

# Hertfordshire Road Traffic Collision and Casualty Facts 2007



Environment  
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[www.hertsdirect.org/ttdr](http://www.hertsdirect.org/ttdr)





There were 3,587 road traffic collisions involving personal injury on Hertfordshire's roads during the year 2007. Totals have been falling since 2000 and this, the lowest on record, is 1.6% fewer than during 2006. The casualty total of 5,128 is also the lowest recorded, and is 1.4% fewer than during 2006.

## National, Regional and Hertfordshire Trends<sup>1</sup>

		Collisions	Casualties		
		Total	Fatal	Serious	Slight
Herts	94-98 average	4,690	55.6	1,029	5,509
	2006	3,647	43	456	4,704
	2007	3,587	50	500	4,578
	Change from 2006 (%)	-1.6	+16.3	+9.6	-2.7
	Change from 94-98 average (%)	-23.5	-10.1	-51.4	-16.9
National	94-98 average	236,040	3,578	44,078	272,272
	2006	189,161	3,172	28,673	226,559
	2007	182,115	2,943	27,777	217,060
	Change from 2006 (%)	-3.7	-7.2	-3.1	-4.2
	Change from 94-98 average (%)	-22.8	-17.7	-37.0	-20.3

Nationally injury collisions reduced by 3.7% and casualties by 4.1% during 2007. In the Eastern Region casualties were down by 3.3% during 2007.

In Hertfordshire fatalities increased to 50 during 2007. The serious casualty total also increased by 9.6% and the Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) total was 10.2% higher at 550. National KSI casualties reduced by 3.5% and Regional KSI casualties by 4.5%.

In Hertfordshire during 2007, slight casualties decreased by 2.7%, compared to a National and Regional decrease of 4.2% and 3.1% respectively. Hertfordshire slight casualties are now 16.9% lower than the 1994-98 average. Nationally slight casualties are 20.3% lower and Regionally 16.5% lower than the 1994-98 average.

<sup>1</sup> Eastern Region comprises Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk including Unitary Authorities

## Casualty Reduction Target to 2010

In 2000, the Government set a new target for a reduction in the number of casualties by year 2010 to achieve;

- A 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents by 2010, compared with the average for 1994-1998.
- A 50% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured
- A 10% reduction in the slight casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres.

<b>KSI Casualties</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Herts</b>	<b>Regional</b>	<b>National</b>
<b>94 – 98 Average</b>	1,084	4,991	47,656
<b>2006</b>	499	3,327	31,845
<b>2007</b>	550	3,178	30,720
<b>2007 % change over 2006</b>	+10.2	-4.5	-3.5
<b>2007% change over 94-98 average</b>	-49.3	-36.3	-35.5

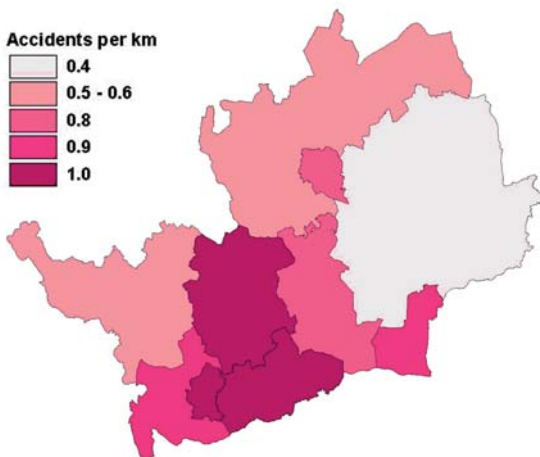
In Hertfordshire during 2007 the total number of KSI casualties was 550, 49.3% below the 1994-98 average.

Despite the rise in KSIs in 2007, Hertfordshire's trend is down over the longer term and on track to achieve its accident reduction target.

The total number of child KSI casualties for 2007 was 42, 62.8% below the 1994-98 average.

The slight casualty rate per 100 million vehicle kilometres was 40.5 which is 18% below the 1994-98 average.

## Distribution within Hertfordshire



The injury collision rate across the County varies widely. The rate for Watford District has fallen from 1.2 collisions per km in 2006 to 1.0, the same as Hertsmer and St Albans. East Herts District again has the lowest rate, unchanged from 2006 at 0.4 collisions per km.

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# Why Do Collisions Occur<sup>1</sup>?

The most common factor, selected in 38.2% of collisions, was “Driver failed to look properly” and “Failed to judge other person’s speed or path”, selected in 19.5% was the next most common. “Careless reckless or in a hurry” was selected in 15.4% of collisions. These 3 factors were also the most common in 2006 with similar percentages.

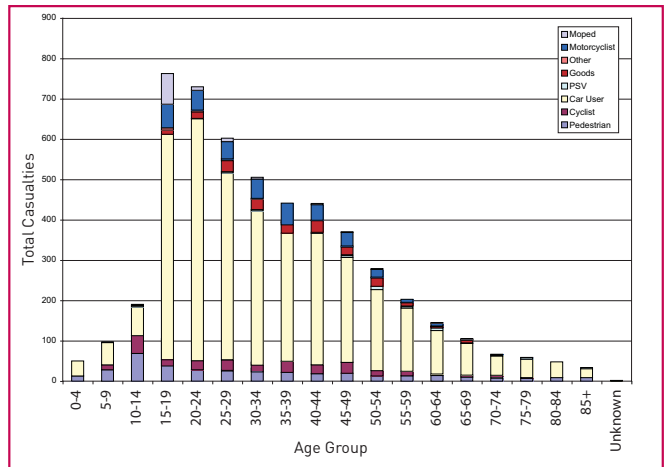


<sup>1</sup> Up to 6 factors may be selected by the police per collision, the top 15 are shown. Percentages will therefore not equal 100%.  
NB from January 2005 a new National list of factors was adopted.

In fatal collisions, “Loss of control” was selected in 26.5% of cases, similar to 2006. “Driver failed to look properly” (20.4%) and “Travelling too fast for conditions” (18.4%) were the next most common factors.

# Casualty Age and Road User Class

In 2007 the highest number of car user casualties was in the 20-24 age band with the highest rate of 10.3 per thousand population. The second highest was the 15-19 age band with a rate of 7.9 and the third highest was the 25-29 age band with a rate of 7.0. For the 50-54 age band the rate was 3.1 and for the 55-59 age band the rate was 2.3.



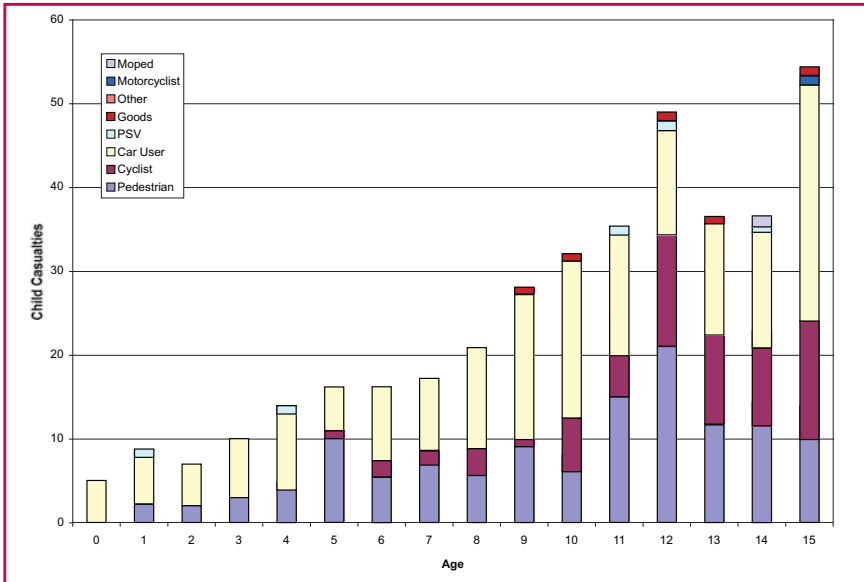
During 2007 total car user casualties decreased (2.3%) to 3710 but KSI casualties increased (10.5%) to 263. The motorcyclist casualty total of 354 is similar to 2006 and 2005. KSI casualties decreased in 2006 but in 2007 increased to 97, the same as 2005.

Total moped casualties decreased (24.1%) to 85 and KSI casualties decreased (28.0%) to 18. 62 (72.9%) moped casualties were in the 15 to 19 age band, in 2006 the number was 80 (71.4%).

The pedestrian casualty total increased (5.0%) to 396 and KSI casualties increased (30.4%) to 90.

The cyclist casualty total at 272 is similar to 2006 but cyclist KSI casualties increased (19.0%) to 56.

## Child Casualties (0 to 15 years)



There were a total of 386 child casualties in Hertfordshire in 2007, 46 (10.6%) fewer than in 2006.

There was 1 child fatality.

The highest number of serious injuries was to cyclists.

Car users made up 48.2% of all casualties, pedestrians 30.6% and cyclists 17.4%.

### Child Casualty Severity

Road User Class	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
<b>Pedestrian</b>	1	15	102	118
<b>Cyclist</b>	0	17	50	67
<b>Car User</b>	0	7	179	186
<b>PSV</b>	0	0	6	6
<b>Goods</b>	0	0	4	4
<b>Other</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Motorcyclist</b>	0	2	3	5
<b>Moped</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>386</b>



This factsheet was prepared by Mouchel Parkman on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council Environment Department

## For more information

Please see Hertfordshire Road Safety Plan Review 2005 - 2010, or alternatively ring 01992 588 615

National Statistics Source -  
Road Casualties in Great Britain, Main Results 2007, DfT



## The Environment Department

- ▶ working with local people
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now and in the future

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