

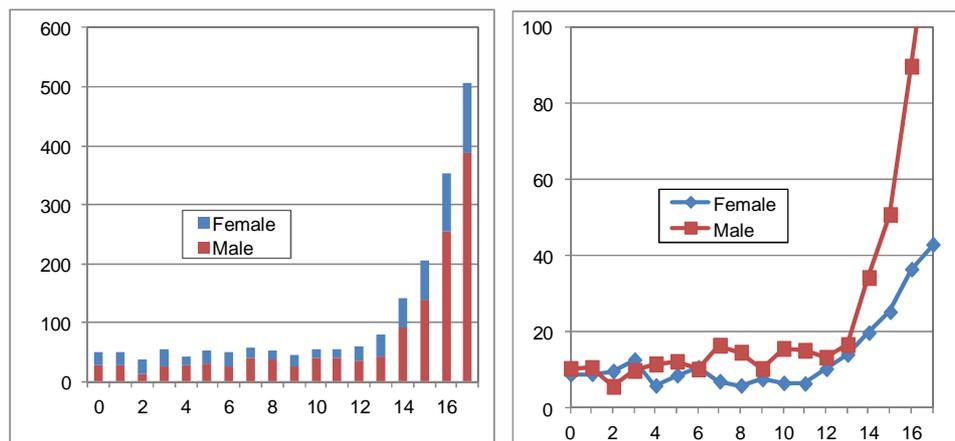
Traffic Safety Basic Facts 2011

Children (Aged <15)

In this Basic Fact Sheet, 'children' are defined as those who are aged below 15 years. (The age at which people are allowed to drive a motor vehicle varies across the EU, but 14 year olds appear, on the whole, to fit into this group rather than with 'young people'.) Children tend to be thought of as innocent victims of road accidents more often than is the case for adults.

Figure 1 shows the number of fatalities in 2009 by single year of age, calculated across the 24¹ EU member states with CARE data (listed in Table 1). It also shows the number of fatalities per million population. The figure shows that 14 is the age at which the risk of death in a road accident begins to rise steeply.

Figure 1: Number of fatalities in EU-24, and number per million population, 2009



2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011
Source of population data: EUROSTAT

Table 1 presents the number of children killed in each country from 2000, with the totals for the 19 countries with CARE data available for most of the decade.

¹ 2008 data for IE and SE

Almost 900 children died in road traffic accidents in 2009 in 24 EU countries (listed in Table 1).

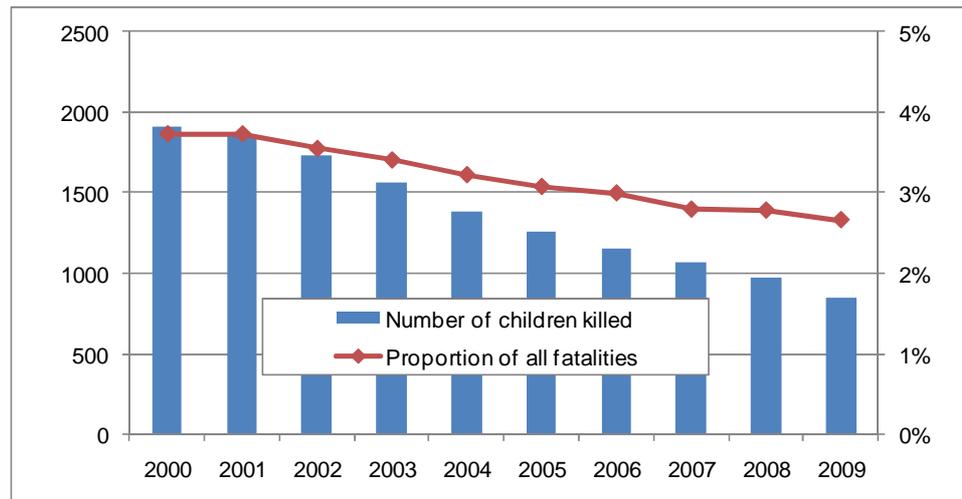
Table 1: Number of fatalities aged <15 per country, 2000-2009²³

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
BE	52	63	36	32	26	37	32	30	35	16
CZ	54	38	46	38	27	41	32	25	19	16
DK	25	21	14	22	20	13	13	20	19	10
DE	240	231	216	208	153	159	136	111	102	90
IE	22	26	18	16	7	9	15	15	18	-
EL	40	47	47	45	43	44	36	42	35	43
ES	182	160	151	156	127	120	109	99	83	61
FR	336	273	245	203	175	130	120	150	114	122
IT	136	187	196	148	124	131	110	95	85	71
LU	3	5	3	1	0	4	0	2	0	6
NL	56	48	37	64	35	31	37	36	23	23
AT	27	26	25	37	22	25	23	13	12	15
PL	-	262	248	231	228	167	151	157	146	128
PT	75	56	62	55	48	31	22	27	23	23
RO	184	187	188	117	163	152	145	117	137	125
SI	8	4	3	3	9	10	9	6	4	2
FI	20	19	18	22	13	21	5	14	8	6
SE	19	18	18	21	14	10	16	10	6	-
UK	171	192	160	145	147	125	147	96	110	69
EU-19	1.912	1.862	1.730	1.564	1.381	1.260	1.158	1.065	979	850
Yearly reduction		2.6%	7.1%	9.6%	11.7%	8.8%	8.1%	8.0%	8.1%	13.1%
EE	-	-	-	-	-	12	6	6	3	4
LV	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	11	11	7
HU	-	-	-	32	38	34	42	37	24	22
MT	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0	0	1
SK	-	-	-	-	-	19	13	28	23	9

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

The EU-19 total is presented in Figure 2. The number of children killed in road traffic accidents fell from 1.912 in 2000 to 850 in 2009, a fall of 55%.

Figure 2: Number of child fatalities and proportion of total fatalities, EU-19, 1999-2009



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: October 2011

² The country abbreviations used and definition of EU-level are shown on Page 13

³ Where a number is missing for an EU-19 country in a particular year (PL in 2000, IE & SE in 2009), its contribution to the EU-19 total is estimated as the next/previous known value.

The annual number of children killed in road traffic accidents fell by over a half between 2000 and 2009 in the EU-19 countries.

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- Gender

The following tables and figures analyse the CARE data for 2009 in greater detail (2008 data for IE and SE). Table 2 shows the national fatality rate for children and the fatality rate for each nation's population as a whole. Where the children's fatality rate is higher than the overall fatality rate, children are at greater risk than the overall population, and *vice versa*. This comparison is made more precisely by:

$$\text{relative rate} = \frac{\text{fatality rate aged below 15}}{\text{fatality rate all ages}}$$

$$\text{where fatality rate} = \frac{\text{fatalities}}{\text{population (millions)}}$$

Table 2: Child fatality proportions per country, 2009*

	Fatality rate:		Relative child fatality rate
	Children	All ages	
BE	9	88	0,10
CZ	11	86	0,13
DK	10	55	0,18
DE	8	51	0,16
EE	20	73	0,27
IE*	19	63	0,31
EL	27	129	0,21
ES	9	59	0,15
FR	11	68	0,16
IT	8	70	0,12
LV	23	112	0,20
LU	68	97	0,70
HU	15	82	0,18
MT	15	36	0,42
NL	8	39	0,20
AT	12	76	0,16
PL	22	120	0,18
PT	14	79	0,18
RO	38	130	0,29
SI	7	84	0,08
SK	11	71	0,15
FI	7	52	0,13
SE*	4	43	0,09
UK	6	38	0,17
EU-24	12	69	0,17

*2008 data

Source: CARE Database / EC

Date of query: November 2011

Source of population data: EUROSTAT

Children make up 2,7% of fatalities in road traffic accidents child, and about 16% of the population. They are at about a sixth of the risk of dying in a road traffic accident of the average member of the population across the EU-24 as a whole. This varies from about one tenth in Belgium, Slovenia and Sweden to almost one third in Ireland, as shown in Figure 3. (The figures for LU and MT are based on small numbers).

Children are, on average, at about one sixth of the risk of dying in a road traffic accident as the average person.

In most EU countries children are at less than a quarter of the risk of dying in a road traffic accident of the average person.

Main Figures

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Youngsters (Aged 15-17)

Young People Aged 18-24

The Elderly (Aged > 64)

Pedestrians

Cyclists

Motorcycles & Mopeds

Car occupants

Heavy Goods Vehicles and Buses

Motorways

Junctions

Urban areas

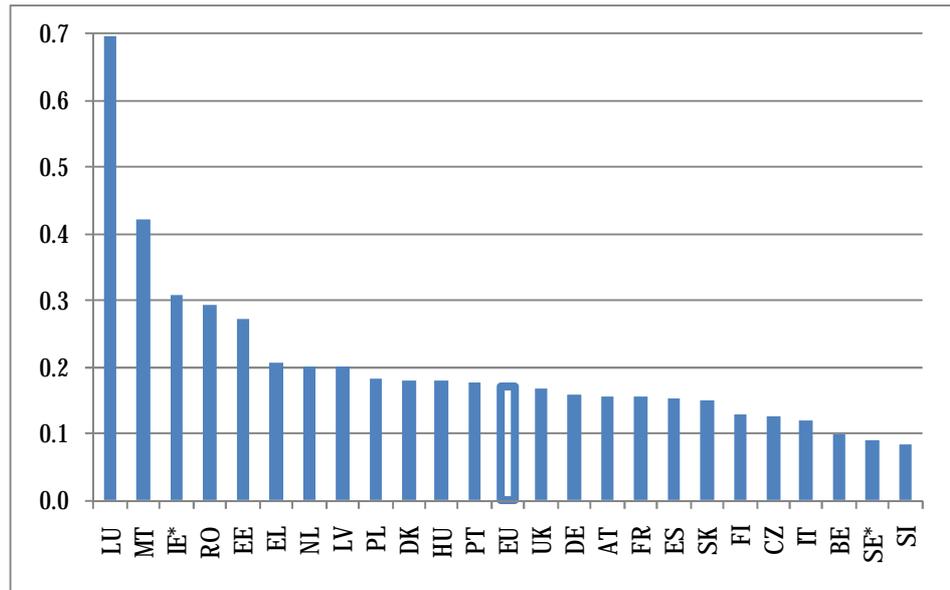
Roads outside urban areas

Seasonality

Single vehicle accidents

Gender

Figure 3: Relative child fatality rates per country, 2009



*2008 data

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011
Source of population data: EUROSTAT

The number of child fatalities has reduced gradually as a proportion of all fatalities (Figure 2). Map 1 shows the proportion in each country for 2009.

Map 1: Child fatalities as a percentage of all fatalities, by country, 2009



The proportion of fatalities that were children fell from around 4% in 2000 to less than 3% in 2009.

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Age and Gender

Table 3 presents the age and gender of child fatalities, whilst Figure 4 shows the proportions of child fatalities in each country by gender. Whilst girls account for approximately two-fifths of fatalities less than fourteen years old, females make up less than a quarter of adult fatalities. For girls as well as boys, more children aged 10-14 are killed than in either the under five or the 5-9 age groups.

Table 3: Number of fatalities by gender, age and country, 2009*

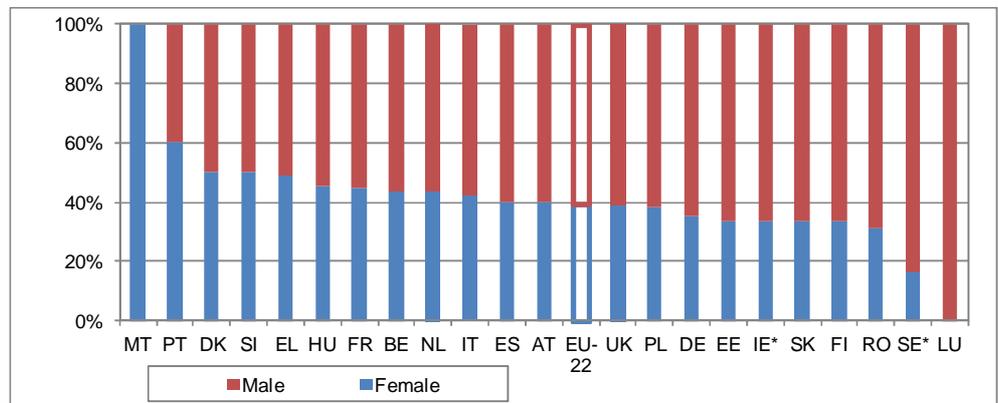
	Female				Male			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15+	0-4	5-9	10-14	15+
BE	3	3	1	227	2	1	6	696
DK	2	2	1	86	2	3	0	207
DE	12	5	15	1.070	16	14	28	2.992
EE	0	0	1	25	0	1	1	69
IE*	0	2	4	69	3	3	6	187
EL	8	6	7	229	4	4	14	1.179
ES	8	7	9	596	13	11	13	2.050
FR	26	9	20	986	14	21	32	3.165
IT	7	8	15	896	6	11	24	3.270
LU	0	0	0	13	1	2	3	29
HU	3	3	4	197	2	3	7	600
MT	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	10
NL	1	2	7	165	1	3	9	456
AT	2	4	0	149	1	2	6	469
PL	10	18	21	1.060	19	25	35	3.377
PT	6	1	7	160	3	2	3	657
RO	11	15	13	655	26	36	24	2.016
SI	1	0	0	38	0	0	1	131
SK	1	1	1	85	2	3	1	290
FI	1	1	0	69	1	0	3	204
SE*	1	0	0	110	1	1	3	281
UK	8	5	14	570	6	11	25	1.698
EU-22	112	92	140	7.459	124	157	244	24.033
% by gender	47%	37%	36%	24%	53%	63%	64%	76%

*2008 data for IE and SE
The gender split was not available for CZ and LV

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Both for boys and girls, more are killed in the 10-14 age group than in either the under five or the 5-9 age groups.

Figure 4: Distribution of child fatalities by gender, 2009*



*2008 data for IE and SE
The gender split was not available for CZ and LV

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Boys account for approximately three-fifths of road traffic accident fatalities amongst children.

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Mode of Transport

Table 4 shows the distribution of child fatalities by mode of transport. More than two fifths of child fatalities are car or taxi occupants, and pedestrians account for more than a third of fatalities.

Table 4: Number of fatalities by mode of transport, 2009*

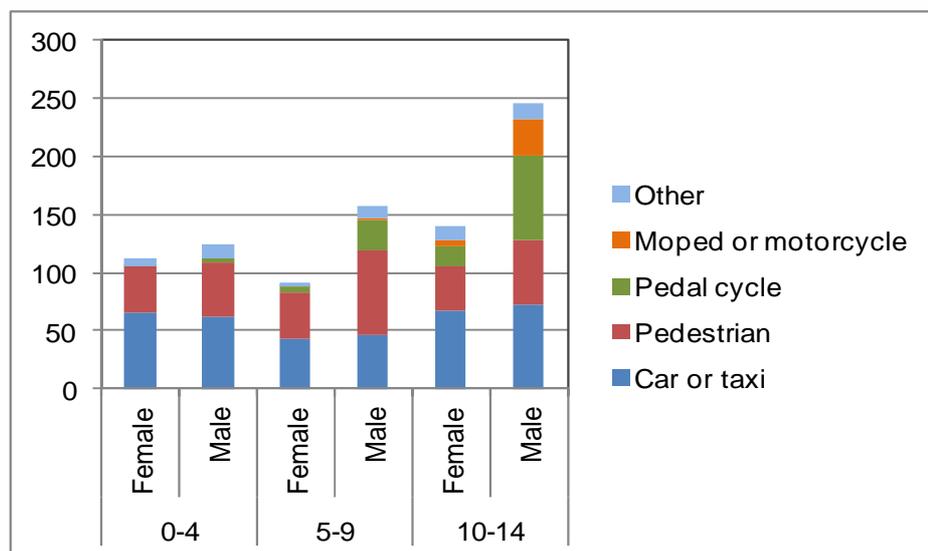
	Car or taxi	Pedestrian	Pedal cycle	Moped	Motor cycle	Bus or coach	Other/ not known	Total
BE	25%	31%	31%	0%	0%	0%	13%	16
CZ	50%	44%	6%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16
DK	50%	30%	20%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10
DE	41%	26%	27%	2%	0%	0%	4%	90
EE	25%	75%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4
IE*	39%	44%	6%	0%	0%	0%	11%	18
EL	53%	23%	7%	0%	9%	0%	7%	43
ES	48%	36%	3%	3%	0%	0%	9%	61
FR	57%	20%	11%	6%	1%	1%	5%	122
IT	44%	23%	14%	11%	4%	0%	4%	71
LV	43%	57%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7
LU	33%	50%	17%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6
HU	55%	18%	9%	9%	0%	0%	9%	22
MT	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1
NL	4%	30%	65%	0%	0%	0%	0%	23
AT	40%	27%	13%	0%	0%	0%	20%	15
PL	45%	32%	15%	3%	1%	0%	5%	128
PT	25%	40%	0%	0%	0%	0%	35%	23
RO	29%	52%	11%	0%	0%	2%	6%	125
SI	0%	0%	50%	0%	0%	0%	50%	2
SK	11%	78%	11%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9
FI	50%	17%	17%	17%	0%	0%	0%	6
SE*	33%	17%	0%	33%	0%	0%	17%	6
UK	33%	49%	16%	0%	0%	0%	1%	69
EU-24	41%	34%	14%	3%	1%	0%	6%	893

*2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Figure 5 examines the variation of mode of transport with age and gender. The range of modes varies with age and gender, presumably reflecting the travel choices of boys and girls as they grow older.

Figure 5: Number of fatalities by age, gender and mode of transport, EU-22, 2009*



*2008 data for IE and SE

The gender split was not available for CZ or LV

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

More than two fifths of children who died were travelling by car or taxi, whilst one third were pedestrians.

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Table 5 and Figure 6 show that almost half of child fatalities are passengers, whilst just over a third are pedestrians. Around one in five child fatalities is a 'driver', which includes those who are riding a pedal cycle.

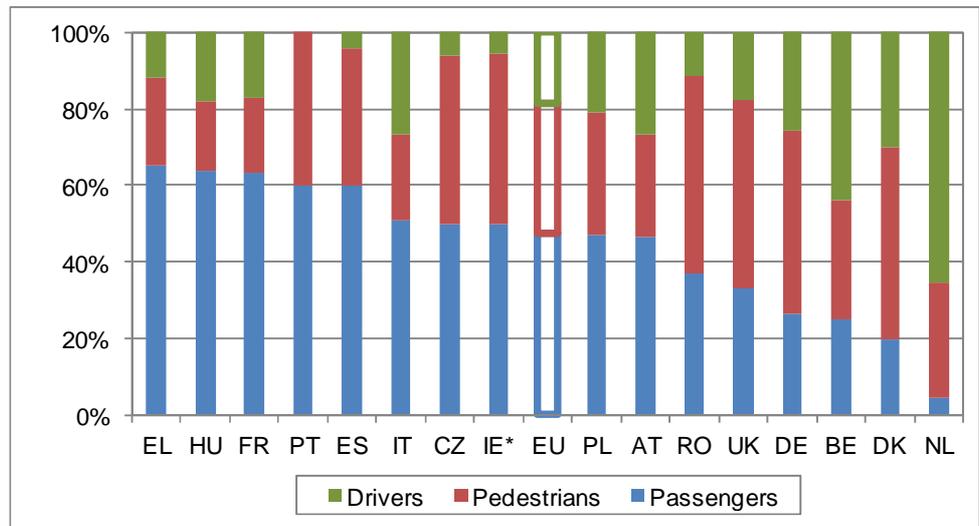
Table 5: Distribution of driver, passenger and pedestrian child fatalities, 2009

	Proportion of fatalities who are:			Number of fatalities
	Drivers	Passengers	Pedestrians	
BE	44%	25%	31%	16
CZ	6%	50%	44%	16
DK	20%	50%	30%	10
DE	27%	48%	26%	90
EE	0%	25%	75%	4
IE*	6%	50%	44%	18
EL	12%	65%	23%	43
ES	4%	60%	36%	61
FR	17%	63%	20%	122
IT	27%	51%	23%	71
LV	0%	43%	57%	7
LU	17%	33%	50%	6
HU	18%	64%	18%	22
MT	0%	100%	0%	1
NL	65%	4%	30%	23
AT	27%	47%	27%	15
PL	21%	47%	32%	128
PT	0%	60%	40%	23
RO	11%	37%	52%	125
SI	50%	50%	0%	2
SK	11%	11%	78%	9
FI	33%	50%	17%	6
SE*	50%	33%	17%	6
UK	17%	33%	49%	69
EU-24	19%	48%	34%	893

*Data for IE and SE is from 2008.

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Figure 6: Distribution of driver, passenger and pedestrian child fatalities, 2009



Only countries with at least 10 child fatalities are included
*2008 data

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Almost a fifth of child fatalities are 'drivers'.

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Area and Type of Road

The CARE data show whether each accident occurs on a motorway or not, and, if not, whether each occurs in an urban or a rural area. Table 6 shows the distribution of child fatalities in each country, with the data displayed in Figure 7. Fewer than one in ten child fatalities is killed on a motorway, with almost one half not on a motorway and in an urban area.

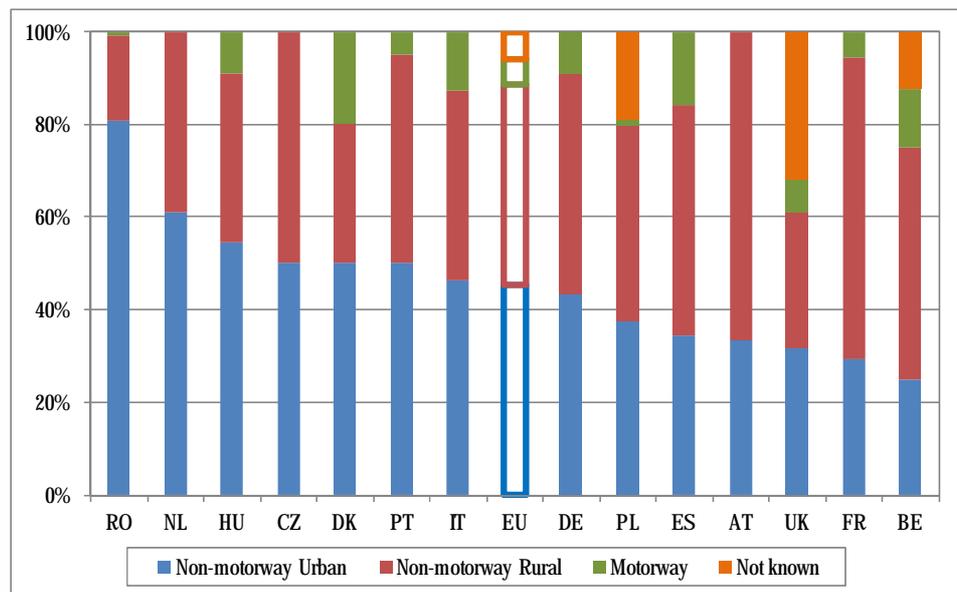
Table 6: Distribution of child fatalities by road type, 2009

	Motorway	Non-motorway		Not known	Total
		Rural	Urban		
BE	13%	50%	25%	13%	16
CZ	0%	50%	50%	0%	16
DK	20%	30%	50%	0%	10
DE	9%	48%	43%	0%	90
ES	16%	50%	34%	0%	61
FR	6%	65%	30%	0%	122
IT	13%	41%	46%	0%	71
LV	0%	86%	14%	0%	7
LU	67%	0%	33%	0%	6
HU	9%	36%	55%	0%	22
MT	0%	0%	100%	0%	1
NL	0%	39%	61%	0%	23
AT	0%	67%	33%	0%	15
PL	2%	42%	38%	19%	128
PT	5%	45%	50%	0%	23
RO	1%	18%	81%	0%	125
SI	50%	0%	50%	0%	2
SK	0%	11%	89%	0%	9
FI	17%	33%	50%	0%	6
SE*	0%	100%	0%	0%	6
UK	7%	29%	32%	32%	69
EU-21	7%	42%	45%	6%	828

*2008 data
EL, IE and EE omitted as road type data are largely not known

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Figure 7: Distribution of child fatalities by road type, 2009



EL, IE and NL omitted as road type data are largely not known, in addition only countries with at least 10 child fatalities are included.

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Fewer than one in ten child fatalities occur on motorways, almost half occur on urban non motorways.

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Time of Day

In order to examine the distribution of child fatalities by time of day, the day has been divided into six four-hour periods beginning at midnight. Table 7 shows that, across the EU, a third of fatalities occur between 4pm and 8pm, over a quarter occur between noon and 4pm and a sixth occur between 8pm and midnight.

Table 7: Distribution of child fatalities by time of day, 2009

	0.00-3.59	4.00-7.59	8.00-11.59	12.00-15.59	16.00-19.59	20.00-23.59	Total
BE	6%	6%	19%	6%	56%	6%	16
CZ	0%	19%	6%	38%	31%	6%	16
DK	0%	0%	10%	40%	30%	20%	10
EE	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	4
IE*	0%	0%	33%	39%	17%	11%	18
EL	2%	9%	16%	16%	28%	28%	43
ES	5%	4%	12%	27%	27%	24%	61
FR	7%	7%	13%	23%	36%	15%	122
IT	4%	6%	7%	24%	37%	23%	71
LV	0%	14%	0%	29%	43%	14%	7
LU	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	6
HU	5%	5%	5%	32%	45%	9%	22
NL	0%	13%	13%	35%	35%	4%	23
AT	0%	0%	27%	20%	40%	13%	15
PL	5%	9%	9%	35%	34%	9%	128
PT	20%	0%	25%	20%	10%	25%	23
RO	4%	9%	14%	25%	34%	15%	125
SI	0%	50%	0%	0%	50%	0%	2
SK	0%	0%	22%	44%	33%	0%	9
FI	0%	0%	17%	0%	33%	50%	6
SE*	0%	0%	33%	67%	0%	0%	6
UK	2%	11%	15%	23%	30%	20%	66
EU-22	4%	7%	13%	27%	33%	16%	799

DE and MT omitted as hour is not known
*2008 data

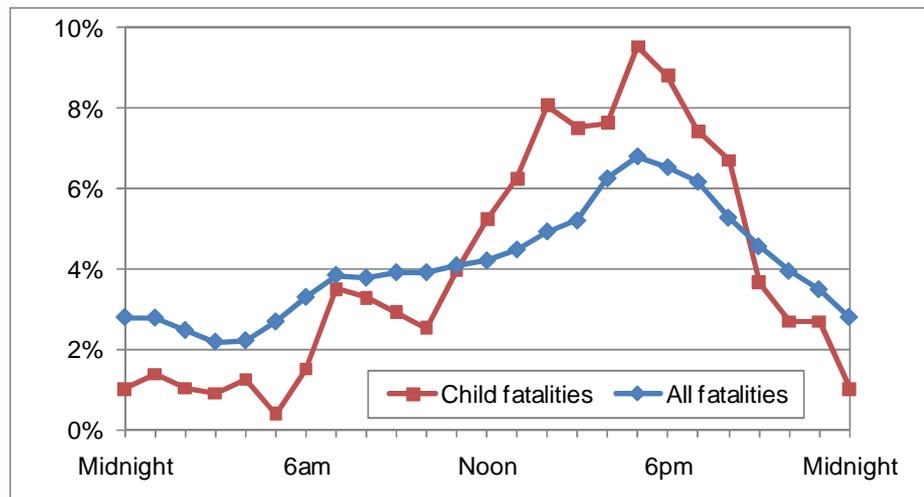
Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

One third of child fatalities are killed between 4 and 8pm.

The peak hour for child fatalities is between 5 and 6pm.

Figure 8 compares the distributions of child fatalities and all fatalities by hour. By comparison with the overall distribution, there are relatively many child fatalities between noon and 7.59pm, and relatively few between 9pm and 7.59am.

Figure 8: Distribution of fatalities by hour, EU-22, 2009*



DE and MT omitted as hour is not known
*2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

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Day of Week

Table 8 shows the distribution of child fatalities by day of the week. On average in the EU, Friday and Saturday has the most fatalities and Monday has the fewest.

Table 8: Distribution of child fatalities by day of week, 2009

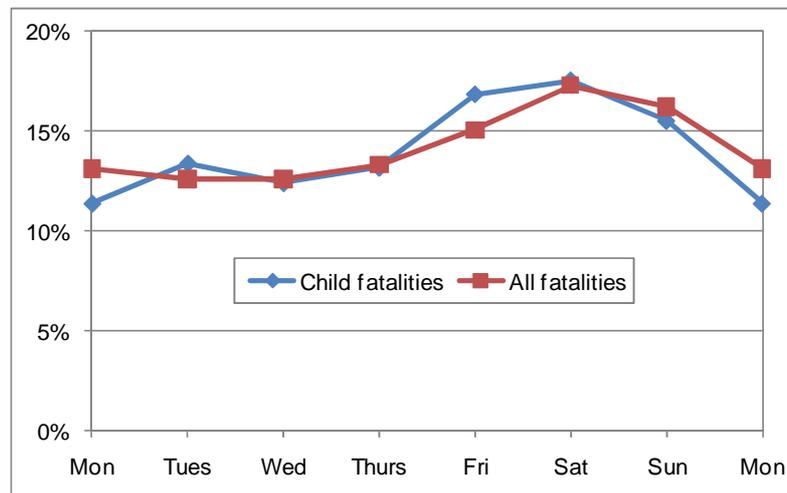
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
BE	13%	13%	13%	13%	25%	6%	19%	16
CZ	13%	13%	13%	44%	6%	0%	13%	16
DK	10%	20%	20%	10%	20%	0%	20%	10
DE	16%	14%	14%	12%	14%	16%	13%	90
EE	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	4
IE*	11%	17%	17%	6%	22%	22%	6%	18
EL	12%	19%	12%	7%	21%	5%	26%	43
ES	18%	8%	12%	13%	13%	17%	19%	61
FR	13%	12%	12%	13%	14%	21%	14%	122
IT	7%	14%	13%	14%	17%	25%	10%	71
LV	29%	14%	0%	14%	14%	14%	14%	7
LU	0%	0%	0%	17%	33%	33%	17%	6
HU	18%	14%	9%	18%	23%	14%	5%	22
MT	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1
NL	9%	17%	13%	9%	26%	9%	17%	23
AT	13%	20%	7%	13%	13%	7%	27%	15
PL	10%	9%	12%	13%	20%	20%	16%	128
PT	15%	5%	15%	5%	15%	25%	20%	23
RO	5%	15%	10%	17%	16%	19%	18%	125
SI	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%	2
SK	22%	11%	11%	11%	11%	22%	11%	9
FI	0%	33%	0%	0%	33%	17%	17%	6
SE*	17%	33%	33%	17%	0%	0%	0%	6
UK	7%	16%	17%	10%	17%	20%	12%	69
EU-24	11%	13%	12%	13%	17%	17%	15%	893

*2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Figure 9 compares the distributions of child fatalities and all fatalities by day of week. By comparison with the overall distribution, there are relatively few child fatalities on Mondays and relatively many on Fridays.

Figure 9: Distribution of child fatalities by day of week, EU-24, 2009*



*2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

Friday and Saturday are the days of the week with most child fatalities, 17% compared with 11% on a Monday.

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Seasonality

Table 9 shows the distribution of child fatalities through the year, using pairs of months. The peak period for the EU-24 as a whole is July/August, with fewest fatalities in January/February.

Table 9: Distribution of child fatalities by month, 2009

	January/February	March/April	May/June	July/August	September/October	November/December	Total
BE	31%	19%	13%	0%	13%	25%	16
CZ	0%	13%	19%	38%	19%	13%	16
DK	0%	50%	10%	20%	20%	0%	10
DE	11%	17%	17%	23%	17%	16%	90
EE	50%	25%	25%	0%	0%	0%	4
IE*	28%	33%	6%	22%	6%	6%	18
EL	9%	19%	26%	19%	28%	0%	43
ES	9%	25%	26%	28%	7%	4%	61
FR	7%	15%	16%	28%	16%	19%	122
IT	8%	14%	17%	31%	14%	15%	71
LV	0%	29%	14%	14%	14%	29%	7
LU	17%	17%	17%	0%	33%	17%	6
HU	18%	14%	18%	27%	23%	0%	22
MT	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	1
NL	13%	26%	30%	13%	4%	13%	23
AT	20%	33%	13%	20%	0%	13%	15
PL	8%	17%	14%	34%	17%	9%	128
PT	10%	20%	5%	25%	25%	15%	23
RO	9%	15%	18%	27%	18%	13%	125
SI	0%	0%	0%	50%	50%	0%	2
SK	11%	0%	0%	22%	44%	22%	9
FI	0%	0%	50%	17%	17%	17%	6
SE*	0%	33%	33%	0%	33%	0%	6
UK	17%	20%	19%	17%	12%	14%	69
EU-24	10%	18%	18%	26%	16%	12%	893

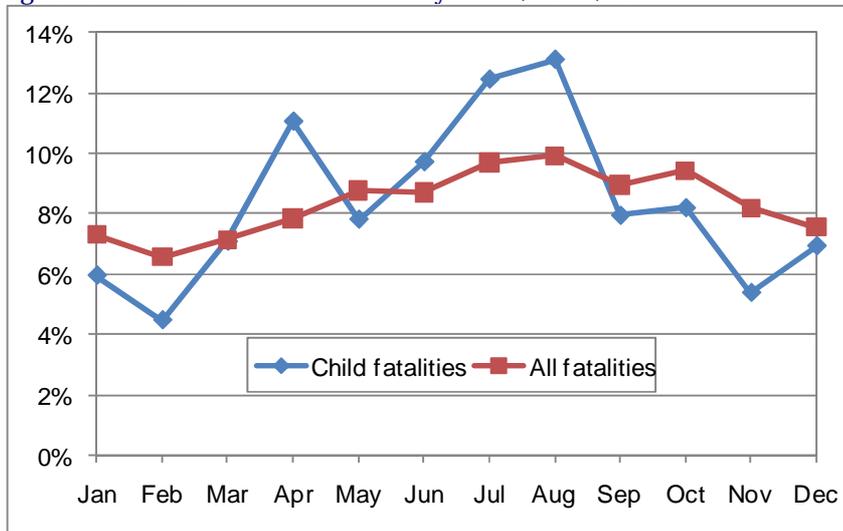
*2008 data

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

The number of fatalities amongst children is highest in August, just over twice the January-March average.

The monthly distribution of child fatalities is displayed in Figure 10. By comparison with the overall distribution, there are relatively many child fatalities in April and between June and August, and relatively few between September and March.

Figure 10: Distribution of child fatalities by month, EU-24, 2009*



*2008 data for IE and SE

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: November 2011

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Disclaimer

The information in this document is provided as it is and no guarantee or warranty is given that the information is fit for any particular purpose. Therefore, the reader uses the information at their own risk and liability.

For more information

Further statistical information about fatalities is available from the CARE database at the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission, 28 Rue de Mot, B -1040 Brussels.

Traffic Safety Basic Fact Sheets available from the European Commission concern:

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Country abbreviations used and definition of EU-level

EU - 19		EU-24= EU-19 +	
BE	Belgium	EE	Estonia
CZ	Czech Republic	HU	Hungary
DK	Denmark	LV	Latvia
DE	Germany	SK	Slovakia
IE	Ireland	MT	Malta
EL	Greece		
ES	Spain		
FR	France		
IT	Italy		
LU	Luxembourg		
NL	Netherlands		
AT	Austria		
PL	Poland		
PT	Portugal		
RO	Romania		
SI	Slovenia		
FI	Finland		
SE	Sweden		
UK	United Kingdom (GB+NI)		

Detailed data on traffic accidents are published annually by the European Commission in the Annual Statistical Report. This includes a glossary of definitions on all variables used.

More information on the DaCoTA Project, co-financed by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport is available at the DaCoTA Website: <http://www.dacota-project.eu/index.html>.

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