



Road traffic collisions 2020

Key findings for Lancashire-14

www.lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire

County
Council



If you have any comments about this monitor, please contact:

BusinessIntelligence.made@lancashire.gov.uk

October 2021

For further information on the work of Business Intelligence, please contact us at:

Business Intelligence
Lancashire County Council
2nd floor Christ Church Precinct
County Hall
Fishergate Hill
Preston
PR1 8XJ

E: BusinessIntelligence.insight@lancashire.gov.uk

W: www.lancashire.gov.uk/lancashire-insight

Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
2	The Lancashire picture	3
2.1	Accident and emergency attendances	5

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. The police dealt with 2,354 road traffic collisions between January and December 2020 in the Lancashire-14 area. In the same period there were 1,130 ambulance call outs due to a traffic or transportation accident in the county. Lancashire Fire and Rescue were also called to 708 road traffic collisions in the 12-month period.

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 1,840 reported road traffic collisions during 2020. There were 2,525 casualties arising from reported road traffic collisions involving one or more vehicle. Regrettably 23 people were killed, and 625 people were seriously injured.

Within the wider Lancashire-14 area, there were 2,354 road traffic collisions during 2020. There were 3,213 casualties arising from reported road traffic collisions involving one or more vehicle. A further 2 people were killed in Blackburn with

Darwen (25 in total) and another 84 people were seriously injured across the two unitary authorities (760 in total).

The number of casualties arising from road traffic collisions in the Lancashire-12 area fell by 751 (-22.9%) between 2020 and 2019. The figures for Blackburn with Darwen fell by 71 (-15.7%) and Blackpool fell by 88 (-22.2%). These are broadly in line with the North West (-27%) and England (-24%).

There has been a 42% reduction in people killed or seriously injured since 2010 in the Lancashire-12 area, with figures falling from 1,125 in 2010 to 648 in 2020. A similar decrease has occurred in the two unitary areas.

These totals are illustrated in tables and figures later in this article and visualised in a dashboard on the road traffic collisions homepage.

Table 1: Numbers of people killed or seriously injured in a road traffic collision, 2011 to 2020

Area	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Lancashire-12	1,072	968	1,030	1,128	1,090	1,030	962	973	812	648
Blackburn with Darwen	116	123	121	125	129	123	108	110	116	86
Blackpool	124	110	125	105	109	136	110	114	106	51
Lancashire-14	1,312	1,200	1,275	1,357	1,328	1,289	1,179	1,196	1,034	785
North West	4,194	3,982	3,847	4,169	3,902	3,767	3,739	3,688	3,267	2,572
England	30,043	29,589	27,967	29,616	28,403	27,213	26,513	27,016	25,998	20,836

Source: [Department of Transport: Accidents and Casualties Table RAS30038](#)

Although the number of casualties has been decreasing, the rates per thousand population 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 seriously injured in a road traffic collision in Lancashire, 2020

Area	Rate per thousand population ¹	Rate per billion vehicle miles ²
Lancashire-12	0.53	101
Blackburn with Darwen	0.57	207
Blackpool	0.37	142
Lancashire-14	0.52	---
North West	0.35	78
England	0.37	79

Source: ¹[Population estimates mid-2020](#) ²[Department of Transport, Table RAS41003](#)

Table 3 shows that the percentage of children killed or seriously injured has reduced slightly from 12.3% in 2019 to 10% in 2020. This might be attributable to the closure of schools for a period during the year. The percentage of children killed or seriously injured in Lancashire is still higher than that seen in the North West and nearly double the England average.

Table 3: Reported child KSI casualties in Lancashire 2019/2020

Area	2019			2020		
	Child	All	%	Child	All	%
Lancashire-12	100	812	12.3%	65	648	10.0%
Blackburn with Darwen	24	116	20.7%	19	86	22.1%
Blackpool	16	106	15.1%	9	51	17.6%
Lancashire - 14	140	1,034	13.5%	93	785	11.8%
North West	314	3,267	9.6%	217	2,572	8.5%
England	1957	25,998	7.5%	1,185	20,836	5.7%

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

2.1 Accident and emergency attendances

In the 12 month period between January and December 2020, there were 3,206 accident and emergency department (AED) attendances across Lancashire due to injuries sustained by road traffic collisions (RTCs). This figure was down substantially on 2019, reflecting both the fall in casualties and also the reluctance of people to attend AEDs due to the pandemic.