



ACTION VISION ZERO

Supporting campaigns to end road danger and traffic harm

Northamptonshire Motoring offences prosecuted at court

MoJ Criminal justice statistics (2015-2020)

Action Vision Zero Summary

Northamptonshire

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

Court prosecutions and convictions (2015-2020)

Total prosecutions fell by 6% to 6,964 and convictions rose by 3% to 6,704, 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 34% to 390, compared to a 26% decrease in E&W
- Drug driving prosecutions rose by 3,350% to 69, compared to an 837% increase for E&W
- Dangerous driving prosecutions fell by 14% to 48, compared to an 11% increase in E&W
- Speeding prosecutions fell by 0% to 2,188, compared to a 7% decrease in E&W
- Careless driving prosecutions fell by 31% to 202, 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.

- 879 sentences (13%) for motoring offences resulted in a ban, compared to 13% E&W
- Sentences for drink/drug driving included 427 (94%) bans, all for a year or longer
- 188 (8.7%) sentences for speeding resulted in a ban, compared to 2% in E&W
- 5 (3%) sentences for careless driving included a ban, compared to 5% in E&W
- Bans given were 6 months or less for 99% 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: Northamptonshire

	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	3	1	1	2	1	8	167%	3	2	1	1	3	5	67%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs	0	0	1	0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0	
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	4	4	6	4	5	3	-25%	2	4	3	6	4	2	0%
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	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified														
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking														
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	7	5	6	3	3	4	-43%	6	3	5	2	3	2	-67%
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	1	3	2	0	0	2	100%	1	3	1	0	0	1	0%
10. Dangerous driving	56	42	40	37	59	48	-14%	56	42	46	38	68	44	-21%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	594	508	533	510	585	390	-34%	577	490	524	503	568	388	-33%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	2	19	11	39	58	69	3350%	1	19	11	38	53	67	6600%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	177	151	142	140	195	122	-31%	145	129	115	127	162	98	-32%
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	75	64	55	81	112	47	-37%	68	58	49	66	98	44	-35%
15. Careless driving offences (excl. mobile phone offences)	293	293	255	260	248	202	-31%	255	247	221	204	193	181	-29%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	136	125	140	138	108	48	-65%	117	105	132	119	91	44	-62%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	87	59	51	54	49	34	-61%	71	53	40	44	35	26	-63%
18. Driving licence related offences	196	168	153	182	243	263	34%	171	155	139	158	227	248	45%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	1,356	1,104	1,197	1,165	1,477	1,779	31%	1,163	1,015	1,129	1,109	1,395	1,738	49%
20. Vehicle registration and excise licence offences	666	335	30	12	69	37	-94%	458	237	18	7	61	32	-93%
21. Work record and employment offences	9	7	4	0	1	1	-89%	8	6	3	0	1	1	-88%
22. Fraud, forgery, etc. associated with vehicle or driver records	6	3	0	2	6	1	-83%	4	2	0	0	6	0	-100%
23. Defective vehicle parts	53	27	31	23	55	45	-15%	45	27	30	20	51	42	-7%
24. Vehicle test offences	65	75	55	44	59	70	8%	54	65	51	39	56	69	28%
25. Speed limit offences	2,188	2,116	1,242	1,565	1,673	2,188	0%	2,134	2,058	1,226	1,545	1,639	2,154	1%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	121	140	535	252	429	402	232%	97	128	509	243	420	396	308%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	978	1,323	1,061	904	919	997	2%	813	1,131	958	807	808	926	14%
28. Miscellaneous (other) motoring offences	317	287	266	375	341	204	-36%	260	240	241	346	322	196	-25%
Total	7,390	6,859	5,817	5,792	6,695	6,964	-6%	6,509	6,219	5,452	5,423	6,264	6,704	3%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 2 Motoring Offences, Bans 2015-2020: Northamptonshire

	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	2	1	1	3	5	2	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
02. Causing death by careless driving under influence of drink or drugs													
03. Causing death by careless or inconsiderate driving	2	4	1	4	4	2	0	100%	100%	33%	100%	100%	100%
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%		
04a. Causing death by driving whilst disqualified													
05. Causing death by aggravated vehicle taking													
06. Causing serious injury by dangerous driving	5	3	5	2	3	2	-3	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%
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	52	39	51	41	62	44	-8	91%	93%	100%	100%	100%	100%
11. Driving with alcohol in the blood above the prescribed limit	540	464	500	494	550	362	-178	94%	95%	95%	98%	97%	93%
12. Drive a motor vehicle with the proportion of specified controlled drug above specified limit	1	7	0	24	52	65	64	100%	37%	0%	65%	98%	98%
13. Other offences related to drink or drug driving	115	88	84	93	110	77	-38	79%	68%	73%	73%	67%	79%
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)	13	21	15	12	9	5	-8	5%	9%	7%	6%	5%	3%
16. Failing to stop or provide information after accident	0	1	2	3	4	2	2	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%
17. Theft of a motor vehicle / aggravated vehicle taking	30	22	18	25	15	7	-23	43%	42%	45%	54%	42%	25%
18. Driving licence related offences	48	45	50	56	92	94	46	28%	29%	35%	36%	40%	37%
19. Vehicle insurance offences	13	4	11	16	16	14	1	1%	0%	1%	1%	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	2	0			0			50.0%	0.0%			0.0%	
23. Defective vehicle parts													
24. Vehicle test offences													
25. Speed limit offences	71	79	43	93	216	188	117	3.3%	3.8%	3.5%	6.0%	13.2%	8.7%
26. Neglecting road regulations (other than speeding)	0	3	11	4	25	12	12	0.0%	2.3%	2.2%	1.6%	6.0%	3.0%
27. Failing to supply information as to identity of driver when required	1	0	2	1	2	0	-1	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	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%
Total	896	782	794	870	1,163	879	-17	14%	13%	15%	16%	19%	13%

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool

Table 3 Motoring Offences, Ban Durations 2020: Northamptonshire

Source: MoJ (2021) Motoring data tool