Road Safety Development



- The plot shows the number of fatalities in Finland from 1975 to 2010.
- In general, there is a decrease in the number of fatalities over the years, especially from the 90s onwards. Before, there was much more variation in the number of fatalities.





Traffic volume

Plot of Vehicle Kilometers (per billion) in Finland

- The number of fatalities normally depends strongly on a measure reflecting the amount of traffic. For Finland, the number of vehicle kilometres is considered.
- Yearly data of the number of motor vehicle kilometres are shown for the period 1975 to 2010.
- The plot shows a gradual increase over the years. The period 1990-1995 shows a somewhat different evolution.
- There is a significant relation between the development in vehicle kilometres and the annual fatality numbers in Finland.



The number of

vehicle kilometres in Finland has increased over time.



Fatality Risk

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



- The fatality risk in Finland has reduced from 35 per billion vehicle kilometres in 1975 to 5 in 2010.
- This amounts to a mean decrease of 5.3% per year.

On average, the fatality risk has been decreasing by more than 5% yearly





Forecasts to 2020

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



Forecast of road traffic fatalities in Finland up to 2020

Year	Prediction	Lower CI	Upper CI
2011	267	226	315
2012	255	205	317
2013	244	188	318
2014	234	173	317
2015	224	159	316
2016	215	147	314
2017	205	135	312
2018	197	125	311
2019	188	115	309
2020	180	106	307

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%).

If RS efforts continue at the same level, the expected number of fatalities in 2020 is 180.



Scenarios

- The uncertainty about the development of the fatalities observed in Finland is partly due to the development in vehicle kilometres.
- To illustrate that, three point-estimates for fatalities in Finland in 2020 are plotted assuming three different scenarios concerning the evolution in vehicle kilometres.
 - Reference: continuation of development, i.e.: increase in the number of vehicle kilometres (forecasted value)
 - Scenario 1: stronger increase (forecasted value + 1 stand. dev.)
 - Scenario 2: stagnation (forecasted value 1 stand. deviation)



Mobility scenarios

	Vehicle kilometers (billions)	Road traffic fatalities		
Situation 2010:	53.82	272		
Prediction 2020 according to mobility scenarios:				
 Continuation of development (increase) 	60.19	180		
- Stronger increase than predicted	68.20	217		
- Stagnation	53.12	150		



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.

