



# Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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## Number of traffic casualties down slightly

According to preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands and the Ministry of Transport's advisory council on traffic and transport 1160 people died in traffic in the year 2000, down 2% on 1999. A quarter of all traffic casualties was aged between 15 and 25. Half of all people who died were in a car.

### Downward trend

The number of traffic casualties reached a peak in the early seventies when more than 3 thousand people died in traffic. Ever since their number has been falling until it reached about a third of this level. After a slight increase in 1999 the downward trend seems to be continuing again.

### *Three times as many men*

Three out of four traffic casualties are men. The difference between men and women is especially great in the 15 to 25 age bracket. In this age group the number of men who die in traffic is six times as high as the number of women.

### *One in four traffic casualties aged between 15 and 25*

Young and old people are more likely to die in traffic than the age groups in between. The risk is twice as high for people between 15 and 25 and people over 75.

In the year 2000 most casualties (25%) were aged between 15 and 25. Another 5% of the total number of people who died were children under 15, while 13 % were people over 75.

### *Half of all traffic casualties inside a car*

Half of all people who died in traffic were car drivers and passengers. With 594 they are by far the largest group. One in five casualties was on a bicycle, one in ten people were on a motorcycle or walked. The slight decrease in the number of casualties in 2000 was because fewer pedestrians and people in cars died. The number of casualties on (heavy) motor bikes increased by 12%. The number of casualties on motor cycles again increased further in 2000, continuing the upward trend of the last few years.

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***Most traffic casualties in the province of North Brabant***

North Brabant is the province with the highest number of traffic casualties. In the year 2000 there were 218 people who died in traffic there, up 10% on 1999. The developments in the provinces fluctuates greatly from one year to the next.

**For more information please contact:**

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