



ACTION VISION ZERO

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

Cambridgeshire Motoring offences prosecuted at court

MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)

Action Vision Zero Summary

Cambridgeshire

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

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions fell by 44% to 6,254 and convictions fell by 41% to 5,717, 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 19% to 389, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 1,157% to 176, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions fell by 27% to 33, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions fell by 32% to 2,454, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 17% to 139, 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.

- 833 sentences (15%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 533 (98%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 33 (1.5%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 6 (4%) 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 50% 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: Cambridgeshire

	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	4	7	6	5	6	20%	3	4	3	5	2	8	167%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	1	0	0	0		1	0	1	1	0	0	-100%
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	0	4	6	3	4	5		3	3	7	6	3	8	167%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug	0	1	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
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	0	0	0	0	1	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking	0	0	0	0	1	0		0	0	0	0	1	0	
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	7	6	7	8	3	10	43%	8	6	9	4	2	9	13%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	1	0	
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	2	0	0	0	0	1	-50%	1	1	0	0	0	1	0%
10. Dangerous driving	45	38	40	38	40	33	-27%	50	46	40	31	34	34	-32%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	478	516	516	475	550	389	-19%	474	504	508	469	531	381	-20%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	14	73	41	151	163	176	1157%	14	73	40	146	155	172	1129%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	103	110	115	141	129	111	8%	94	96	103	125	110	100	6%
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	334	175	134	144	171	94	-72%	324	167	130	136	156	80	-75%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	168	209	182	160	148	139	-17%	153	196	177	156	141	136	-11%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	59	88	71	50	58	61	3%	53	81	57	41	43	49	-8%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	40	65	46	37	52	35	-13%	35	52	46	35	41	27	-23%
18. Driving licence related offences	178	180	179	178	238	207	16%	168	174	173	169	224	197	17%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	2,316	2,546	1,533	1,681	1,692	1,269	-45%	1,877	2,113	1,307	1,477	1,484	1,126	-40%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	2,202	1,878	100	82	129	35	-98%	1,723	1,572	51	43	59	22	-99%
21. Work record and employment offences	5	1	0	2	3	0	-100%	5	1	0	2	3	0	-100%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	3	7	4	2	4	4	33%	7	7	4	1	4	3	-57%
23. Defective vehicle parts	166	140	91	68	79	52	-69%	162	134	87	65	73	49	-70%
24. Vehicle test offences	12	17	27	53	87	67	458%	12	16	25	51	85	65	442%
25. Speed limit offences	3,598	3,007	3,301	3,658	3,438	2,454	-32%	3,438	2,824	3,102	3,403	3,266	2,254	-34%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	464	581	461	509	174	63	-86%	323	390	319	380	133	42	-87%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	590	772	932	1,084	1,285	963	63%	543	715	876	1,014	1,201	876	61%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	305	198	134	114	127	80	-74%	286	187	122	105	120	78	-73%
Total	11,094	10,616	7,930	8,644	8,581	6,254	-44%	9,757	9,362	7,187	7,866	7,871	5,717	-41%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Cambridgeshire

	Bans						5 year change	Bans as % of Sentenced				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
01. Causing death by dangerous driving	3	4	3	5	2	8	5	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	3	3	7	5	2	7	4	100%	100%	100%	83%	100%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug												88%
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	6	7	7	5	1	7	1	86%	100%	78%	100%	50%
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												
10. Dangerous driving	46	43	45	33	34	34	-12	92%	98%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	456	483	487	452	506	368	-88	96%	96%	96%	96%	95%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	13	27	1	75	146	165	152	93%	37%	2%	51%	95%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	78	73	75	92	83	75	-3	83%	75%	74%	73%	75%
13a. Fail to give permission for a laboratory test on a blood specimen having caused death												74%
14. Using or causing others to use a handheld mobile phone whilst driving	1	1	0	0	0	0	-1	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	16	10	15	13	10	6	-10	10%	5%	8%	8%	7%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	5	8	9	4	5	6	1	9%	10%	16%	10%	12%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	11	21	17	14	15	16	5	33%	42%	35%	40%	37%
18. Driving licence related offences	36	40	48	51	66	62	26	22%	23%	28%	30%	29%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	35	23	25	28	23	30	-5	2%	1%	2%	2%	3%
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	2	0	0	0	0	0	-2	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
24. Vehicle test offences												
25. Speed limit offences	120	84	56	68	45	33	-87	3.5%	3.0%	1.8%	2.0%	1.4%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	2	1	4	1	0	0	-2	0.6%	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.0%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	4	2	2	3	9	16	12	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.7%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	838	830	802	851	948	833	-5	9%	9%	11%	11%	12%
												15%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Cambridgeshire

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool