



ACTION VISION ZERO

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

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

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions rose by 22% to 8,966 and convictions rose by 29% to 8,341, 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 9% to 652, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 3,433% to 530, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions rose by 116% to 41, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions rose by 47% to 4,257, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 43% to 214, 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.

- 1,515 sentences (18%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 1,126 (98%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 80 (2%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 15 (8%) 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 60% 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: Norfolk

	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	0	3	1	2	7	250%	3	0	1	1	0	2	-33%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	3	3	0	2	3	10	233%	2	1	0	2	2	4	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	0	0	0	0	0	0								
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	3	2	3	6	4	5	67%	1	4	3	4	3	4	300%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified								0	0	0	0	1	0	
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0	0	0	0	0	3		1	0	0	0	0	2	100%
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	1	0	0	0	2	3	200%	1	0	0	0	3	1	0%
10. Dangerous driving	19	34	62	58	54	41	116%	22	33	56	65	49	45	105%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	716	750	730	743	707	652	-9%	702	732	719	733	694	643	-8%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	15	89	152	366	456	530	3433%	15	87	145	359	442	520	3367%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	172	181	201	186	206	147	-15%	149	151	175	162	183	134	-10%
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	142	72	116	235	300	58	-59%	128	67	113	208	228	47	-63%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	377	280	242	253	277	214	-43%	305	235	222	234	254	193	-37%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	148	90	63	52	61	54	-64%	133	67	49	48	52	39	-71%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	80	69	67	86	72	60	-25%	68	60	63	67	53	48	-29%
18. Driving licence related offences	233	167	199	257	309	267	15%	216	154	183	252	288	249	15%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	1,102	774	1,103	1,666	1,778	1,484	35%	882	595	896	1,447	1,549	1,333	51%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	539	470	87	95	162	97	-82%	388	360	25	54	94	68	-82%
21. Work record and employment offences	5	2	7	8	4	2	-60%	5	2	6	8	2	2	-60%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	2	1	2	7	4	3	50%	1	0	1	6	4	3	200%
23. Defective vehicle parts	72	54	71	67	127	130	81%	64	49	66	60	116	116	81%
24. Vehicle test offences	34	33	93	174	193	160	371%	30	30	85	162	179	149	397%
25. Speed limit offences	2,901	1,554	1,920	2,406	3,570	4,257	47%	2,667	1,453	1,737	2,201	3,424	4,032	51%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	87	31	403	400	283	89	2%	71	28	275	302	217	80	13%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	561	336	601	650	458	541	-4%	504	246	552	573	399	486	-4%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	126	62	99	167	179	152	21%	110	54	88	146	159	141	28%
Total	7,340	5,054	6,224	7,885	9,211	8,966	22%	6,468	4,408	5,460	7,094	8,395	8,341	29%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Norfolk

	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			1	1		2	-1	100%		100%	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs		2	1		2	1	4	2	100%	100%		100%
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving											100%	50%
03a. Causing death by driving without due care / consideration while over prescribed limit - specified controlled drug												100%
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	1	3	2	4	4	4	3	100%	100%	67%	100%	100%
07. Cause serious injury by driving whilst disqualified					1		0	0%			100%	100%
08. Causing bodily harm by furious driving	0					0	0	0%				0%
09. Causing danger by interfering with a vehicle, road or traffic equipment	0				2	0	0	0%			50%	0%
10. Dangerous driving	20	30	51	62	47	40	20	91%	91%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	655	702	681	701	668	619	-36	93%	96%	95%	95%	96%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	15	16	3	207	430	507	492	100%	18%	2%	58%	97%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	106	111	128	124	118	94	-12	72%	74%	73%	77%	64%
13a. Fail to give permission for a laboratory test on a blood specimen having caused death												70%
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%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	16	8	12	13	14	15	-1	5%	3%	5%	6%	6%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	5	3	5	8	4	9	4	4%	4%	10%	17%	8%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	18	20	26	31	23	23	5	27%	32%	42%	47%	43%
18. Driving licence related offences	46	45	65	82	116	88	42	21%	30%	35%	32%	40%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	10	17	17	33	25	29	19	1%	3%	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	0		0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
23. Defective vehicle parts	2	0	0	0	2	1	-1	3.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%
24. Vehicle test offences												
25. Speed limit offences	42	54	33	63	87	80	38	1.6%	3.7%	1.9%	2.9%	2.5%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	1	1	1	3	1	0	-1	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%
Total	942	1,011	1,025	1,335	1,544	1,515	573	15%	23%	19%	19%	18%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Norfolk

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool