Additional information

The sessions of the UNECE Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) and its various expert groups are open to the 56 UNECE member States, competent intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations as well as invited experts.

For more information, contact the UNECE secretariat.

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WP. 6 periodically issues the publication “Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America”. Data are organized by nature of accidents and surroundings; accidents while under the influence of alcohol; accidents by type of road users; road accidents by light conditions and time, as well as by age group. The statistics on road traffic accidents involve personal injury only, excluding accidents with only material damage. Accidents are also disaggregated by month for most countries, which shows that July and August are typically the worst months for road fatalities.

In the ECE region in 2013 the total number of fatalities was 108,857, a decrease of 30% over ten years. This trend was particularly pronounced between 2007 and 2010 where an average annual decrease of more than 8% was reported. Between 2003 and 2013, Spain saw the biggest percentage decrease in road fatalities of 69%, while Azerbaijan saw the largest percentage increase of 74%.

Despite the overall positive trend, data on road traffic fatalities per inhabitant show large disparities between countries and regions. In the ECE region, the per capita fatality rate is inversely correlated with gross domestic product (GDP) per capita and, accordingly, the wide variation in income level of member States is evident in fatality rates. In 2013, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Netherlands had the lowest number of fatalities per capita with Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan having the highest rates. The ECE region as a whole reported approximately 87 fatalities per one million inhabitants in 2013, with the EU/EFTA region reporting a ratio more than 40% lower than this average and the rest of ECE region reporting a ratio of more than 40% higher.

As background data, figures on the number of road vehicles in use and vehicle-kilometers run by road vehicles are also provided. The publication is available in English, French and Russian. It is available for free download from: www.unece.org/trans/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/wp6/publications/RAS-2015.pdf