943	392	2,857,703	13.72
1944	371	2,886,574	12.85
1945	411	2,918,378	14.08
1946	508	2,944,700	17.25
1947	509	2,984,838	17.05
1948	539	3,015,763	17.87
1949	535	3,092,621	17.30
1950	634	3,193,372	19.85
1951	728	3,278,032	22.21
1952	700	3,339,455	20.96

1953	704	3,383,792	20.81
1954	754	3,423,529	22.02
1955	820	3,490,749	23.49
1956	801	3,554,257	22.54
1957	765	3,624,969	21.10
1958	824	3,691,954	22.32
1959	859	3,759,834	22.85
1960	978	3,832,453	25.52
1961	918	3,918,501	23.43
1962	876	3,986,948	21.97
1963	900	4,049,998	22.22
1964	1010	4,107,915	24.59
1965	1151	4,175,438	27.57
1966	1143	4,237,901	26.97
1967	1117	4,295,239	26.01
1968	1211	4,359,325	27.78
1969	1188	4,441,188	26.75
1970	1309	4,522,330	28.95
1971	1249	4,725,503	26.43
1972	1092	4,795,106	22.77
1973	1230	4,841,898	25.40
1974	1275	4,894,053	26.05
1975	1288	4,932,016	26.12
1976	1264	4,959,588	25.49
1977	1268	5,001,888	25.35
1978	1384	5,053,790	27.39
1979	1290	5,111,130	25.24
1980	1303	5,171,527	25.20
1981	1291	5,234,889	24.66
1982	1253	5,303,580	23.63
1983	966	5,352,959	18.05
1984	1037	5,402,729	19.19
1985	1067	5,464,512	19.53
1986	1029	5,531,526	18.60
1987	959	5,616,736	17.07
1988	1037	5,707,309	18.17
1989	960	5,776,283	16.62
1990	797	5,834,021	13.66
1991	663	5,898,731	11.24
1992	649	5,962,569	10.88
1993	581	6,004,880	9.68
1994	647	6,060,190	10.68
1995	620	6,126,981	10.12
1996	581	6,204,728	9.36
1997	576	6,272,784	9.18
1998	556	6,333,515	8.78
1999	577	6,396,703	9.02
2000	603	6,462,499	9.33
2001	524	6,575,217	7.97
2002	561	6,640,355	8.45
2003	539	6,682,053	8.07