

Gwent

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: Gwent
- Table 2 Motoring Offences at Court, Bans 2015-2020: Gwent
- Table 3 Motoring Offences at Court, Ban Durations 2020: Gwent

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions rose by 82% to 8,017 and convictions rose by 82% to 7,313, 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 2% to 393, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 1,779% to 263, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions rose by 29% to 72, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions rose by 70% to 2,533, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions rose by 81% to 159, 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.

- 993 sentences (14%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 615 (97%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 36 (1.6)% sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 11 (8%) sentences for careless driving included a ban, compared to 5% in E&W
- Bans given were 6 months or less for 97% of speeding and 64% 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: Gwent

	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	2	4	3	3	4	3	50%	2	3	3	2	1	0	-100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs								0	0	0	0	1	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	2	2	1	2	3	50%	2	1	0	1	2	0	-100%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug	0	0	0	1	1	0								
04. Causing death by driving unlicensed or uninsured drivers	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified														
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	1	0	0	0	0	0	-100%							
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	6	9	3	3	6	6	0%	3	6	4	4	4	1	-67%
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	0	0	1	1	1	0		0	0	1	1	1	0	
10. Dangerous driving	56	65	60	52	64	72	29%	56	62	61	53	53	57	2%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	399	402	393	395	402	393	-2%	394	396	384	388	393	384	-3%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	14	157	96	142	178	263	1779%	14	156	91	140	167	256	1729%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	94	105	97	118	167	193	105%	85	96	84	99	146	168	98%
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	58	63	88	83	103	82	41%	48	59	87	81	95	74	54%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	88	108	99	84	143	159	81%	75	100	90	79	129	141	88%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	34	43	40	41	34	32	-6%	29	36	39	34	31	30	3%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	83	72	73	38	38	38	-54%	66	64	65	33	26	23	-65%
18. Driving licence related offences	191	201	203	186	220	219	15%	174	188	196	179	211	207	19%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	598	797	1,144	1,195	1,156	1,187	98%	570	763	1,118	1,160	1,115	1,144	101%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	7	16	43	57	45	27	286%	6	15	41	52	41	26	333%
21. Work record and employment offences	6	0	1	2	1	3	-50%	6	0	1	0	1	1	-83%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	0	1	0	1	2	3		0	0	0	1	2	1	
23. Defective vehicle parts	44	97	75	55	86	99	125%	42	93	70	52	86	94	124%
24. Vehicle test offences	31	99	77	110	50	64	106%	27	90	76	108	47	61	126%
25. Speed limit offences	1,488	2,009	1,687	2,072	3,154	2,533	70%	1,368	1,748	1,598	1,884	2,828	2,277	66%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	373	1,273	1,329	1,036	945	1,114	199%	318	1,071	1,217	914	827	976	207%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	494	990	661	1,276	1,777	1,437	191%	456	920	613	1,190	1,672	1,321	190%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	341	445	460	340	617	87	-74%	269	358	365	279	524	71	-74%
Total	4,410	6,958	6,635	7,292	9,196	8,017	82%	4,010	6,225	6,204	6,734	8,403	7,313	82%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Gwent

	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	3	3	2	1			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs					1								100%
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	0		1	1			100%	0%		100%	50%	
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	3	5	4	3	1			100%	83%	100%	100%	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			0	0	0					0%	0%	0%	
10. Dangerous driving	53	62	65	45	32	19	-34	93%	95%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	347	377	370	371	376	367	20	88%	95%	96%	95%	96%	96%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	14	51	2	78	159	248	234	100%	32%	2%	56%	95%	98%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	62	72	64	80	98	124	62	73%	74%	76%	79%	67%	74%
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	2	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	5	12	10	6	14	11	6	7%	12%	11%	8%	11%	8%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	7	11	8	9	11	11	4	24%	31%	21%	26%	35%	38%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	29	34	43	16	17	13	-16	45%	52%	67%	48%	71%	62%
18. Driving licence related offences	70	82	90	69	97	91	21	40%	44%	46%	39%	46%	45%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	252	309	316	172	87	64	-188	44%	40%	28%	15%	8%	6%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences													
21. Work record and employment offences													
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records				0	0	0					0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
23. Defective vehicle parts	0	0	1	0	0	3	3	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
24. Vehicle test offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
25. Speed limit offences	33	42	56	52	50	36	3	2.4%	2.4%	3.5%	2.8%	1.8%	1.6%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	0	0	15	14	9	5	5	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%	1.5%	1.1%	0.5%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	3	5	2	1	2	1	-2	0.7%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	882	1,065	1,051	919	956	993	111	22%	17%	17%	14%	11%	14%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Gwent

	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	0														
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0														
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	0	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	0														
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified		0														
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving		0														
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0	0														
10. Dangerous driving	0	19	0	0	0	6	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	15	367	1	0	0	90	194	39	24	14	4	1	0	0	0	0
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	6	248	0	0	0	133	66	12	31	3	2	0	1	0	0	0
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving death	43	124	1	1	2	28	33	22	28	3	2	4	0	0	0	0
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	74	0														
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	130	11	4	3	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	18	11	6	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	8	13	0	0	1	9	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18. Driving licence related offences	110	91	4	17	10	20	13	11	6	1	3	6	0	0	0	0
19. Vehicle insurance offences	1,080	64	21	21	5	10	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	26	0														
21. Work record and employment offences	1	0														
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	1	0														
23. Defective vehicle parts	91	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24. Vehicle test offences	61	0														
25. Speed limit offences	2,241	36	34	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	971	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	1,320	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	71	0														
Total	6,267	993	80	45	19	301	314	94	91	22	11	12	1	0	3	0

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool