

RSA

Motorcyclist spotlight report: fatalities and serious injuries

2021-2025

Data is current as of 2 March 2026
Prepared by the Research Department of the RSA
Date of issue 26 June 2026

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Background

- This report provides an overview of **fatalities and serious injuries among motorcyclists** for the years 2021-2025
- This report was prepared using data from the Irish Road Traffic Collision Database, which is based on collision records transferred from An Garda Síochána to the RSA.
- All information in this report for the years 2022 onwards **is provisional and subject to change**.
- This means that the fatality and serious injury statistics presented may change at a later date when new information becomes available.
- Note that the information in this report is based on **preliminary findings of the AGS investigation, at an early stage in the process**. It does not contain information on contributory factors from the final completed investigation process.
- Note, incidents that occur in **carparks and other non-public roads are excluded** from the RSA official figures per convention and consistent with all EU member states. However, AGS may include these collisions as they record incidents that have occurred in public places. This means RSA and AGS collision figures may differ.

Definitions

- A **fatality** is one where death occurs within 30 days of the date of the collision and is not the result of a medical cause or that of a deliberate act (e.g. suicide).
- A **serious injury** is one for which the person is detained in hospital as an in-patient, or any of the following injuries whether or not detained in hospital:
 - Fractures
 - Concussion
 - Internal Injuries
 - Crushing
 - Severe Cuts and Lacerations
 - Severe general shock requiring medical treatment

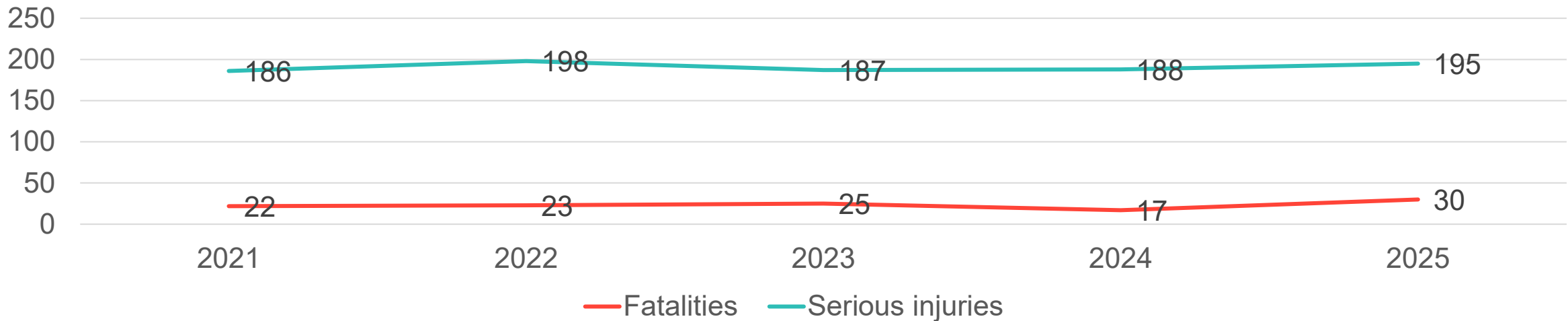


Trend of motorcyclist fatalities and serious injuries

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2021-2025



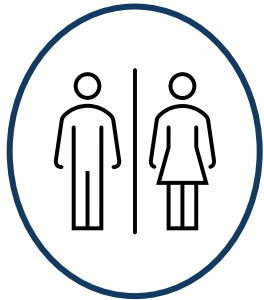
- Between 2021 and 2025, 117 motorcyclists were fatally injured and 954 motorcyclists were seriously injured.
- An average of 23 motorcyclists were fatally injured and an average of 191 motorcyclists were seriously injured each year during this five-year period.
- Motorcyclists represent 14% of fatalities and 12% of serious injuries during this time period.
- For every motorcyclist fatality there were approximately 8 motorcyclists seriously injured.
- 2025 saw the highest numbers of motorcyclists killed since 2007 when there were 33 motorcyclists killed.

Note, figures for 2022-2025 are provisional and subject to change. There can be fluctuations in serious injury numbers until such a time as the data is deemed to be final. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA40 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA40>

Motorcyclist fatalities, 2021-2025 (n=117)

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Age and gender

The greatest share of motorcyclist fatalities was among those aged **46-55 years** (26, 22%) and among those **aged 16-25 years** (25, 21%).

116 motorcyclist fatalities were **male** and **1** was **female**.



Time and day

Two in five were killed between **1pm and 5pm** (43, 37%).

Close to half (**54, 46%**) were killed between **Saturday and Sunday**.



Location

Dublin (19%, 22), **Cork** (9%, 11) and **Wicklow** (8%, 9) saw the largest number of motorcyclist fatalities.

A quarter (32, 27%) were killed **at a junction**.



Collision type

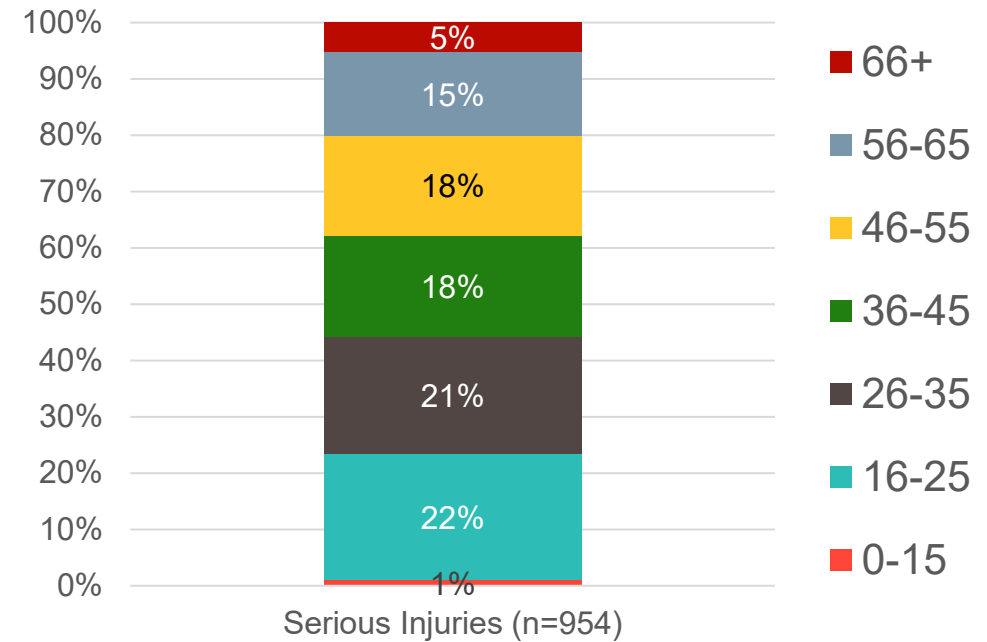
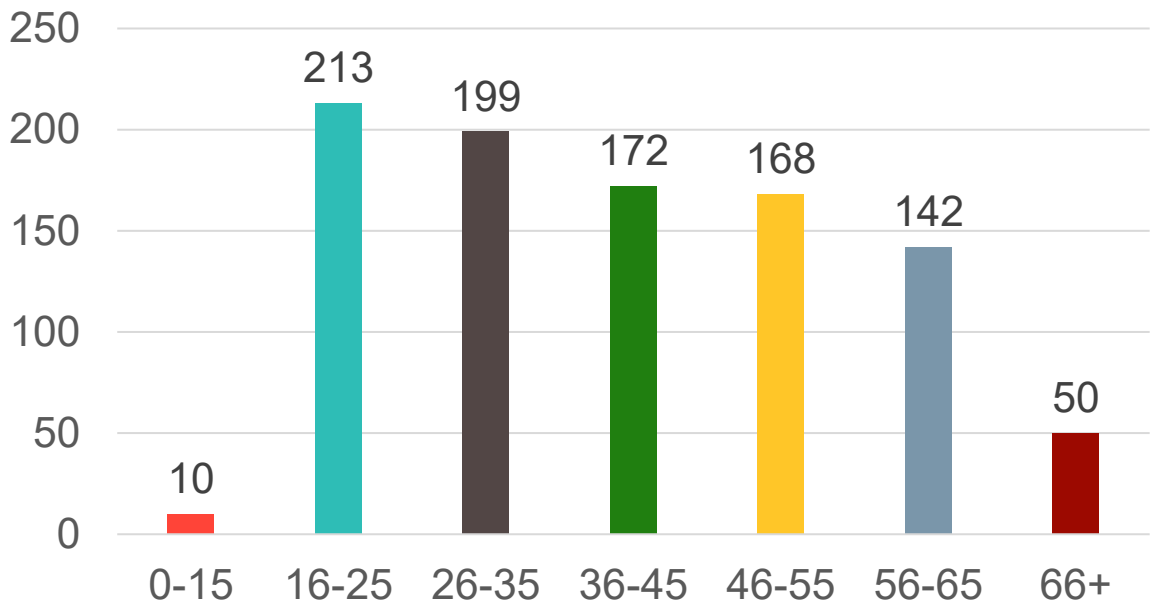
Almost two thirds were killed in a collision **with another vehicle** (75, 64%).

Of the other 89 vehicles involved, they were most likely to have been a **Car** (55, 62%) or a **Light Goods Vehicle** (11, 12%)

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers.

Seriously injured motorcyclists by age group

2021-2025



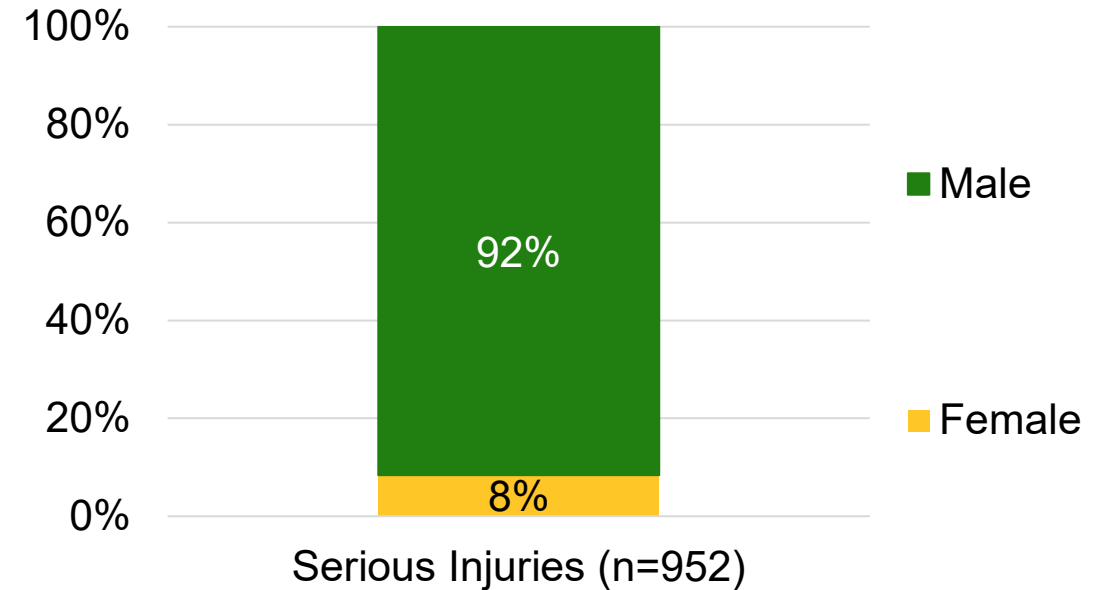
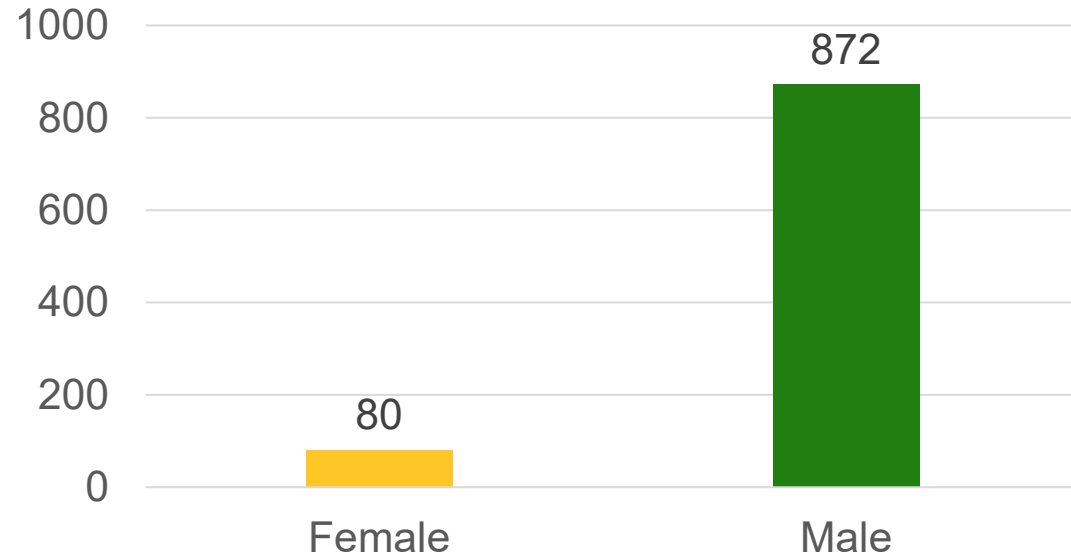
Four in five (752, 79%) seriously injured motorcyclists were aged 16-55 years.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA42 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA42>



Seriously injured motorcyclists by gender

2021-2025



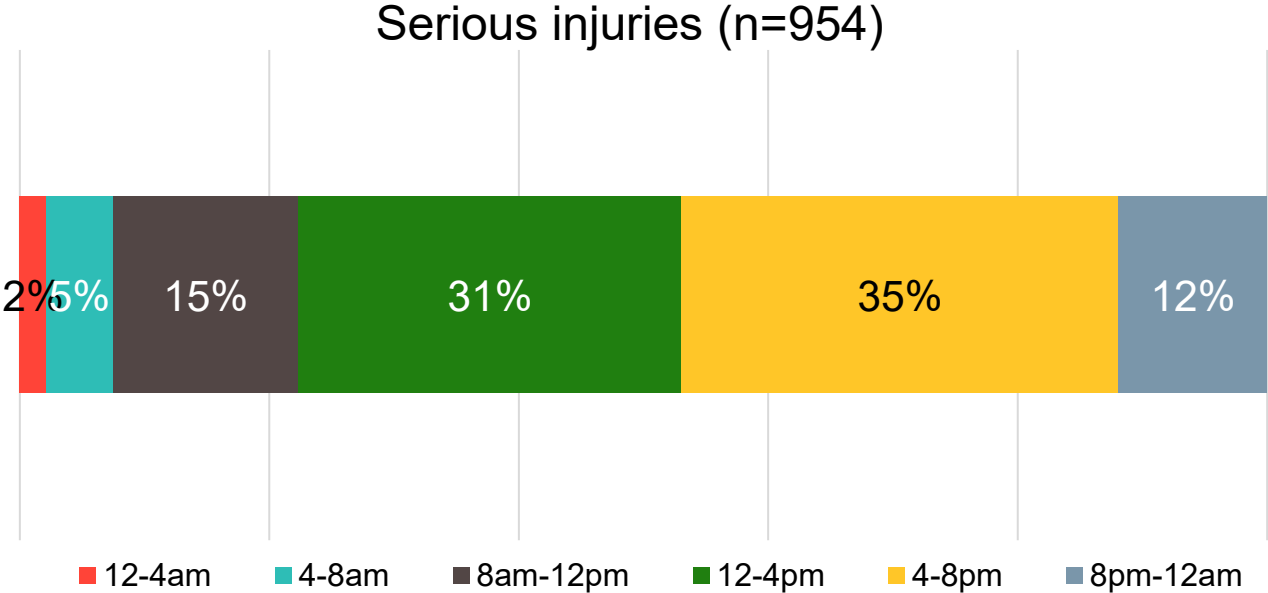
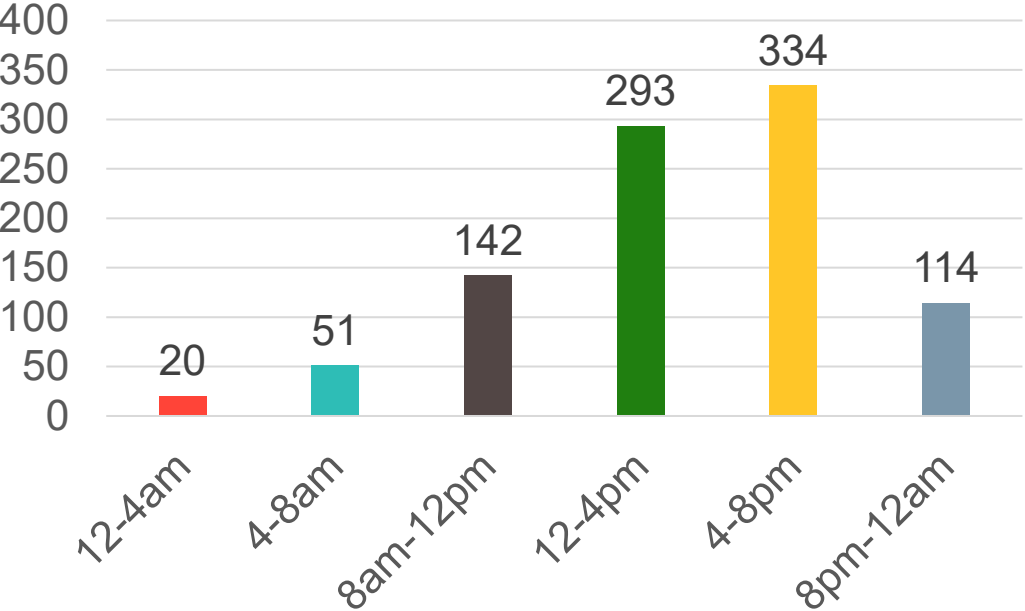
Of seriously injured motorcyclists 92% were male.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. Note, gender of two seriously injured motorcyclists are unknown. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA41 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA41>

Seriously injured motorcyclists by time of day



2021-2025



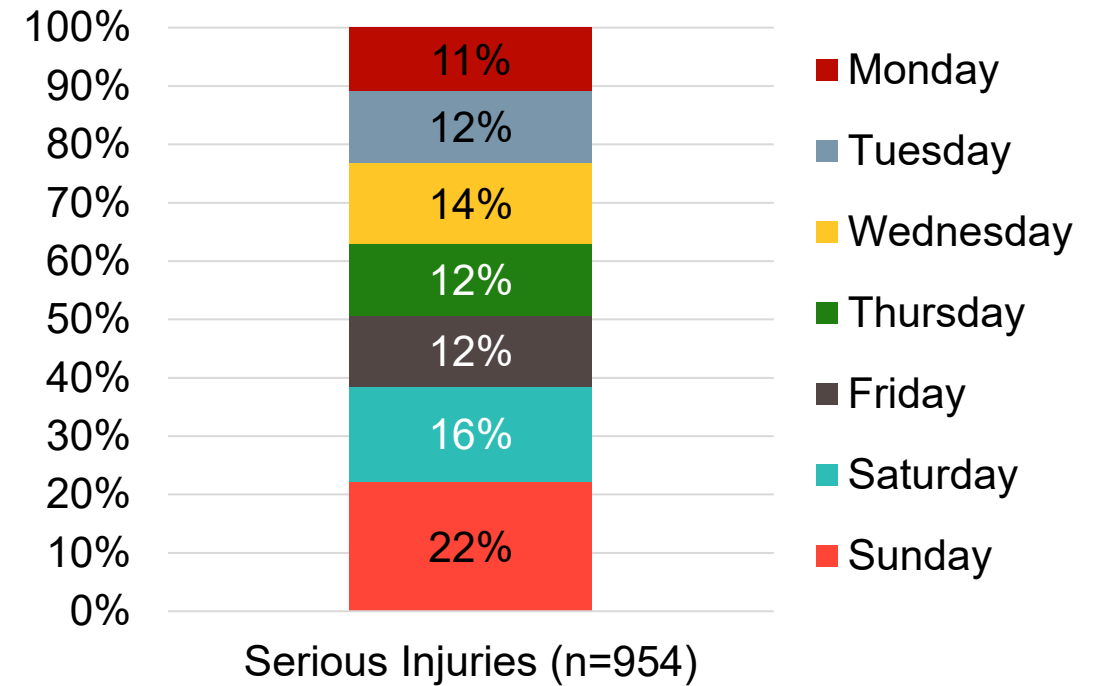
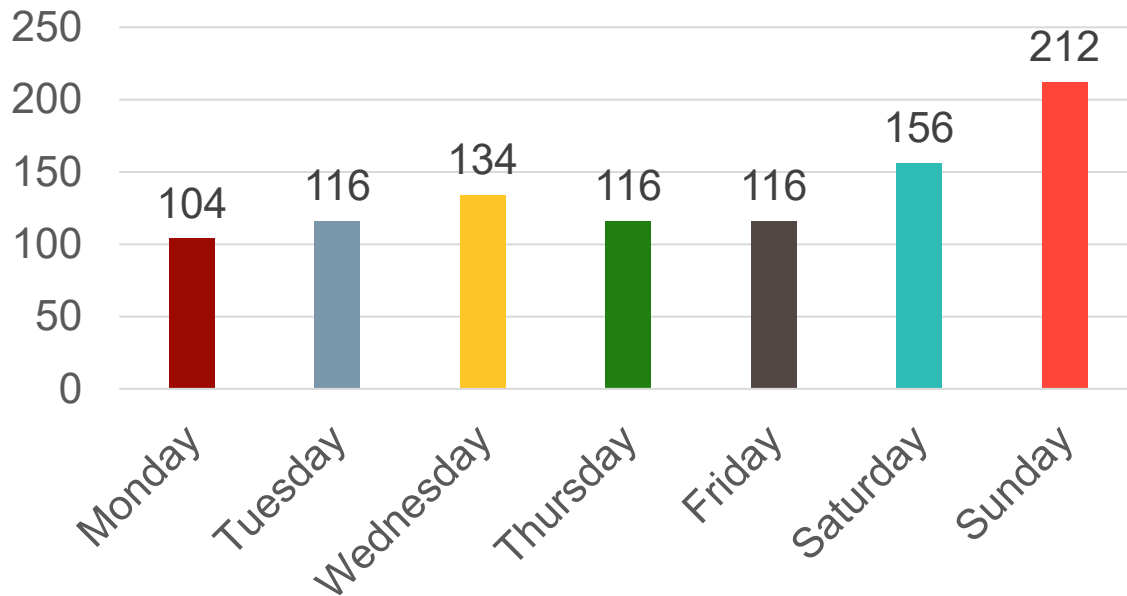
Two thirds of serious injuries (627, 66%) occurred between 12pm and 8pm.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA43 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA43>



Seriously injured motorcyclists by day of week

2021-2025



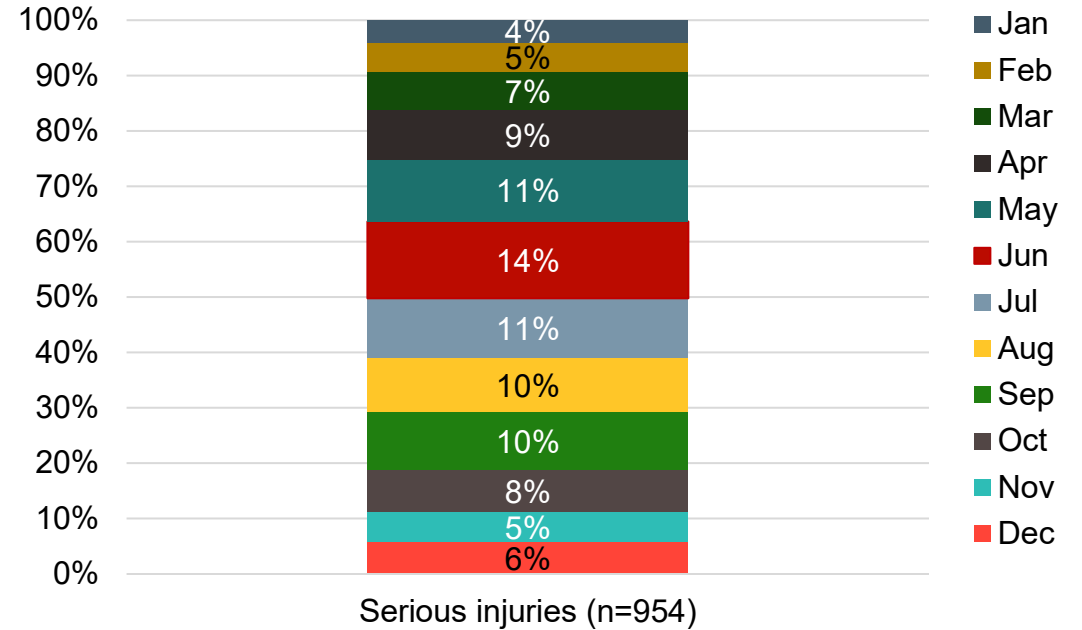
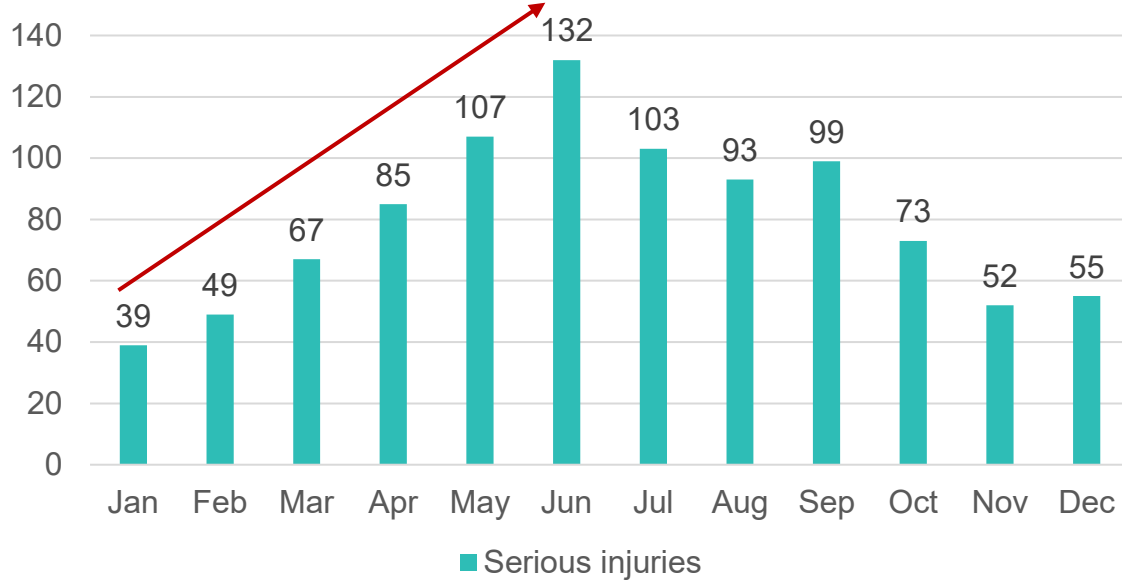
Almost two in five (368, 39%) serious injuries occurred on Saturday and Sunday. In particular, a high proportion occurred on a Sunday (212, 22%).

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding of percentages. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA45 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA45>

Seriously injured motorcyclists by month of year



2021-2025



There was a steady increase in serious injuries from January to June, with the peak-time for serious injuries between April and September. June saw the highest figures for serious injuries (132, 14%).

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA46 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA46>

Seriously injured motorcyclists by county

2021-2025

Dublin and Cork saw the largest number of seriously injured motorcyclists.

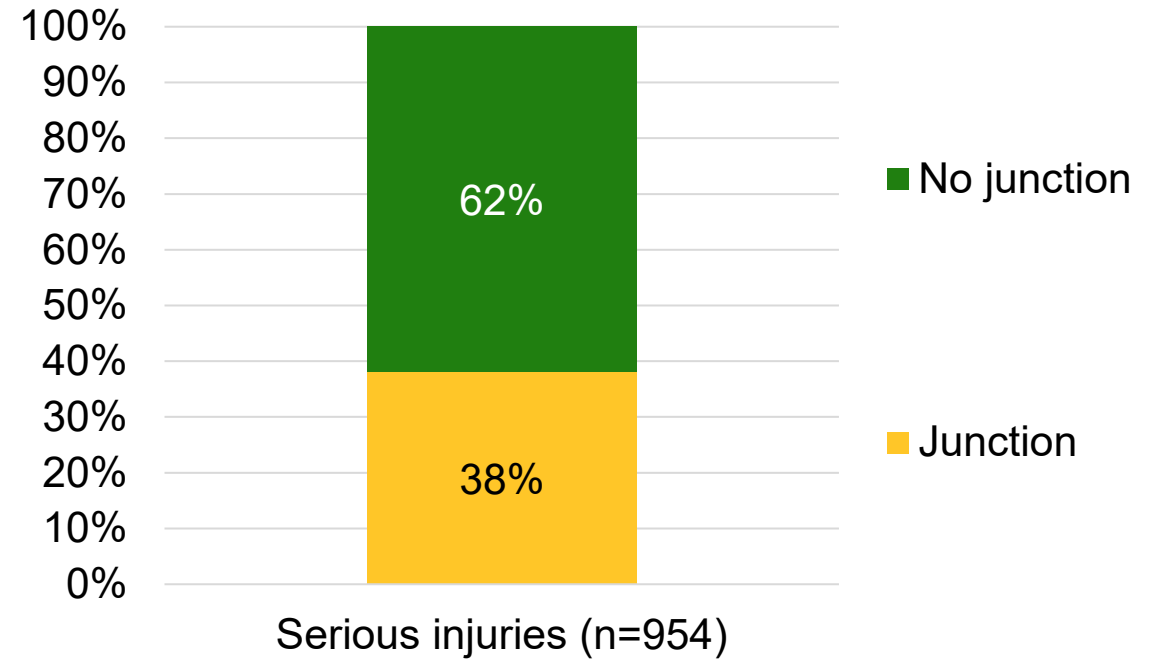
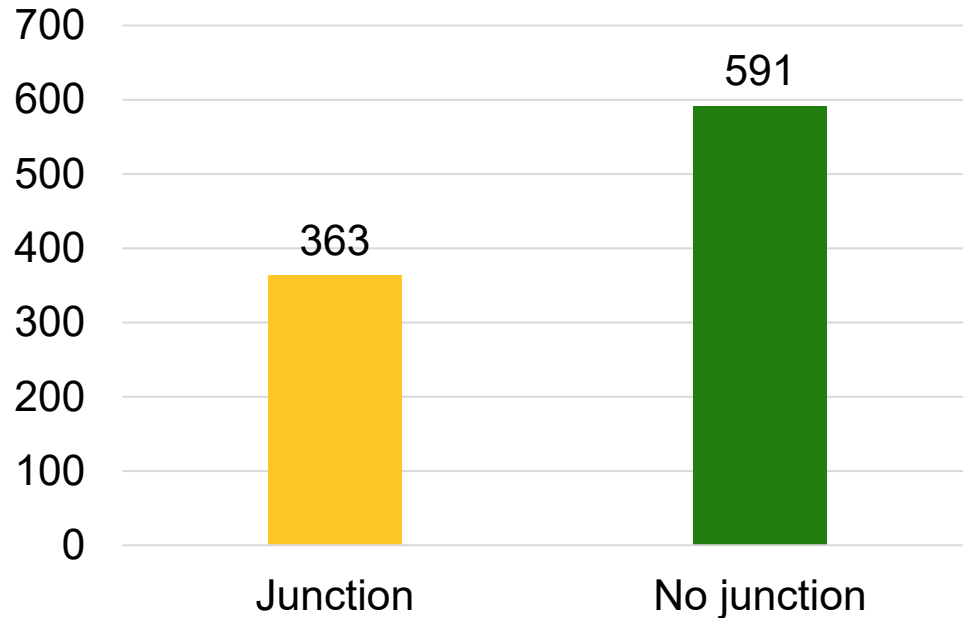
Over a quarter (27%) of serious injuries occurred in Dublin and a further 12% occurred in Cork.

Counties	n	% total
Dublin	262	27%
Cork	118	12%
Meath	60	6%
Kildare	52	5%
Kerry	49	5%
Wicklow	40	4%
Galway	38	4%
Donegal	33	3%
Limerick	32	3%
Waterford	27	3%
Wexford	26	3%
Tipperary	25	3%
Other counties	192	20%
Total	954	100%

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA52 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA52>

Seriously injured motorcyclists by junction

2021-2025



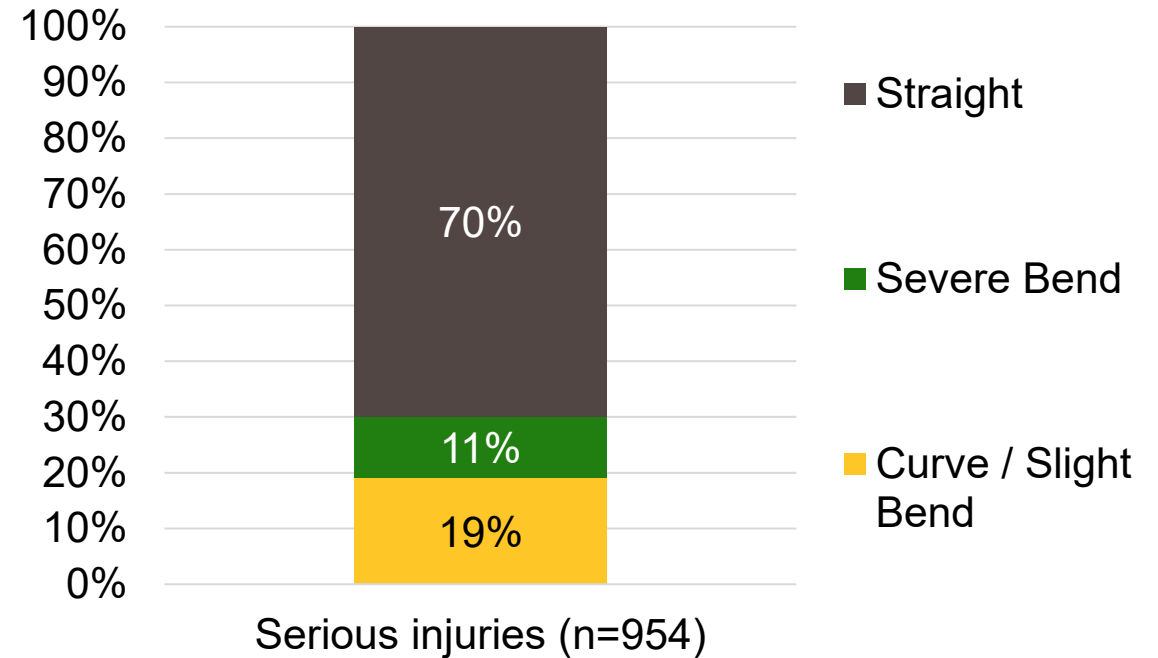
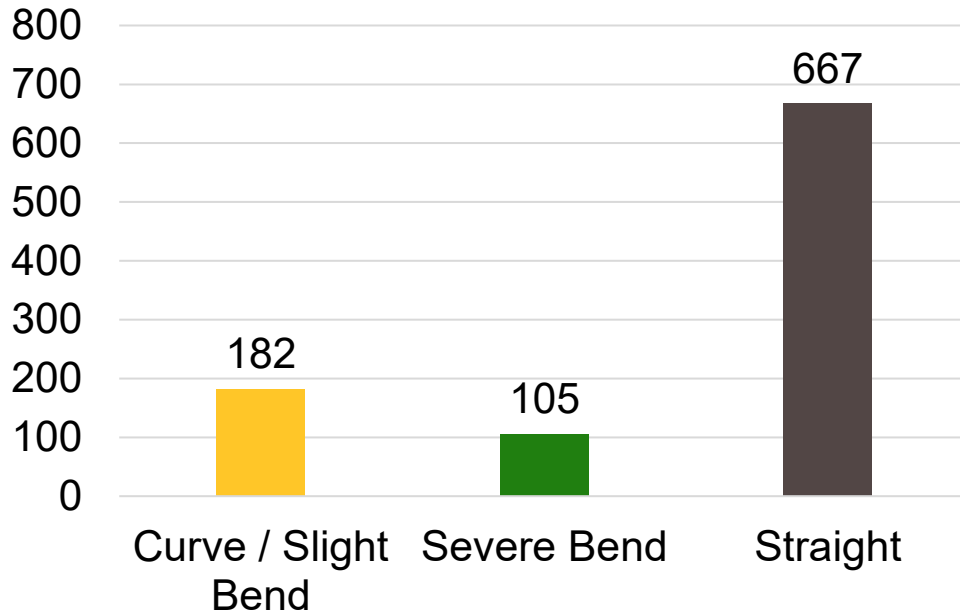
Over a third (363, 38%) of motorcyclists were seriously injured at a junction. Of those 363 motorcyclists injured at a junction, the junction type was most likely to have been a T-junction (209, 58%)

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA48 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA48>



Seriously injured motorcyclists by road character

2021-2025



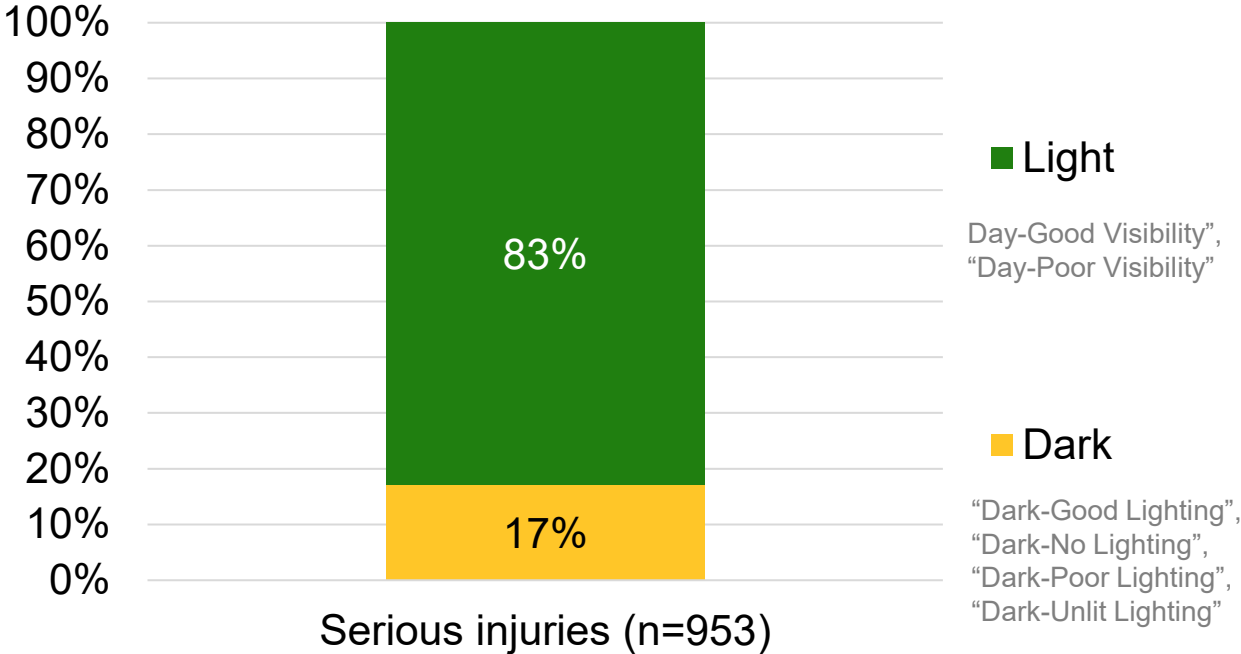
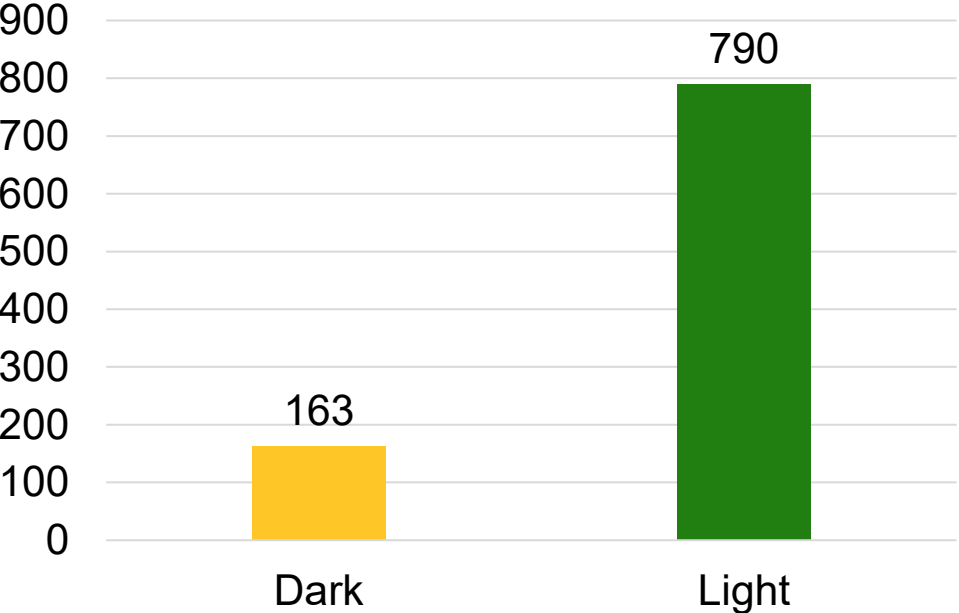
High proportions of serious injuries (667, 70%) occurred on a straight road.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA49 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA49>

Seriously injured motorcyclists by light conditions



2021-2025



Four in five motorcyclist serious injuries (790, 83%) occurred in day light hours.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. Light condition unknown for one seriously injured motorcyclist. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA50 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA50>



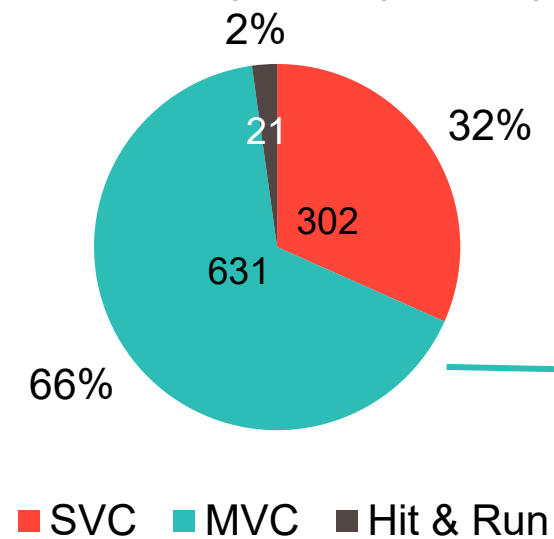
Seriously injured motorcyclists by collision type

2021-2025

Of seriously injured motorcyclists, 32% were involved in a single vehicle collision (SVC) and 66% were involved in a multiple vehicle collision (MVC).

In multiple vehicle collisions, the other vehicle was most likely to be a car.

Serious injuries (n=954)



Other Vehicle involved	
Car (private car, taxi)	495
Light Goods vehicle	91
Motorcycle, pedal cycle	23
Heavy Goods Vehicle	13
PSV	5
Other	21
Total	648

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding of percentages. A single vehicle collision involved the motorcyclist's motorcycle only, while a multiple vehicle collision involved at least one other vehicle. The above figures are available on the CSO's PxStat Open Data Statistical Database. They are directly accessible on table ROA51 via the following weblink: <https://data.cso.ie/table/ROA51>

Motorcyclist and Driver Actions

Collisions where a motorcyclist was seriously injured

2021-2025

Single vehicle collisions (n=302)

87% (262) of the 302 seriously injured motorcyclists were driving forward

51% (153) of the 302 motorcyclists seriously injured lost control

21% (63) collided with a “Road Edge-ditch”

Multi-vehicle collisions (n=631)

77% (486) of the 631 motorcyclists seriously injured were driving forward, while 11% (72) were attempting to overtake.

36% (234) of other 648 vehicles involved were turning right, and 32% (209) were driving forward.

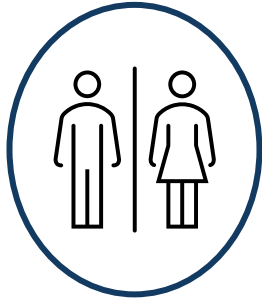
Failure to observe was the most frequently noted action for the other driver (239, 37%); and for the motorcyclist (159, 25%).

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change.

Seriously injured motorcyclists 2021-2025

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Age and gender

Four in five (79%) seriously injured motorcyclists were **aged 16-55 years**.

Casualties were most likely to be **male (92%)**.



Time, day, month

Two thirds (66%) of casualties were injured between **12pm and 8pm**.

Sunday was the most dangerous day (22%).

Steady increase in **serious injuries** from **January to June**, with the **peak-time** for serious injuries between **April and September**.



Location

High proportions of injuries were **not** sustained **at a junction (62%)**, and **majority** were sustained on **straight road (70%)**.

Over a quarter (27%) of serious injuries occurred in **Dublin** and a further **12%** occurred in **Cork**.



Collision type

Eight in ten casualties were injured in **daylight (83%)**.

Two thirds (66%) of casualties were injured in **multiple vehicle collisions**, in which **failure to observe** was the most frequently noted action for the motorcyclist and the other driver.

Note, figures are provisional and subject to change. Motorcyclists include pillion passengers.