Traffic Safety Basic Facts 2007

Young People (Aged 16-24)

In this Basic Fact Sheet, 'young people' are defined as those who are between 16 and 24 years old. In general, young people worldwide are far more likely to be victims in road accidents than people in any other age group.

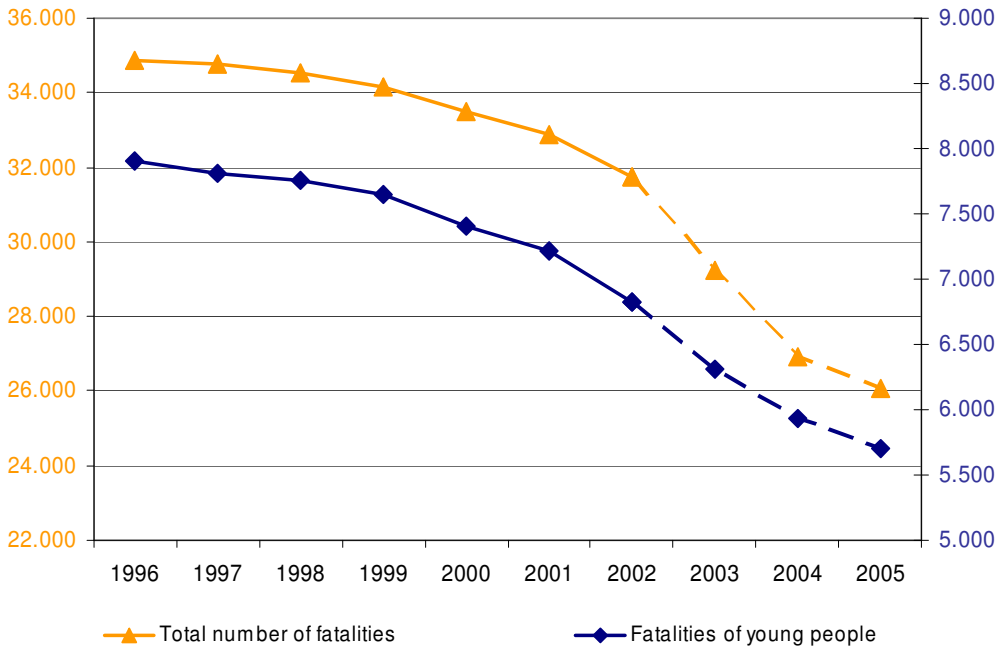
More than 70.500 persons aged 16-24 years old were killed in traffic accidents, in 14 European Union countries (EU-15, without Germany) within the decade 1996 - 2005[1]. This number represents approximately a quarter of all traffic accident fatalities in those countries (22,1%).

The number of young people killed in road accidents in 2005[1] was 27,8% less than the respective number in 1996. The total number of fatalities also fell by 25% in the 14 European Union countries over the same period.

A significant decrease of 27,8% in traffic accident fatalities of young people is recorded during the decade 1996-2005[1].

Approximately 70.500 persons aged 16-24 were killed in road traffic accidents, in 14 EU countries between1996 - 2005, almost quarter of all road fatalities in those countries.

Figure 1: Distribution of road traffic fatalities in the EU-14[2], 1996-2005



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

[1] Using latest data available, i.e. 2005 for all countries except LU (2002), IE and NL (2003) and IT (2004).
[2] See Table "Definition of EU-level and used country abbreviations" on page 13.

Table 1 provides an overall view of the evolution of road traffic fatalities for young people. In 2005 a considerable decrease in the numbers of fatalities of young people can be seen in Finland (31,2%) compared to 2004 (in contrast to the 34,8% increase in 2004 compared to 2003), whereas a considerable reduction was also observed in Belgium (14,4%). On the contrary, Portugal and Greece show a marginal increase in the number of young people killed in traffic accidents (1,6% and 4,7% respectively).

Table 1: Fatalities aged 16-24 by country, 1996-2005[3]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
BE	305	295	334	319	368	319	300	275	263	225
DK	114	113	99	111	109	83	100	80	75	70
EE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
EL	486	466	466	475	421	427	326	364	343	359
ES	1.203	1.239	1.365	1.255	1.253	1.123	1.069	1.128	927	843
FR	1.995	2.085	2.198	2.172	1.933	2.058	1.855	1.483	1.440	1.386
IE**	124	127	138	114	138	126	93	93	93	93
IT*	1.428	1.300	1.231	1.281	1.309	1.194	1.216	1.067	1.032	1.032
LU***	15	17	8	12	17	18	13	13	13	13
HU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	176
MT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
NL**	271	246	254	247	271	205	249	226	226	226
AT	261	298	205	254	233	212	207	207	198	178
PL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.050
PT	633	580	519	477	393	375	315	268	245	249
FI	87	72	72	72	64	99	86	69	93	64
SE	89	73	84	82	113	115	111	109	87	77
UK	890	903	787	783	782	859	887	932	897	891
EU-14	7.901	7.815	7.759	7.654	7.405	7.213	6.827	6.314	5.932	5.705
EU-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.969
% yearly change (EU-14)	-	-1,1%	-0,7%	-1,4%	-3,2%	-2,6%	-5,4%	-7,5%	-6,1%	-3,8%

* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

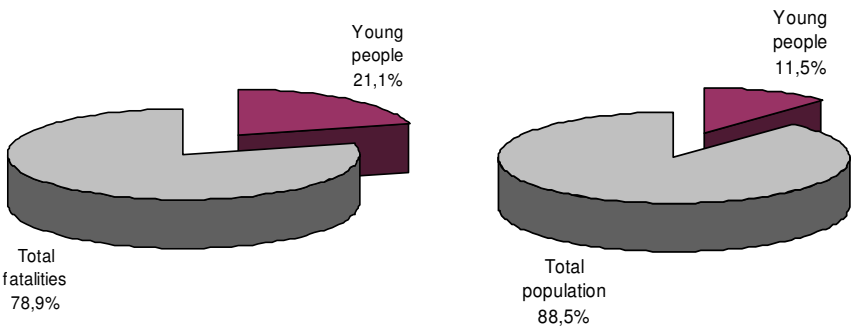
Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

21,1% of all persons killed in road accidents in 2005[1] were aged 16-24 years old, whereas only 11,5% of the population falls within this age group.

21,1% of people killed in road accidents in 2005[1] in the 18 European countries were aged 16-24. The corresponding proportion for the 14 European countries (without EE, HU, MT and PL) is 21,8%. However, only 11,5% of the population falls within this age group, as can be seen in Figure 2.

[3] Due to small numbers, LU was not taken into account in comparisons.

Figure 2: Proportion of young people in population and in traffic fatalities in the EU-18, 2005[1]

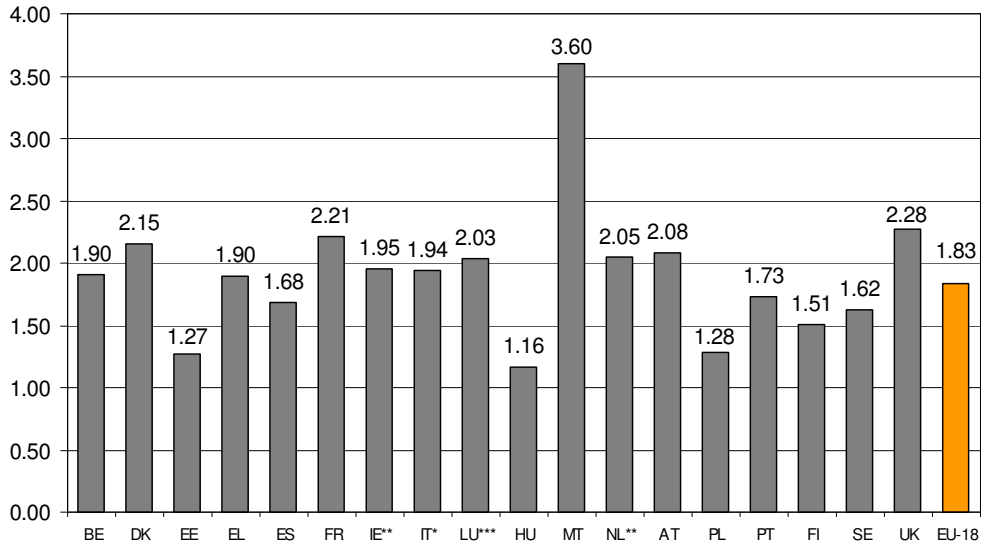


Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007
Source of population data: EUROSTAT

Young people are at almost twice the risk of being killed in a road accident than the average member of the population across the EU-18 countries as a whole.

Young people are at almost twice the average risk of being killed in a road accident compared to the average member of the respective population across the EU-18 countries (% young people fatalities divided by % young people population) in 2005[1]. As shown in Figure 3, in 2005 Malta has highest relative rate, although the road accident fatalities figure is small (17 persons killed in total).

Figure 3: Relative rate for fatality proportions in young people, 2005[3]



* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007
Source of population data: EUROSTAT

The number of fatalities amongst young people, expressed as a proportion of all fatalities, has been gradually reducing over the last ten years, although this is not the case in every country. Table 2 shows the trend in the proportion in each country over the last decade.

Table 2: Proportion of road accident fatalities aged 16-24, 1996 – 2005[3]

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
BE	22,5%	21,6%	22,3%	22,8%	25,0%	21,5%	23,0%	22,7%	22,6%	20,7%
DK	22,2%	23,1%	19,8%	21,6%	21,9%	19,3%	21,6%	18,5%	20,3%	21,1%
EE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,8%
EL	22,5%	22,1%	21,4%	22,4%	20,7%	22,7%	20,0%	22,7%	20,5%	21,7%
ES	22,0%	22,1%	22,9%	21,9%	21,7%	20,4%	20,0%	20,9%	19,6%	19,0%
FR	23,4%	24,7%	24,6%	25,6%	23,9%	25,2%	24,2%	24,5%	26,0%	26,1%
IE**	27,4%	26,8%	30,1%	27,5%	33,0%	30,6%	24,6%	27,6%	27,6%	27,6%
IT*	21,4%	19,4%	19,5%	19,2%	19,7%	17,8%	18,0%	17,6%	18,3%	18,3%
LU***	21,1%	28,3%	14,0%	20,7%	22,4%	25,7%	21,0%	21,0%	21,0%	21,0%
HU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,8%
MT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	47,1%
NL**	23,0%	21,2%	23,8%	22,7%	25,0%	20,6%	25,2%	22,0%	22,0%	22,0%
AT	25,4%	27,0%	21,3%	23,5%	23,9%	22,1%	21,7%	22,2%	22,6%	23,2%
PL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,3%
PT	23,2%	23,0%	24,4%	23,9%	21,2%	22,4%	18,8%	17,3%	18,9%	19,9%
FI	21,5%	16,4%	18,0%	16,7%	16,2%	22,9%	20,7%	18,2%	24,8%	16,9%
SE	16,6%	13,5%	15,8%	14,1%	19,1%	19,7%	19,8%	20,6%	18,1%	17,5%
UK	23,8%	24,1%	22,0%	22,0%	21,8%	23,9%	24,8%	25,5%	26,6%	26,7%
EU-14	22,7%	22,5%	22,5%	22,4%	22,1%	21,9%	21,5%	21,6%	22,0%	21,9%
EU-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,1%

* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

Age and Road user type

Table 3: Fatalities by age group for drivers, passengers and pedestrians by country, 2005

	Driver					Passenger					Pedestrian				
	<16	16-24	25-34	35-64	>64	<16	16-24	25-34	35-64	>64	<16	16-24	25-34	35-64	>64
BE	14	154	180	351	109	12	62	28	39	32	8	9	8	27	56
DK	5	48	45	94	41	5	16	7	12	13	3	6	3	14	18
EE	4	12	16	42	8	4	13	7	11	4	4	5	5	22	10
EL	13	239	292	374	135	24	109	65	101	72	10	11	8	66	139
ES	25	521	726	1.159	308	81	283	175	294	190	28	39	84	217	312
FR	37	961	814	1.359	528	81	364	132	217	190	38	61	47	161	328
IE**	3	51	61	56	24	6	37	6	16	7	8	5	5	22	22
IT*	48	671	942	1.395	606	88	341	181	250	178	23	20	53	206	381
LU***	0	5	10	24	2	2	8	3	2	0	1	0	0	2	3
HU	4	83	176	336	98	28	76	56	109	23	8	17	15	151	98
MT	0	2	2	0	1	1	5	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	2
NL**	26	160	154	269	158	28	62	17	32	24	17	4	6	31	39
AT	8	120	102	222	92	14	41	16	38	18	9	17	5	21	45
PL	41	498	575	1.016	342	69	389	228	372	158	76	163	147	792	578
PT	6	154	180	320	108	18	86	39	82	40	8	9	16	88	93
FI	9	44	46	107	54	7	18	10	19	20	7	2	4	12	20
SE	8	51	49	124	68	7	20	15	28	18	3	6	3	16	22
UK	32	505	418	793	254	49	277	80	106	123	64	109	72	195	259
EU-14	233	3.684	4.019	6.647	2.488	422	1.723	774	1.237	925	227	298	314	1.078	1.738
EU-18	282	4.279	4.788	8.041	2.937	524	2.206	1.065	1.729	1.110	317	484	482	2.043	2.426
% (EU-14)	1,4%	21,6%	23,5%	38,9%	14,6%	8,3%	33,9%	15,2%	24,3%	18,2%	6,2%	8,2%	8,6%	29,5%	47,5%
% (EU-18)	1,4%	21,0%	23,6%	39,6%	14,4%	7,9%	33,3%	16,1%	26,1%	16,7%	5,5%	8,4%	8,4%	35,5%	42,2%

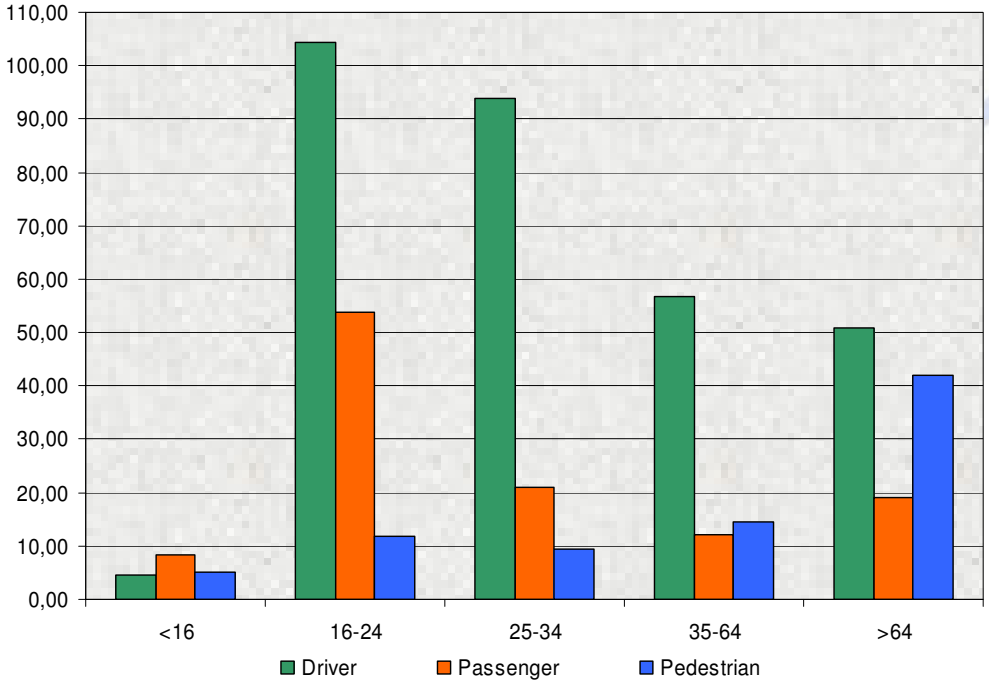
* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

In 2005[1] the majority of the young people killed in road accidents in the 18 EU countries were drivers (4.279 persons), whereas relatively few (484 persons) of the same age were pedestrians.

The majority of the young people killed in road accidents in the 18 European countries were drivers (4.279 persons), whereas only 484 persons aged 16-24 were pedestrians in 2005[1]. The percentages of driver, passenger and pedestrian fatalities who were aged 16-24 in 2005[1] are higher when data from the new countries (EE, HU, MT, PL) are not included..

Figure 4: Fatality rate per million population by age group for drivers, passengers and pedestrians in the EU-18, 2005[1]



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

The driver fatality rates for 16-24 and 25-34 year olds are higher than for other age groups.

Figure 4 illustrates the distribution of road accident fatalities per million people for drivers, passengers and pedestrians in different age groups. The driver fatality rates for 16-24 and 25-34 year olds are higher than for other age groups.

Mode of transport

Table 4 shows the distribution of fatalities amongst young people by mode of transport in 2005[1]. Almost two-thirds of fatalities in this age group across the European countries are in cars or taxis, with mopeds and motorcycles accounting for a further 25%.

Table 4: Fatalities of young people by mode of transport, 2005

	agricultural tractor	bus or coach	car or taxi	heavy goods vehicle	lorry, < 3.5 tons	moped	motorcycle	other	pedal cycle	pedestrian	Total
BE	0	0	160	2	7	16	14	5	3	9	216
DK	1	0	40	0	3	12	3	0	5	6	70
EE	0	0	23	0		0	1	0	0	5	29
EL	0	0	178	1	14	11	137	5	2	11	359
ES	1	1	527	9	30	134	77	13	6	39	837
FR	0	0	850	7	9	200	231	4	24	61	1.386
IE**	0	0	59	1	10	0	14	3	1	5	93
IT*	0	2	628	6	8	122	223	2	10	20	1.021
LU***	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
HU	0	0	118	0	5	6	25	0	5	17	176
MT	0	0	2	0	4	0	1	0	0	1	8
NL**	0	0	147	0	11	34	15	0	15	4	226
AT	1	1	113	0	1	18	22	0	5	17	178
PL	8	17	724	32		7	62	0	37	163	1.050
PT	2	0	133	1	22	13	63	1	5	9	249
FI	0	0	50	0	2	1	7	0	2	2	64
SE	1	0	55	1	2	1	8	2	1	6	77
UK	0	0	619	3	16	15	111	1	17	109	891
EU-14	6	4	3.573	31	134	576	924	37	95	298	5.680
EU-18	14	21	4.440	63	143	589	1.013	37	137	484	6.943
% EU-14	0,11%	0,07%	62,90%	0,55%	2,37%	10,15%	16,28%	0,64%	1,67%	5,25%	100,00%
% EU-18	0,21%	0,30%	63,95%	0,91%	2,07%	8,49%	14,60%	0,53%	1,97%	6,98%	100,00%

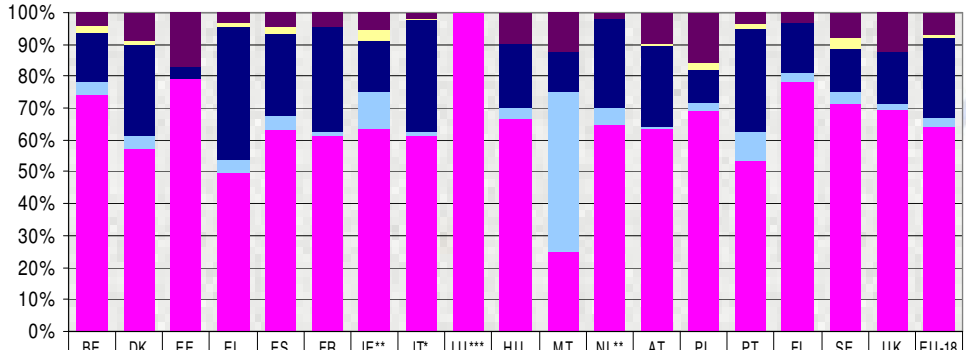
* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

Almost 42% of the overall young people fatalities were riding two-wheelers (150 persons), the highest proportion among the 18 European countries (41,8%).

Figure 5 shows that almost 42% of 16-24 year old fatalities in Greece were riding two-wheelers (motorcycle, moped or pedal cycles) (150 persons killed), the highest proportion among the 18 European countries, whereas in Estonia the respective ratio is only 3,4%.

Figure 5: Distribution of young people fatalities by mode of transport, 2005[3]



	BE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FR	IE**	IT*	LU***	HU	MT	NL**	AT	PL	PT	FI	SE	UK	EU-18
Pedestrian	4,2%	8,6%	17,2%	3,1%	4,7%	4,4%	5,4%	2,0%	0,0%	9,7%	12,5%	1,8%	9,6%	15,5%	3,7%	3,1%	7,8%	12,2%	7,0%
Others	2,3%	1,4%	0,0%	1,4%	1,9%	0,3%	3,2%	0,4%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	1,1%	2,4%	1,4%	0,0%	3,9%	0,1%	1,0%
Two-wheelers	15,3%	28,6%	3,4%	41,8%	25,8%	32,8%	16,1%	34,8%	0,0%	20,5%	12,5%	28,3%	25,3%	10,1%	32,1%	15,6%	13,0%	16,0%	25,1%
Lorries	4,2%	4,3%	0,0%	4,2%	4,6%	1,2%	11,8%	1,4%	0,0%	2,8%	50,0%	4,9%	0,6%	3,0%	9,2%	3,1%	3,9%	2,1%	3,0%
Car / taxi	74,1%	57,1%	79,3%	49,6%	63,0%	61,3%	63,4%	61,5%	100,0%	67,0%	25,0%	65,0%	63,5%	69,0%	53,7%	78,1%	71,4%	69,5%	63,9%

* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

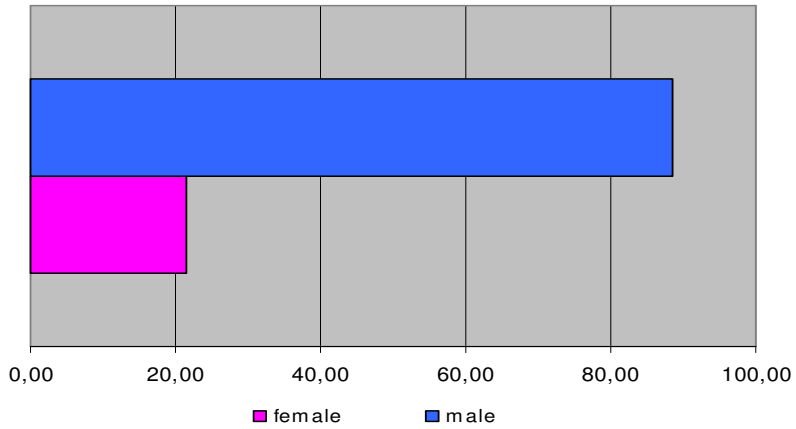
Estonia and Finland have the highest proportion of persons aged 16-24 killed in cars or taxis, much higher than the EU-18 average (almost 80% compared to 64%). Malta has a remarkably high proportion of young people fatalities in lorries (50%) although this percentage may not be reliable due to Malta's small sample (17 fatalities in total).

Gender

Figure 6 indicates that amongst young people, males account for the majority of the overall fatalities (88,5 fatality rate). On the other hand, the respective rate for female is 21,5 possibly due to higher driving exposure of males (driving more vehicle-kms).

Males account for almost 89% of the overall fatalities of young people, possibly due to higher driving exposure.

Figure 6: Young people fatality rate per million young people population in the EU-18, 2005[1]



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

Area and Road type

In Table 5 and Figure 7 the distribution of fatalities amongst young people in each of the 14 and 18 European countries by area and road type can be seen.

Table 5: Distribution of fatalities amongst young people by area and road type, 2005[3]

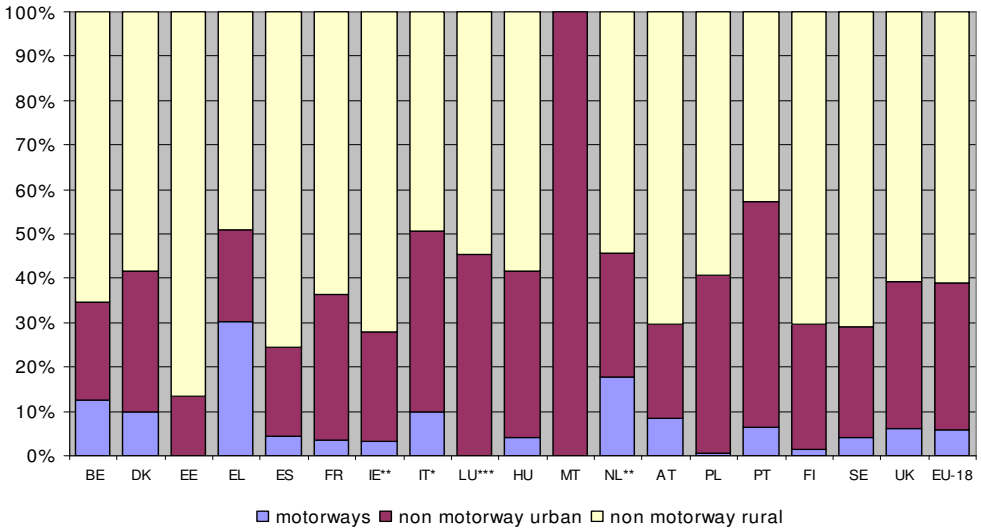
	motorway	non-motorway	
		urban	rural
BE	12,4%	22,1%	65,4%
DK	10,0%	31,4%	58,6%
EE	0,0%	13,3%	86,7%
EL	30,2%	20,6%	49,2%
ES	4,5%	20,0%	75,5%
FR	3,4%	33,0%	63,6%
IE**	3,2%	24,7%	72,0%
IT*	10,0%	40,6%	49,4%
LU***	0,0%	45,5%	54,5%
HU	4,0%	37,5%	58,5%
MT	0,0%	100,0%	0,0%
NL**	17,7%	27,9%	54,4%
AT	8,4%	21,3%	70,2%
PL	0,7%	40,1%	59,2%
PT	6,4%	50,9%	42,7%
FI	1,6%	28,1%	70,3%
SE	3,9%	25,0%	71,1%
UK	6,0%	33,3%	60,6%
EU-14	6,9%	31,8%	61,3%
EU-18	5,8%	33,3%	60,9%

* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

More than three-fifths of the road accident fatalities amongst young people occur in rural areas, not on motorways.

Figure 7: Distribution of fatalities amongst young people by area and road type, 2005[3]



* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

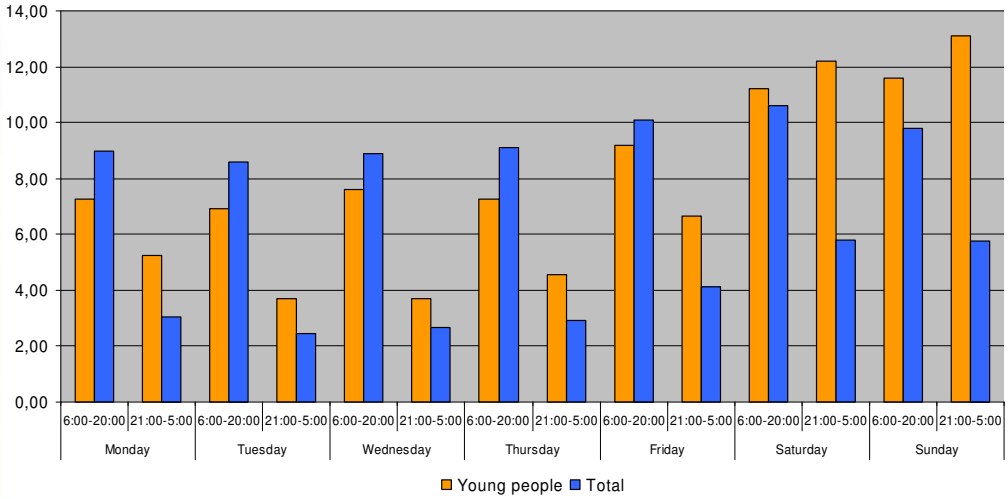
Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

More than three-fifths of the road accident fatalities amongst young people occur in rural areas, not on motorways. Only just over one fatality in twenty amongst people aged 16-24 years old occur on a motorway in 2005[1].

Day of week and Time of day

Figure 8 and Table 6 show the distribution of young people fatalities by day of week and time of day.

Figure 8: Fatality rates per million inhabitants, by day of week and time of day in the EU-18, 2005[1]



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007
Source of population data: EUROSTAT

On Saturdays and Sundays fatality rates for young people are higher than the rates for the population as a whole.

Figure 8 shows that in 2005[1] relatively few people aged 16-24 were killed between 06:00 and 20: 59 on week-days in the 18 EU countries, whereas between 21:00 and 05:59 (the night-time and early morning) relatively many young people were killed.

Relatively many young people were also killed between 06:00 and 20:59 on Saturdays and Sundays, when young people tend to stay out until late.
Table 6 shows that in 2005[1] almost a fifth of young people killed in road traffic accidents died on a Sunday, and almost a quarter on a Saturday. The proportions are lower between Monday and Thursday.

Table 6: Distribution of fatalities amongst young people by day of week, 2005[3]

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
BE	10,7%	11,2%	6,7%	12,5%	9,4%	26,8%	22,8%
DK	8,6%	11,4%	4,3%	12,9%	25,7%	17,1%	20,0%
EE	6,7%	3,3%	10,0%	0,0%	23,3%	33,3%	23,3%
EL	16,7%	13,1%	8,9%	9,5%	14,8%	17,3%	19,8%
ES	10,3%	10,3%	10,7%	10,5%	12,1%	23,7%	22,3%
FR	11,3%	9,1%	12,0%	10,8%	16,0%	20,1%	20,8%
IE**	13,0%	12,0%	2,2%	13,0%	18,5%	19,6%	21,7%
IT*	11,7%	8,5%	8,5%	8,7%	11,7%	21,7%	29,2%
LU***	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	23,1%	0,0%	69,2%	7,7%
HU	12,5%	8,0%	8,5%	14,8%	16,5%	22,7%	17,0%
MT	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	0,0%	75,0%	25,0%
NL**	14,6%	7,5%	11,5%	8,8%	17,7%	20,8%	19,0%
AT	5,6%	12,9%	9,6%	14,0%	16,3%	20,8%	20,8%
PL	9,8%	9,3%	10,6%	11,5%	13,5%	20,1%	25,1%
PT	11,0%	10,6%	9,6%	10,6%	17,0%	22,5%	18,8%
FI	12,5%	3,1%	7,8%	9,4%	26,6%	21,9%	18,8%
SE	6,5%	10,4%	13,0%	15,6%	20,8%	22,1%	11,7%
UK	12,6%	10,2%	12,1%	11,0%	14,1%	20,1%	20,0%
EU-14	11,6%	9,8%	10,3%	10,5%	14,5%	21,3%	22,1%
EU-18	11,3%	9,6%	10,3%	10,7%	14,4%	21,2%	22,4%

* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

Seasonality

Table 7 shows the distribution of road traffic fatalities amongst young people through the year, using pairs of months, with the totals displayed in Figure 9 on a monthly basis.

The peak period for most of the countries is July/August, though Ireland and Belgium peak in May/June, whilst the U.K., Sweden and Malta peak in September/October. Fewest fatalities occur in January/February.

Table 7: Distribution of fatalities amongst young people by month, 2005[3]

	January / February	March / April	May / June	July / August	September / October	November / December
BE	14%	11%	28%	16%	18%	14%
DK	16%	13%	14%	26%	19%	13%
EE	13%	17%	10%	23%	17%	20%
EL	12%	14%	19%	21%	17%	16%
ES	14%	15%	17%	23%	15%	16%
FR	12%	14%	16%	22%	18%	18%
IE**	10%	14%	27%	19%	16%	14%
IT*	13%	15%	20%	22%	14%	16%
LU***	0%	0%	8%	38%	31%	23%
HU	13%	15%	16%	22%	16%	18%
MT	0%	13%	0%	25%	50%	13%
NL**	16%	16%	17%	19%	12%	19%
AT	15%	12%	17%	21%	21%	14%
PL	12%	13%	17%	23%	21%	14%
PT	17%	14%	17%	18%	18%	16%
FI	16%	9%	14%	28%	22%	11%
SE	14%	23%	12%	18%	26%	6%
UK	17%	13%	14%	16%	19%	21%
EU-14	14%	14%	17%	21%	17%	17%
EU-18	14%	14%	17%	21%	18%	17%

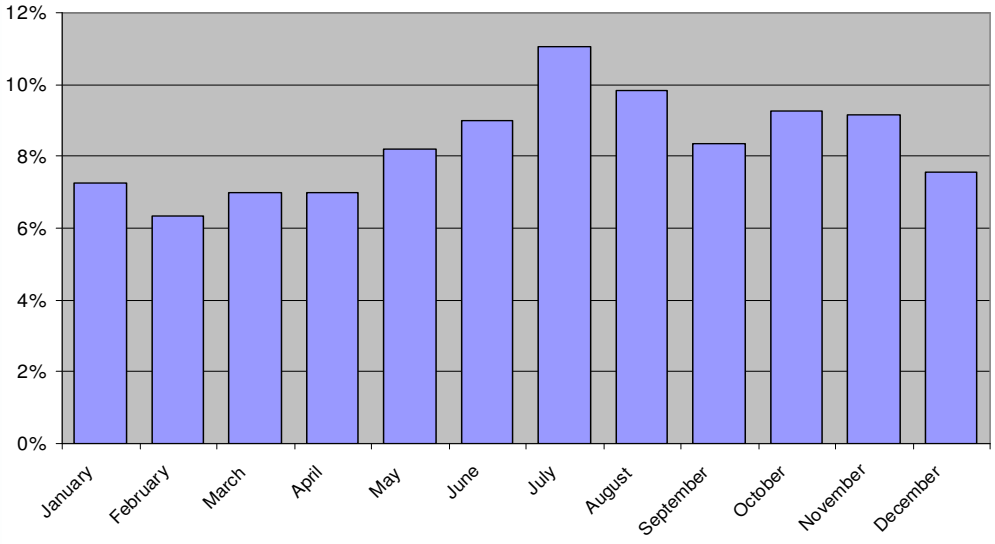
* Data from 2004
** Data from 2003
*** Data from 2002

Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

Fatalities amongst young people vary seasonally, with relatively many in the summer and relatively few in the winter.

August and July are the months where the proportion of fatalities of people aged 16-24 is highest, whereas the lowest proportions occur between January and April.

Figure 9: Distribution of fatalities amongst young people by month in the EU-18, 2005[1]



Source: CARE Database / EC
Date of query: December 2007

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 Energy and Transport of the European Commission, 28 Rue de Mot, B-1040 Brussels (see ec.europa.eu/transport/roadsafety/road_safety_observatory/care_reports_en.htm).

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

- Main Figures
- Children (Aged <16)
- Young People (Aged 16-24)
- The Elderly (Aged >64)
- Pedestrians
- Bicycles
- Motorcycle and Mopeds
- Car Occupants
- Heavy Goods Vehicles
- Motorways
- Junctions
- Urban Areas

Definition of EU level and used Country abbreviations

EU 14		**EU 18 = EU 14 +**	
BE	Belgium	EE	Estonia
DK	Denmark	HU	Hungary
EL	Greece	MT	Malta
ES	Spain	PL	Poland
FR	France		
IE	Ireland	**EU 27 = EU 18 +**	
IT	Italy	BG	Bulgaria
LU	Luxembourg	CZ	Czech Republic
NL	Netherlands	DE	Germany
AT	Austria	CY	Cyprus
PT	Portugal	LV	Latvia
FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania
SE	Sweden	RO	Romania
UK	United Kingdom	SI	Slovenia
		SK	Slovakia

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.

All these reports and more information on the Integrated Project SafetyNet, co-financed by the European Commission, Directorate-General Energy and Transport are also available at the SafetyNet Website: www.erso.eu/.

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