



ACTION VISION ZERO

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

Suffolk Motoring offences prosecuted at court

MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)

Action Vision Zero Summary

Suffolk

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

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions fell by 0% to 6,805 and convictions rose by 10% to 6,286, 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 398, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 386% to 248, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions fell by 38% to 16, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions rose by 62% to 3,352, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 48% to 175, 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.

- 826 sentences (13%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 614 (97%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 50 (1.6%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 8 (5%) sentences for careless driving included a ban, compared to 5% in E&W
- Bans given were 6 months or less for 98% of speeding and 63% 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: Suffolk

	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	1	1	4	0	4	0	-100%	0	0	3	1	2	2	
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	1	0	1	0	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	4	2	3	7	1	1	-75%	5	3	2	7	1	0	-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	0	0	0	1	0	0								
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified														
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking														
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	0	1	1	4	1	2		2	0	1	3	0	1	-50%
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	1	1	3	1	2	0	-100%	2	1	2	0	2	0	-100%
10. Dangerous driving	26	31	19	15	22	16	-38%	21	30	22	14	18	20	-5%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	569	545	464	425	433	398	-30%	549	533	450	412	421	391	-29%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	51	171	162	306	346	248	386%	51	166	158	296	333	245	380%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	108	128	101	95	100	87	-19%	98	116	93	90	82	78	-20%
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	139	99	177	294	301	44	-68%	122	95	174	260	257	37	-70%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	336	221	168	189	214	175	-48%	264	178	158	174	204	164	-38%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	112	52	34	29	32	35	-69%	99	46	30	26	24	27	-73%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	65	62	31	34	23	36	-45%	58	50	31	31	25	32	-45%
18. Driving licence related offences	162	110	97	152	163	153	-6%	147	100	90	145	151	146	-1%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	1,032	859	934	1,619	1,386	1,154	12%	786	646	760	1,472	1,239	1,026	31%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	547	222	61	89	113	88	-84%	383	161	27	46	61	58	-85%
21. Work record and employment offences	5	1	3	4	4	5	0%	5	1	2	4	4	4	-20%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	5	1	2	9	8	11	120%	3	2	1	9	7	8	167%
23. Defective vehicle parts	63	55	47	100	109	90	43%	57	51	46	97	106	83	46%
24. Vehicle test offences	69	78	132	181	209	138	100%	67	75	127	169	204	127	90%
25. Speed limit offences	2,063	1,456	1,712	2,417	2,805	3,352	62%	1,884	1,374	1,576	2,305	2,719	3,142	67%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	116	54	129	428	190	83	-28%	88	45	97	301	133	59	-33%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	585	319	612	685	454	467	-20%	523	265	556	626	424	424	-19%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	756	736	501	361	416	222	-71%	506	518	313	287	364	212	-58%
Total	6,815	5,205	5,398	7,445	7,336	6,805	0%	5,720	4,457	4,719	6,776	6,781	6,286	10%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Suffolk

	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	1	2	2			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs		1		1				80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	4	3	1	7	1								
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		1	1	1			100%		100%	50%	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		1			0%	0%	0%	50%		
10. Dangerous driving	20	32	22	17	20	21	1	95%	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	514	504	431	388	413	373	-141	94%	95%	96%	94%	98%	95%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	51	70	2	153	319	241	190	100%	42%	1%	52%	96%	98%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	68	78	73	61	61	58	-10	69%	66%	78%	68%	73%	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	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	9	10	6	10	7	8	-1	3%	6%	4%	6%	3%	5%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	2	0	2	3	1	3	1	2%	0%	7%	12%	4%	11%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	15	19	11	12	16	17	2	26%	37%	35%	39%	62%	53%
18. Driving licence related offences	41	27	40	44	60	49	8	28%	27%	44%	30%	39%	33%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	11	14	11	11	8	3	-8	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%
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%	0.0%	0.0%
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	48	64	35	37	37	50	2	2.5%	4.7%	2.2%	1.6%	1.4%	1.6%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
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	785	823	638	746	948	826	41	14%	18%	14%	11%	14%	13%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Suffolk

			Until driving test	Unknown
			Life	
			10 years and less than life	
			5 years and less than 10 years	
			4 years and less than 5 years	
			Over 3 years and less than 4 years	
			3 years	
			2 years and less than 3 years	
			Over 1 year and less than 2 years	
			1 year	
			Over 6 months and less than 1 year	
			6 months	
			Under 6 months	
	Banned Total			
	Not Banned			
01. Causing death by dangerous driving	0	0	0	0
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	0	0
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	0	0	0	0
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug	0	0	0	0
04. Causing death by driving unlicensed or uninsured drivers	0	0	0	0
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified	0	0	0	0
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	0	0	0	0
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	0	0	0	0
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified	0	0	0	0
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0	0	0	0
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0	0	0	0
10. Dangerous driving	0	21	0	0
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	18	373	0	0
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	5	241	0	0
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	20	58	1	0
death	0	0	2	0
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	37	0	0	0
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	156	8	3	0
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	24	3	0	0
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	15	17	0	0
18. Driving licence related offences	98	49	6	0
19. Vehicle insurance offences	1,022	3	0	0
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	58	0	0	0
21. Work record and employment offences	4	0	0	0
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	8	0	0	0
23. Defective vehicle parts	83	0	0	0
24. Vehicle test offences	127	0	0	0
25. Speed limit offences	3,092	50	49	0
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	59	0	0	0
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	423	1	0	0
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	212	0	0	0
Total	5,461	826	59	15
			8	225
			270	93
			81	30
			14	14
			8	8
			0	0
			23	0

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool