



**ACTION VISION ZERO**

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

**South Yorkshire  
Motoring offences prosecuted at court**

**MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)**

**Action Vision Zero Summary**

## South Yorkshire

### Motoring offences prosecuted at court MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)

#### 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: South Yorkshire
- Table 2 Motoring Offences at Court, Bans 2015-2020: South Yorkshire
- Table 3 Motoring Offences at Court, Ban Durations 2020: South Yorkshire

#### Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions fell by 38% to 8,728 and convictions fell by 35% to 7,905, 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 30% to 643, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 111% to 188, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions rose by 1% to 112, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions fell by 43% to 1,999, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 55% to 124, 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.

- 1,234 sentences (16%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 786 (97%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 32 (1.7%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 6 (6%) 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 83% 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: South Yorkshire**

	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	9	6	4	6	5	3	-67%	3	9	5	1	11	5	67%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	1	0	0	1		0	1	1	0	0	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	3	6	8	3	6	4	33%	5	3	6	1	7	3	-40%
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	0	0	0	4	0	0		0	0	0	0	2	0	
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	10	8	16	7	14	7	-30%	16	7	15	7	7	9	-44%
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	0	
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	2	1	3	2	2	0	-100%	1	1	3	1	0	0	-100%
10. Dangerous driving	111	131	137	113	95	112	1%	102	131	122	105	101	104	2%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	917	832	721	751	775	643	-30%	901	815	711	740	759	628	-30%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	89	163	89	163	195	188	111%	87	153	82	132	170	185	113%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	283	278	226	227	236	209	-26%	231	212	189	195	190	170	-26%
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	229	191	151	175	125	60	-74%	213	176	140	166	108	57	-73%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	277	316	242	185	214	124	-55%	216	231	173	123	149	98	-55%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	157	173	135	79	61	48	-69%	123	140	109	60	50	41	-67%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	181	158	156	119	105	79	-56%	144	124	135	87	96	49	-66%
18. Driving licence related offences	423	387	361	324	338	309	-27%	361	349	333	305	311	290	-20%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	3,725	3,353	3,048	2,555	2,378	2,463	-34%	2,960	2,742	2,570	2,128	1,958	2,231	-25%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	1,921	706	298	422	570	241	-87%	1,397	445	112	188	268	95	-93%
21. Work record and employment offences	7	0	10	0	0	3	-57%	6	0	10	0	0	0	-100%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	4	7	7	1	13	8	100%	4	5	5	0	12	4	0%
23. Defective vehicle parts	135	120	55	59	59	68	-50%	122	107	49	51	54	64	-48%
24. Vehicle test offences	34	31	26	135	152	171	403%	21	21	18	133	142	161	667%
25. Speed limit offences	3,537	4,200	3,541	2,828	2,678	1,999	-43%	3,429	4,084	3,413	2,714	2,609	1,919	-44%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	283	358	458	1,581	945	1,035	266%	253	327	430	1,546	931	959	279%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	1,624	1,576	1,778	1,637	866	851	-48%	1,415	1,284	1,468	1,332	703	743	-47%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	124	102	166	177	135	102	-18%	111	89	137	163	124	90	-19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,085</b>	<b>13,103</b>	<b>11,638</b>	<b>11,553</b>	<b>9,967</b>	<b>8,728</b>	<b>-38%</b>	<b>12,121</b>	<b>11,456</b>	<b>10,236</b>	<b>10,178</b>	<b>8,762</b>	<b>7,905</b>	<b>-35%</b>

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

**Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: South Yorkshire**

	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	3	9	5	1	11	5	2	100%	100%	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	5	2	6	1	7	3	-2	100%	67%	100%	100%	100%	100%
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					2							100%	
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	16	7	13	7	6	8	-8	94%	100%	100%	100%	86%	80%
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	99	129	110	109	107	106	7	95%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	849	783	679	710	728	606	-243	94%	96%	95%	96%	95%	96%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	86	79	1	82	162	180	94	99%	51%	1%	63%	95%	97%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	176	183	145	137	150	131	-45	76%	86%	76%	70%	79%	76%
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)	18	16	7	16	13	6	-12	8%	7%	4%	13%	9%	6%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	12	18	17	13	12	6	-6	10%	13%	16%	22%	24%	15%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	54	57	56	37	42	18	-36	37%	45%	40%	42%	44%	37%
18. Driving licence related offences	127	119	116	115	126	96	-31	35%	34%	34%	38%	41%	33%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	74	53	45	35	26	22	-52	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%
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%	0.0%	0.0%		0.0%	0.0%
23. Defective vehicle parts	1	0	1	0	0	0	-1	0.8%	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
24. Vehicle test offences													
25. Speed limit offences	45	68	38	38	33	32	-13	1.3%	1.7%	1.1%	1.4%	1.3%	1.7%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	2	1	5	16	19	11	9	0.8%	0.3%	1.2%	1.0%	2.0%	1.1%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	5	8	2	7	4	4	-1	0.4%	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,572</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>1,324</b>	<b>1,449</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>-338</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>16%</b>

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

**Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: South Yorkshire**

	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	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0														
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	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	0														
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified		0														
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0	0														
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0	0														
10. Dangerous driving	0	106	0	0	1	13	6	5	5	0	0	1	0	0	75	0
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	24	606	0	0	0	129	314	75	55	21	8	3	0	0	1	0
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	6	180	0	0	0	130	30	6	12	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving death	41	131	8	5	2	35	42	13	20	2	1	0	0	1	1	1
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	57	0														
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	92	6	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	35	6	2	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	31	18	2	1	1	8	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
18. Driving licence related offences	196	96	16	21	5	28	10	7	3	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
19. Vehicle insurance offences	2,210	22	11	5	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	95	0														
21. Work record and employment offences	0	0														
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	2	0														
23. Defective vehicle parts	64	0														
24. Vehicle test offences	161	0														
25. Speed limit offences	1,887	32	27	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	949	11	11	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	739	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	90	0														
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,681</b>	<b>1,234</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool