

Road traffic collisions 2022

Key findings for Lancashire-14

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1 Introduction

Road traffic collisions are defined by the Department for Transport as "All road accidents involving human death or personal injury occurring on the Highway ('road' in Scotland) and notified to the police within 30 days of occurrence, and in which one or more vehicles are involved. This is a wider definition of road accidents than that used in Road Traffic Acts."

Road traffic collisions (RTCs) lead to death and disability as well as significant financial costs to both society and the individual. In 2022, in the Lancashire-14 area, the police recorded 2,765 road traffic collisions; Lancashire Fire and Rescue attended 672 road traffic collisions. At least 1,040 attendances at Lancashire hospitals or other hospitals by Lancashire residents were due to road traffic collisions.

This article is compiled from a variety of sources, primarily the Department for Transport Road Accident Statistics but also includes Lancashire Constabulary and accident data via the Lancashire Multi- Agency Data Exchange (MADE) and the Lancashire County Council Road Safety Team. The article looks at the number and rate of collisions by severity of accident, where a person was killed or seriously injured, and serious incidents involving a child. Contributory or causal factors are also examined, as these have important implications on what action local highway authorities and road safety teams should undertake to prevent accidents.

The [Lancashire Road Safety Partnership Strategy for 2016 - 2026](#) sets out evidence of the current road safety situation in Lancashire county council area and shows how that evidence has been used to form strategic objectives and priorities. It then outlines what the county council plans to do, and details district-based action plans.

The Reported Road Casualties in Great Britain (RRCGB) [Annual report](#) is published by the Department for Transport and details the national picture.

A key feature to note is that 2020 figures include periods of 'lockdown' due to the Covid-19 pandemic, with schools shut down, a shift towards more home working and a number of people placed on furlough, which meant significantly fewer cars on the road. More analysis of this can be found in '[The impact of lockdown on reported road casualties](#)', [Department of Transport](#).



2 The Lancashire picture

In the Lancashire-12 area, there were 2,156 reported road traffic collisions during 2022. Regrettably 34 people were killed, and 831 people were seriously injured.

Within the wider Lancashire-14 area, there were 3,782 road traffic collisions during 2022. Regrettably 1 person was killed in Blackburn with Darwen and 5 people in Blackpool, total 40 in the area. A further 92 people in Blackburn with Darwen and 115 in Blackpool were seriously injured, total 1,038 across the area.

Table 1 shows that the number of casualties arising from road traffic collisions in the Lancashire-12 increased by 116 (+15.5%) between 2021 and 2022. The figures for Blackburn with Darwen increased by 12 (14.8%) and Blackpool increased by 4 (+3.4%). The Lancashire-12 increase is higher than the North West and England increases.

There has been a 10% reduction in people killed or seriously injured since 2012 in the Lancashire-12 area, with figures falling from 956 in 2012 to 865 in 2022. Blackburn with Darwen has seen a 24% reduction. Blackpool has seen a 10% increase.

Table 1: Numbers of people killed or seriously injured in a road traffic collision (adjusted), 2012 to 2022

Area	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Numeric change since 2012	Percent change since 2012	Numeric change since 2021	Percent change since 2021
Lancashire-12	956	1,020	1,120	1,084	1,022	959	972	812	648	749	865	-91	-10%	116	15%
Blackburn	123	121	124	129	123	108	111	116	86	81	93	-30	-24%	12	15%
Blackpool	109	124	105	109	137	111	114	106	51	116	120	11	10%	4	3%
Lancashire-14	1,189	1,265	1,349	1,322	1,282	1,178	1,196	1,034	785	946	1,078	-111	-9%	132	14%
North West	4,239	4,019	4,359	4,056	3,910	3,933	3,876	3,452	2,703	3,105	3,336	-903	-21%	231	7%
England	30,389	28,265	29,953	28,750	27,606	26,921	27,416	26,418	21,176	24,062	26,461	-3929	-13%	2399	10%

Source: [Department of Transport: Accidents and Casualties Tables RAS0402/RAS0403](#)

The rates per thousand population and billion vehicle miles for Lancashire-12 and 14 are still above both the North West and England rates (see Table 2).

Table 2: Rate of people killed or serious injured in a road traffic collision (adjusted) in Lancashire, 2022

Area	Rate per thousand population	Rate per billion vehicle miles
Lancashire-12	0.61	112
Blackburn	0.52	219
Blackpool	0.82	370
Lancashire-14	0.62	
North West	0.42	94
England	0.43	95

Source: ¹[Population estimates census 2021](#) ²[Department of Transport, Table RAS0402/RAS0403](#)

Table 3 shows that the percentage of children killed or seriously injured in the Lancashire-12 area has decreased from 11.5% in 2021 to 9% in 2022. The percentage of children killed or serious injured in Lancashire is lower than that seen in the North West but higher than the England average.

Table 4: Child (aged 0-15) KSI casualties(adjusted)

Area	2021			2022		
	Child	All	%	Child	All	%
Lancashire-12	86	749	11.5%	78	865	9.0%
Blackburn	17	81	21.0%	10	93	10.8%
Blackpool	15	116	12.9%	24	120	20.0%
Lancashire-14	118	946	12.5%	112	1078	10.4%
North West	361	3,153	11.4%	381	3,336	11.4%
England	1,986	24,326	8.2%	2,157	26,461	8.2%

Source: [Department for Transport](#) – this link can also be used to create custom data reports using DfT statistics road data.

These figures are visualised further in a power bi report on the [road traffic collisions](#) page.

