



**ACTION VISION ZERO**

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

## South Wales Motoring offences prosecuted at court

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

**Action Vision Zero Summary**

## South Wales

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

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

Total prosecutions fell by 35% to 22,713 and convictions fell by 32% to 20,295, 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 23% to 917, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 547% to 375, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions rose by 49% to 127, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions rose by 5% to 8,310, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions rose by 7% to 189, 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.

- 2,016 sentences (10%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 1,196 (95%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 39 (0.6%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 14 (9%) 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: South Wales**

	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	5	12	7	4	2	7	40%	2	6	6	8	4	4	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	0	2	0	0		0	0	1	1	1	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	1	2	3	3	5	5	400%	2	5	2	4	4	4	100%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug								0	0	0	0	0	0	
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	4	10	7	7	13	9	125%	6	10	6	10	12	16	167%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified	1	0	0	1	1	0	-100%	1	0	0	1	1	0	-100%
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving								0	0	0	0	0	1	
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	5	1	0	1	0	4	-20%	5	1	0	0	1	4	-20%
10. Dangerous driving	85	73	69	93	89	127	49%	78	73	78	88	106	128	64%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	1,191	1,079	979	1,070	942	917	-23%	1,168	1,068	959	1,057	924	896	-23%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	58	163	154	343	303	375	547%	58	160	150	334	294	370	538%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	243	266	237	256	265	296	22%	220	227	213	232	229	255	16%
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	200	181	143	266	164	112	-44%	189	174	141	249	152	98	-48%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	176	203	174	183	182	189	7%	164	172	156	161	166	156	-5%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	119	155	158	120	104	80	-33%	98	130	132	101	89	71	-28%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	204	199	167	151	126	124	-39%	184	176	144	129	117	95	-48%
18. Driving licence related offences	589	639	551	516	473	525	-11%	528	596	526	482	440	501	-5%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	15,034	14,162	7,206	6,705	6,577	4,157	-72%	12,279	12,671	6,342	5,995	5,950	3,777	-69%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	6,137	9,001	7,022	10,423	10,789	3,491	-43%	4,917	8,047	6,332	9,559	9,951	3,192	-35%
21. Work record and employment offences	7	8	7	4	7	10	43%	6	8	7	4	7	9	50%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	10	5	8	8	10	15	50%	8	4	8	7	9	9	13%
23. Defective vehicle parts	73	93	74	75	63	91	25%	59	89	69	71	61	90	53%
24. Vehicle test offences	104	133	81	149	92	57	-45%	82	123	75	144	84	56	-32%
25. Speed limit offences	7,922	8,814	7,704	8,894	8,166	8,310	5%	6,894	7,265	7,029	7,695	6,977	7,069	3%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	339	493	416	257	98	523	54%	277	439	377	221	84	486	75%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	2,658	4,470	2,387	3,683	3,258	2,981	12%	2,459	4,134	2,199	3,469	2,990	2,721	11%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	45	273	133	295	308	308	584%	38	251	118	261	278	287	655%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35,210</b>	<b>40,435</b>	<b>27,687</b>	<b>33,509</b>	<b>32,037</b>	<b>22,713</b>	<b>-35%</b>	<b>29,722</b>	<b>35,829</b>	<b>25,070</b>	<b>30,283</b>	<b>28,931</b>	<b>20,295</b>	<b>-32%</b>

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

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

	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	6	6	8	4	4	2	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs			1	1	1			100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	5	2	4	5	4	2	100%	83%	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													
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	4	9	6	8	17	16	12	67%	100%	100%	100%	89%	94%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified	1				1			100%				100%	
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%	0%			0%	0%
10. Dangerous driving	81	75	82	84	128	169	88	93%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	1,096	1,013	913	1,004	869	836	-260	94%	95%	95%	95%	94%	92%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	58	64	3	216	285	360	302	100%	39%	2%	64%	96%	96%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	162	187	152	179	173	182	20	73%	82%	71%	77%	75%	70%
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	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	24	17	15	21	13	14	-10	15%	10%	10%	13%	8%	9%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	26	34	36	39	29	27	1	26%	26%	27%	39%	33%	36%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	93	85	68	74	49	60	-33	51%	49%	46%	59%	41%	62%
18. Driving licence related offences	178	220	198	214	206	206	28	33%	37%	38%	44%	46%	40%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	178	196	158	121	106	94	-84	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences													
21. Work record and employment offences													
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	1	0	0	0	1	0	-1	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%
23. Defective vehicle parts	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	1.1%
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	78	76	73	61	38	39	-39	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	1	2	1	2	0	2	1	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	0.9%	0.0%	0.4%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	8	6	9	7	6	1	-7	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,994</b>	<b>1,996</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>2,043</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>2,016</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>10%</b>

*Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool*

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

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool