Road Safety Development

Switzerland



 The fatality figures present a constantly decreasing trend throughout the period 1975 - 2010, with three small yet visible drops in 1976, 1985 and 2004, and a visible small rise in 1990.

Registration of fatalities

- The 30-days definition for fatalities is used throughout the series
- The drop in 1985 is the most striking one, however according to national sources no intervention was involved, such as a change in registration, introduction of measures or other socioeconomic event. It was decided to treat this value in the fatality series as an outlier.



Traffic Volume



- The number of fatalities depends strongly on the amount of traffic. To forecast the fatalities, the traffic volume (measured in vehicle kilometres) has to be forecasted first.
- The selected measure for traffic volume is the vehicle kilometres (per million) per annum, which are considered from 1970 onwards.
- Development:
 - Between 1975 and 2010 the vehicle kilometres in Switzerland presents a constantly increasing trend, interrupted by a small drop in 1993.
 - The mobility in that country does not appear to be affected by the global recession.



Fatality Risk

- The fatality risk is the number of fatalities per billion (10⁹) vehicle kilometres.
- Estimation model technical definition: Latent Risk fixed level exposure & fixed slope risk [2,1]
- CI: 68% confidence interval



- The level for the risk (i.e., the fatalities per million vehicle kilometres) decreases smoothly over the examined period.
- A somewhat steeper drop of the risk is observed in 1993, a year in which a decrease in mobility took place.
- It was found that an intervention variable (change in exposure level in 1993) is highly significant
- The risk has decreased from more than 35 fatalities per billion vehiclekilometres to around 5, with an average yearly decrease of 5.2%.



The drop in the

mobility series observed in 1993 is

also visible in the risk level



Forecasts to 2020

 If road safety is improved at the same rate as previously and the past development of mobility continues, the following forecasts can be made for the number of fatalities in 2020:



If RS efforts continue at the same level, the expected number of fatalities in 2020 is 216.

Forecast of road-traffic fatalities in Switzerland up to 2020

Year	Prediction	Lower CI	Upper CI
2011	317	288	350
2012	304	271	342
2013	291	255	333
2014	279	240	324
2015	267	226	316
2016	256	213	308
2017	245	201	300
2018	235	189	292
2019	225	178	285
2020	216	167	278

Disclaimer

- Statistical forecasting does not offer a definite prediction of what is *actually* going to happen in the future.
- The estimates are based on the "business as usual" assumption: no principal changes between past and future development.
- Even in these conditions future outcomes are uncertain. This uncertainty is represented in the confidence intervals (plotted in the red margins: 68%; printed in table: 95%).



Scenarios

- Three point-estimates for fatalities in Switzerland 2020 are plotted assuming three different scenarios for traffic volume.



Forecastplot

Latent Risk Model Switzerland (fixed level exposure/slope risk with intervention)

Scenarios for Traffic Volume

- Reference: continuation of development: increase of vehicle kilometres (forecasted value)
- Scenario 1: strong growth (forecasted value plus one standard deviation)
- Scenario 2: stagnation (forecasted value minus one standard deviation)

	Vehicle kilometers (billions)	Road traffic fatalities		
Situation 2010	62.3	327		
Prediction 2020 according to mobility scenarios:				
Continuation of development	70.3	216		
Stronger growth	74.9	230		
Stagnation	65.9	202		



References

[1] EC National Expert for road accident statistics and road safety performance indicators.

[2] Dupont & Martensen (Eds.) 2012. Forecasting road traffic fatalities in European countries. Deliverable 4.4 of the EC FP7 project DaCoTA.

[3] Bijleveld F., Commandeur J., Gould P., Koopman S. J. (2008), Modelbased measurement of latent risk in time series with applications. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A, 2008.

[4] Martensen & Dupont (Eds.) 2010. Forecasting road traffic fatalities in European countries: model and first results. Deliverable 4.2 of the EC FP7 project DaCoTA.

[5] Commandeur, J. & Koopman, S.J. (2007) An Introduction to State Space Time Series Analysis. Oxford University Press.

