



ACTION VISION ZERO

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

Dorset

Motoring offences prosecuted at court

MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)

Action Vision Zero Summary

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Introduction

Action Vision Zero is committed to reducing road danger and traffic harm. This includes increasing the transparency and understanding of how the justice system holds drivers to account for putting others in danger. Here we summarise the court prosecutions and convictions for motoring offences in a police service area over the last five years (2015-2020), with a comparison to England and Wales (E&W). See below for:

- Table 1 Motoring Offences, Prosecutions and Convictions 2015-2020: Dorset
- Table 2 Motoring Offences at Court, Bans 2015-2020: Dorset
- Table 3 Motoring Offences at Court, Ban Durations 2020: Dorset

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions fell by 13% to 4,005 and convictions fell by 10% to 3,730, compared to decreases of 20% and 17% in E&W

We are concerned that sober dangerous driving is rarely prosecuted and so have compared it with drink and drug driving below.

- Drink driving prosecutions fell by 35% to 303, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 632% to 139, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions rose by 53% to 29, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions fell by 10% to 1,613, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 25% to 130, compared to a 35% decrease in E&W

Driving bans

We have included an analysis of driving bans given in the local police service area. With only 1% of those convicted at court of motoring offences in E&W going to prison, disqualifications are key to removing unsafe drivers from our roads.

But driving bans are mainly used where they are mandatory, e.g. drink/drug driving. Disqualifications are very rarely given to those convicted at court of speeding or careless driving, where they are optional. This is despite these cases being the more serious as most speeding and careless drivers are sanctioned out of court.

- 635 sentences (17%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 414 (97%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 70 (4.6)% sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 1 (1%) sentences for careless driving included a ban, compared to 5% in E&W
- Bans given were 6 months or less for 100% of speeding and 100% of careless driving bans

Action Vision Zero calls

1. Dangerous driving and careless driving to be police priorities. This would result in more detections, as seen by drink and drug driving, which are already police priorities.
2. More unsafe unimpaired drivers to be banned. This should include those summoned to court for extreme speeding (too high for a Fixed Penalty Notice or National Driver Offender Retraining Scheme), and for durations similar to drink/drug driving. Likewise more of the serious cases of careless driving should result in more and longer bans.

Source: MoJ (2021) *Motoring data tool*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2020>

Table 1 Motoring Offences, Prosecutions and Convictions 2015-2020: Dorset

	Prosecutions						5 year change	Convictions						5 year change
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
01. Causing death by dangerous driving	0	4	2	2	3	1		0	2	2	0	3	1	
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	1	1	0	1	0		0	0	1	0	0	1	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	9	5	5	5	5	2	-78%	6	8	2	6	2	2	-67%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug														
04. Causing death by driving unlicensed or uninsured drivers	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified														
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking														
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	2	10	3	4	7	3	50%	3	7	8	2	4	5	67%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified														
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	1	
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0	3	1	0	1	0		0	1	1	0	1	0	
10. Dangerous driving	19	25	19	27	28	29	53%	20	18	22	22	36	21	5%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	464	479	530	481	479	303	-35%	454	468	528	467	470	294	-35%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	19	50	91	357	470	139	632%	18	50	84	345	462	137	661%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	136	175	132	154	156	97	-29%	122	152	117	139	132	86	-30%
13a. Fail to give permission for a laboratory test on a blood specimen having caused death														
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	141	129	120	190	94	47	-67%	132	122	113	171	81	43	-67%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	174	167	202	175	156	130	-25%	134	155	195	152	138	119	-11%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	36	27	59	52	35	26	-28%	31	26	54	40	31	24	-23%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	56	52	29	41	30	25	-55%	45	41	28	31	25	21	-53%
18. Driving licence related offences	129	186	171	154	197	153	19%	109	165	160	141	183	140	28%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	676	862	970	949	788	747	11%	601	797	893	895	735	698	16%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	26	48	48	67	78	12	-54%	23	46	41	62	78	11	-52%
21. Work record and employment offences	2	3	4	1	3	0	-100%	2	1	1	1	2	0	-100%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	1	0	1	1	4	0	-100%	1	0	0	1	3	0	-100%
23. Defective vehicle parts	38	45	49	67	45	46	21%	31	44	46	62	42	41	32%
24. Vehicle test offences	28	7	23	42	20	8	-71%	4	4	17	38	20	7	75%
25. Speed limit offences	1,793	2,115	2,179	2,225	2,527	1,613	-10%	1,613	1,950	1,970	2,015	2,376	1,507	-7%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	103	194	188	71	25	34	-67%	95	183	181	67	24	29	-69%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	690	759	1,052	893	577	541	-22%	630	684	992	835	517	501	-20%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	61	41	29	61	54	49	-20%	54	33	27	56	48	41	-24%
Total	4,603	5,387	5,909	6,019	5,783	4,005	-13%	4,128	4,957	5,483	5,548	5,413	3,730	-10%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Dorset

	Bans						5 year change	Bans as % of Sentenced					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
01. Causing death by dangerous driving		2	2		3	1			100%	100%		100%	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs			1			1				100%			100%
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	1	5	2	6	2	0	-1	17%	71%	67%	100%	100%	0%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug													
04. Causing death by driving unlicensed or uninsured drivers													
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified													
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking													
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	2	6	7	0	3	4	2	67%	86%	78%	0%	75%	100%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified													
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving													
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment													
10. Dangerous driving	18	16	23	20	34	18	0	95%	80%	100%	100%	100%	95%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	433	442	497	445	457	283	-150	95%	95%	94%	95%	97%	95%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	18	24	0	199	455	131	113	100%	48%	0%	58%	98%	98%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	89	113	91	107	93	62	-27	72%	74%	78%	77%	70%	72%
13a. Fail to give permission for a laboratory test on a blood specimen having caused death													
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	10	5	7	12	7	1	-9	7%	3%	4%	8%	5%	1%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	1	1	7	6	6	2	1	3%	4%	13%	15%	19%	8%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	17	23	9	13	10	3	-14	36%	53%	31%	38%	40%	14%
18. Driving licence related offences	20	41	43	47	66	47	27	18%	25%	27%	33%	36%	34%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	5	9	3	11	8	11	6	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences													
21. Work record and employment offences													
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records													
23. Defective vehicle parts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
24. Vehicle test offences													
25. Speed limit offences	60	74	49	72	69	70	10	3.7%	3.8%	2.5%	3.6%	2.9%	4.6%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	4.2%	0.0%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	2	0	1	2	0	1	-1	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	676	762	742	941	1,214	635	-41	16%	15%	14%	17%	22%	17%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Dorset

	Not Banned	Banned Total	Under 6 months	6 months	Over 6 months and less than 1 year	1 year	Over 1 year and less than 2 years	2 years and less than 3 years	3 years	Over 3 years and less than 4 years	4 years and less than 5 years	5 years and less than 10 years	10 years and less than life	Life	Until driving test	Unknown
01. Causing death by dangerous driving	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	0														
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug		0														
04. Causing death by driving unlicensed or uninsured drivers	0	0														
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified		0														
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking		0														
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified		0														
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	1	0														
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0	0														
10. Dangerous driving	1	18	0	0	0	2	3	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	14	283	0	0	0	66	153	25	24	13	1	0	0	0	0	1
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	3	131	0	0	0	102	17	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving death	24	62	4	4	0	22	20	3	5	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	43	0														
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	118	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	22	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	18	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
18. Driving licence related offences	93	47	8	12	2	12	7	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
19. Vehicle insurance offences	687	11	8	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	11	0														
21. Work record and employment offences	0	0														
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	0	0														
23. Defective vehicle parts	41	0														
24. Vehicle test offences	7	0														
25. Speed limit offences	1,437	70	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	30	0														
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	500	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	41	0														
Total	3,093	635	93	19	2	206	201	36	43	18	2	3	0	0	9	3

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool