



# Press release

PB13-028  
24 april 2013  
15:00 hrs

## ***Fewer traffic deaths in 2012***

- **650 traffic fatalities in 2012**
- **Lower death toll among 15 to 20-year-olds**
- **Marginal increase among 20 to 60-year-old motorists**
- **Increase among 60 to 80-year-old cyclists, but decrease among over-80s**
- **Fewer road victims in North Brabant**

Last year, 650 people died in traffic accidents in the Netherlands, i.e. 11 fewer than in 2011. The number of traffic fatalities has dropped by 19.9 percent relative to 2006. The traffic death toll was notably lower in 2012 among 15 to 20-year-olds and among over-80s, compared to 2011, but higher among car drivers and passengers in the age category 20-60 and among cyclists in the 60-80 age bracket. This is shown in figures published by Statistics Netherlands (CBS) and the Directorate General of Public Works and Water Management (Rijkswaterstaat), part of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment.

The downward trend among 15 to 20-year-olds continues. The number of young traffic deaths has been reduced by more than half since 2006. Last year, 29 young people in the 15-20 age group died in traffic accidents, i.e. 16 fewer than in 2011. The death toll was notably lower among young motorists and moped drivers.

In the 20-60 age category, the death toll rose among car drivers and passengers from 137 in 2011 to 156 in 2012. After the slump in 2011 in this category of traffic participants, the number of fatalities is now back at the level of 2010. The death toll among 60 to 80-year-old cyclists has risen further from 78 in 2011 to 96 in 2012.

A total of 95 over-80s died in traffic in 2012, a reduction by 31 relative to 2011 and approximately as many as in 2010. The most substantial reduction occurred among cyclists in 2012 (from 59 to 46), but the number of fatalities also declined among car drivers and passengers and pedestrians.

The number of traffic fatalities dropped in the province of North Brabant in 2012, but just as in the preceding years, this province has the highest death toll. North Brabant has the most extensive road system of all Dutch provinces. The death toll was also down in the provinces of Groningen and Zeeland, but was up in the eastern part of the country.

The traffic death toll has shown a downward trend since the mid-1970s, when more than 3 thousand people annually died in traffic. Since record year 1972, the number of fatalities has been reduced by 80 percent.

**Table 1. Traffic fatalities in the Netherlands by gender, 2006-2012**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	811	791	750	720	640	661	650
Men	576	574	552	524	475	477	479
Women	235	217	198	196	165	184	171

**Source: CBS and Rijkswaterstaat**

**Table 2. Traffic fatalities in the Netherlands by age, 2006-2012**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	811	791	750	720	640	661	650
0 to 15 yrs	37	36	25	24	18	19	25
15 to 20 yrs	64	79	66	69	46	45	29
20 to 30 yrs	137	149	129	134	114	99	106
30 to 40 yrs	91	95	96	83	69	58	64
40 to 50 yrs	113	85	89	69	78	73	77
50 to 60 yrs	80	88	95	68	72	67	70
60 to 70 yrs	90	71	68	75	66	74	77
70 to 80 yrs	101	99	101	91	83	100	107
80 yrs and older	98	89	81	107	94	126	95

**Source: CBS and Rijkswaterstaat**

**Table 3. . Traffic fatalities in the Netherlands by province, 2006-2012**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	811	791	750	720	640	661	650
Groningen	31	23	36	29	25	26	18
Friesland	39	34	34	28	27	30	29
Drenthe	42	40	35	34	30	30	33
Overijssel	61	50	53	63	53	49	65
Flevoland	12	16	12	14	21	14	14
Gelderland	131	116	124	97	84	85	98
Utrecht	45	54	51	42	38	38	34
North Holland	105	109	92	103	80	99	89
South Holland	120	113	93	117	94	98	95
Zeeland	39	21	30	23	30	21	16
North Brabant	130	140	137	130	117	118	105
Limburg	56	75	53	40	41	53	54

**Source: CBS and Rijkswaterstaat**

**Table 4. . Traffic fatalities in the Netherlands by means of transport , 2006-2012**

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total	811	791	750	720	640	661	650
Passenger car	340	317	317	296	246	231	232
Van/lorry	30	43	39	28	27	22	19
Bicycle	216	189	181	185	162	200	200
(Light) moped <sup>1</sup>	87	80	76	67	62	74	73
Pedestrian	73	91	62	68	72	74	68
Motorcycle	59	65	67	70	63	52	54
Other/unknown	6	6	8	6	8	8	4

<sup>1</sup> Including transport for disabled

Source: CBS and Rijkswaterstaat

**Table 5. . Traffic fatalities in the Netherlands by means of transport and age, 2011 and 2012**

	0 to 15 yrs	15 to 20 yrs	20 to 40 yrs	40 to 60 yrs	60 to 80 yrs	80 yrs and older	Total
<b>2011</b>							
Passenger car	4	17	87	50	45	28	231
Van/lorry	0	0	9	7	6	0	22
Bicycle	10	11	11	31	78	59	200
(Light) moped <sup>1</sup>	1	12	7	14	21	19	74
Pedestrian	3	4	15	12	20	20	74
Motorcycle	0	0	27	23	2	0	52
Other/unknown	1	1	1	3	2	0	8
Total	19	45	157	140	174	126	661
<b>2012</b>							
Passenger car	6	12	98	58	39	19	232
Van/lorry	1	0	9	6	3	0	19
Bicycle	13	8	10	27	96	46	200
(Light) moped <sup>1</sup>	0	4	11	17	23	18	73
Pedestrian	5	4	15	12	20	12	68
Motorcycle	0	0	25	26	3	0	54
Other/unknown	0	1	2	1	0	0	4
Total	25	29	170	147	184	95	650

1) Including transport for disabled

Source: CBS and Rijkswaterstaat