



## POLICE NEWS RELEASE

---

# ANNUAL ROAD TRAFFIC SITUATION 2023

## OVERVIEW

In 2023, as traffic volumes increased after the lifting of COVID-19 measures the year before, the number of traffic accidents also increased.

2. The number of traffic accidents resulting in fatalities increased significantly from 104 cases in 2022 to 131 cases in 2023, exceeding the pre-COVID level of 117 cases in 2019. The number of traffic accidents resulting in injuries increased slightly from 6,779 cases in 2022 to 6,944 cases in 2023, but remained below the pre-COVID level of 7,705 cases in 2019. The traffic accident statistics for the past 5 years are appended in [Annex A](#).

3. Motorcyclists and elderly pedestrians are the most vulnerable groups of road users, and continue to account for a disproportionate number of traffic accidents resulting in injuries or death.<sup>1</sup>

4. To tackle the increasing number of traffic accidents and casualties, the Traffic Police (TP) will:

- a) Take a tougher enforcement stance and increase its enforcement efforts against irresponsible road users;
- b) Progressively and dynamically activate the speed enforcement function in Red Light Cameras (RLCs) across the island to improve driver behaviour;
- c) Increase the composition sums and demerit points for certain traffic offences; and
- d) Intensify its education and engagement efforts to encourage good road safety habits.

## INCREASE IN ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES

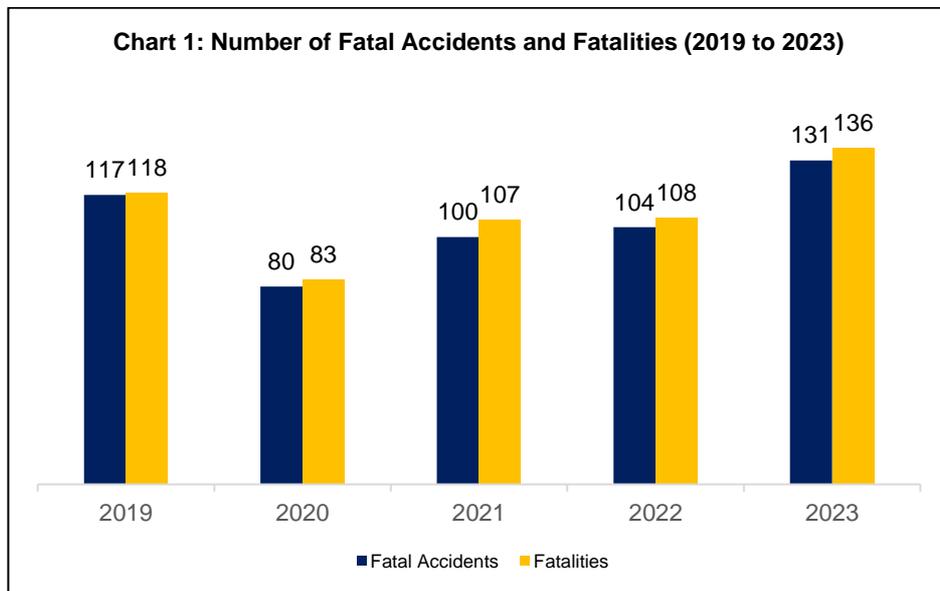
### ***Increase in fatal traffic accidents and fatalities***

5. The number of traffic accidents resulting in fatalities increased by 26.0%, from 104 cases in 2022 to 131 cases in 2023, and exceeded the pre-COVID level of 117 cases in 2019. The number of fatalities increased by 25.9%, from 108 persons in 2022

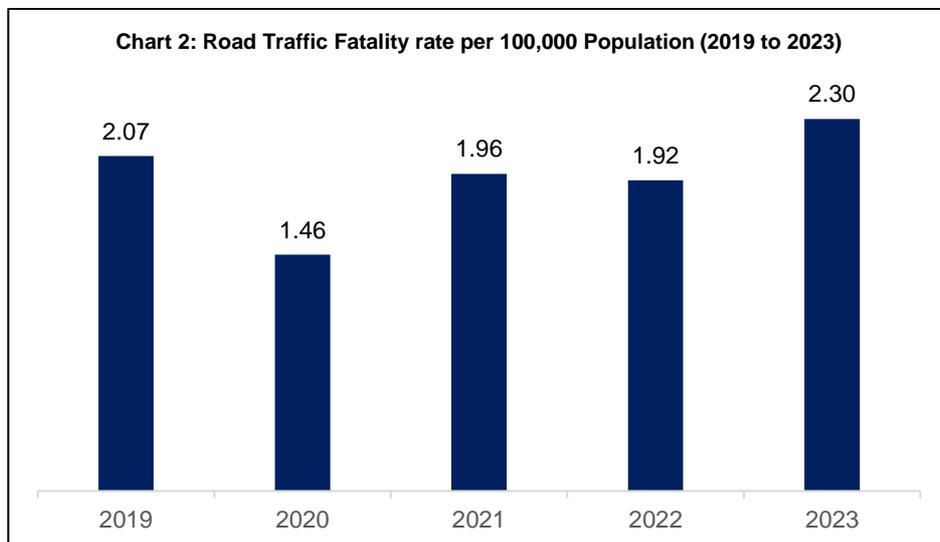
---

<sup>1</sup> Elderly pedestrians refer to pedestrians aged 60 and above.

to 136 persons in 2023, also exceeding the pre-COVID level of 118 persons in 2019. Please refer to Chart 1 for the number of fatal accidents and fatalities for the past five years.



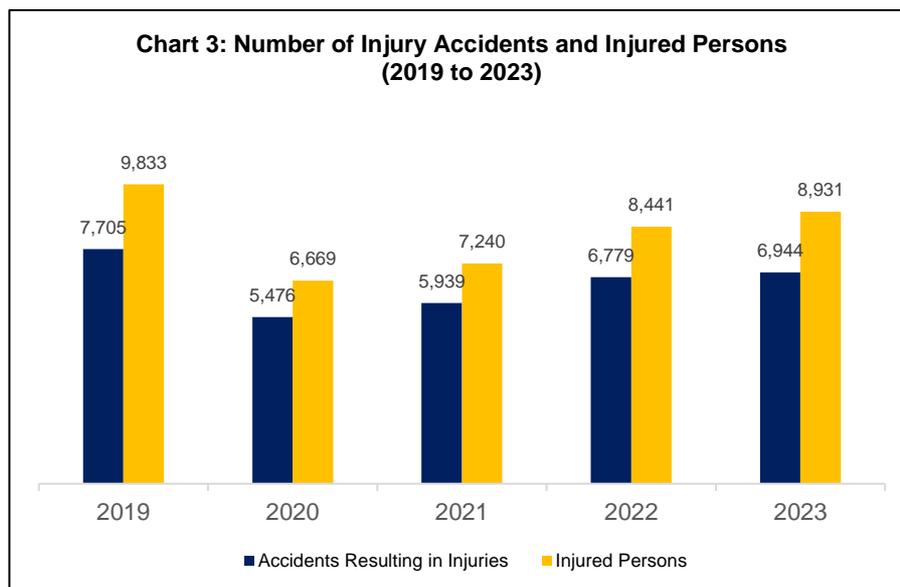
6. The road traffic fatality rate per 100,000 population increased from 1.92 in 2022 to 2.30 in 2023. Please refer to Chart 2 for the road traffic fatality rates for the past five years.



***Increase in accidents resulting in injuries and number of injured persons***

7. The number of accidents resulting in injuries increased slightly by 2.4%, from 6,779 cases in 2022 to 6,944 cases in 2023, but remained below the pre-COVID level of 7,705 cases in 2019. The number of injured persons increased by 5.8%, from 8,441 persons in 2022 to 8,931 in 2023, also remaining below the pre-COVID level of 9,833

persons in 2019. Please refer to Chart 3 for the number of accidents resulting in injuries and injured persons for the past five years.



8. There was a significant increase in the number of accidents where the cause was failure on the part of the motorist to keep a proper lookout, failure to have proper control of the vehicle, and changing of lanes without due care.

***Decrease in red-light running and speeding violations and accidents, but increase in fatal accidents due to red-light running and speeding***

9. The number of red-light running violations decreased by 28.8%, from 44,688 cases in 2022 to 31,815 cases in 2023. The number of speeding violations also decreased by 7.8%, from 125,530 cases in 2022 to 115,705 cases in 2023.

10. The number of red-light running accidents decreased by 18.2%, from 137 cases in 2022 to 112 cases in 2023. The number of speeding-related accidents also decreased by 45.2%, from 1,138 cases in 2022 to 624 cases in 2023.

11. However, the number of fatal accidents due to red-light running and speeding increased. The number of red-light running fatal accidents increased from 3 cases in 2022 to 8 cases in 2023. The number of speeding-related fatal accidents increased from 18 cases in 2022 to 33 cases in 2023.

***Increase in drink-driving accidents (including fatal accidents)***

12. The number of drink-driving accidents increased by 2.9%, from 175 cases in 2022 to 180 cases in 2023.

13. The number of fatal drink-driving accidents increased from 10 cases in 2022 to 11 cases in 2023.

## VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

14. There continues to be a disproportionate number of road traffic accidents involving motorcyclists and elderly pedestrians resulting in injuries or death.

15. While motorcycles make up only 14.4% of the total vehicle population, motorcyclists or pillion riders were involved in 53.5% of all traffic accidents and accounted for 50.0% of traffic fatalities.

16. While the elderly population makes up only 19.1% of the overall Singapore population, they were involved in 68.4% of all fatal traffic accidents involving pedestrians and accounted for 69.2% of pedestrian fatalities.

17. Compared to 2022, the number of fatal accidents in 2023 involving motorcyclists and elderly pedestrians increased by 44.0% and 13.0% respectively.

### ***Motorcyclists and pillion riders: Decrease in number of accidents but increase in fatalities***

18. The number of accidents involving motorcyclists decreased by 2.8%, from 3,892 cases in 2022 to 3,784 cases in 2023. The number of motorcyclists and pillion riders casualties increased by 0.3%, from 4,276 persons in 2022 to 4,290 persons in 2023.

19. However, the number of fatal accidents involving motorcyclists increased by 44.0%, from 50 cases in 2022 to 72 cases in 2023. The number of motorcyclist and pillion rider fatalities increased by 44.7%, from 47 persons in 2022 to 68 persons in 2023.

### ***Elderly pedestrians: Increase in number of accidents and fatalities***

20. The number of traffic accidents involving elderly pedestrians increased by 16.2%, from 241 cases in 2022 to 280 cases in 2023. The number of fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians increased by 13.0%, from 23 cases in 2022 to 26 cases in 2023. The number of elderly pedestrian fatalities increased by 17.4%, from 23 persons in 2022 to 27 persons in 2023. 46.2% of the fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians were due to jaywalking, a decrease from 78.3% in 2022.

21. The number of injured elderly pedestrians increased by 14.1%, from 220 persons in 2022 to 251 persons in 2023.

## EDUCATION, ENGAGEMENT AND ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS

### ***Enforcement***

22. In view of the increase in number of accidents and fatalities, TP will take a tougher enforcement stance against irresponsible road users. Errant motorists who flout traffic rules and regulations, such as red-light running, speeding, and drink-driving, may be prosecuted in court. If grievous hurt or death is caused, motorists may face imprisonment and driving disqualification.

### ***Turning on the speed enforcement function in Red Light Cameras (RLCs)***

23. There was a decrease in violations detected by traffic enforcement cameras in 2023.<sup>2</sup>

24. In contrast, the number of speeding violations detected by other Police enforcement operations increased by 22.0%, from 52,016 cases in 2022 to 63,468 cases in 2023. This shows that speed cameras are effective in deterring speeding, and that motorists choose to speed at locations where they think no one is watching.

25. Every violation is one too many as it could potentially lead to an injury or worse, loss of life. In 2023, the number of speeding-related fatal accidents increased by 83.3% compared to 2022, and the proportion of fatal accidents due to speeding increased to 25.2% from 17.3% in 2022.

26. To deal with this worrying trend, TP will be significantly stepping up enforcement efforts against speeding. Among others, starting from Q2 2024, TP will progressively and dynamically activate the speed enforcement function in RLCs across the island, especially at locations that are more accident-prone or violation-prone, to improve driver behaviour.

27. RLCs are prominently displayed in orange and white. They are accompanied by prominent warning signs that make clear the speed limit of that road. The list of RLCs and their location is published on the SPF website.

28. Through this measure, TP aims to discourage motorists from speeding even in areas where there are no static speed cameras. We urge motorists to exercise responsibility, drive with care, and respect traffic rules, for their own safety and the safety of their loved ones.

---

<sup>2</sup> The number of speeding violations detected by cameras decreased by 28.6%, from 73,152 cases in 2022 to 52,237 cases in 2023. The number of red-light running violations detected by cameras decreased by 28.9%, from 42,342 cases in 2022 to 30,091 cases in 2023.

## ***Revision of composition sums and demerit points for certain traffic offences***

29. The traffic statistics show that there are many motorists who have irresponsible driving behaviours.

30. TP is working on increasing the composition sums and demerit points for certain traffic offences to further strengthen deterrence against irresponsible driving behaviours.<sup>3</sup> More details will be announced later this year. Motorists who choose to flout the law may also lose their right to drive, as we may suspend or revoke their licence.

## ***Education and Engagement***

31. Road safety is a collective responsibility. In 2023, TP increased its education and engagement efforts to encourage the public to adopt good road safety habits as a way of life. TP worked with partners and stakeholders, such as the Land Transport Authority (LTA), Singapore Road Safety Council (SRSC), SBS Transit, Grab, Toyota Singapore and Singapore Nightlife Business Association, to organise events and campaigns that reached out to the general public, and also specific road user groups, e.g. the elderly, motorcyclists and pillion riders, children, and heavy vehicle drivers. These stakeholders have an important role to play in keeping their respective constituencies safe, by encouraging good road safety habits through their policies, and employee and member incentives.

32. In the second half of 2024, TP will be launching a road safety campaign featuring a series of videos to urge everyone to play their part and be a responsible road user. The campaign will target all road users, in particular vulnerable road user groups.

33. TP and SRSC will continue to promote the recently launched storybook for young children, “Road Safety with Kay and Bear Bear” to inculcate good road safety habits. The book has been distributed to major preschool chains in Singapore, such as the Ministry of Education Kindergartens, PCF Sparkletots and NTUC My First Skool. It is also available at the public libraries. Interested parents and guardians can download a digital copy from the SPF website.<sup>4</sup>

34. LTA has been implementing initiatives such as more Friendly Streets, School Zones, Silver Zones, and Red-Amber-Green arrows at traffic junctions, to make our roads safer. TP will continue to work with LTA to support their engineering efforts to create safer roads for everyone.

---

<sup>3</sup> The composition sums were last reviewed and amended on 1 April 2019.

<sup>4</sup> The digital copy of “Road Safety with Kay and Bear Bear” can be accessed at: <https://www.police.gov.sg/Advisories/Traffic/Road-Safety-Campaigns> under the section ‘Road Safety With Kay and Bear Bear’.

**EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY TO ENSURE SAFER ROADS FOR ALL**

35. TP will step up enforcement and presence to tackle the increasing number of traffic accidents and casualties. At the same time, TP will continue to engage the public to shape motorists' mindsets, attitudes and behaviours. We must see road safety as a shared responsibility, and that for our loved one and ourselves to be safe, everyone must conduct ourselves responsibly and safely on the roads.

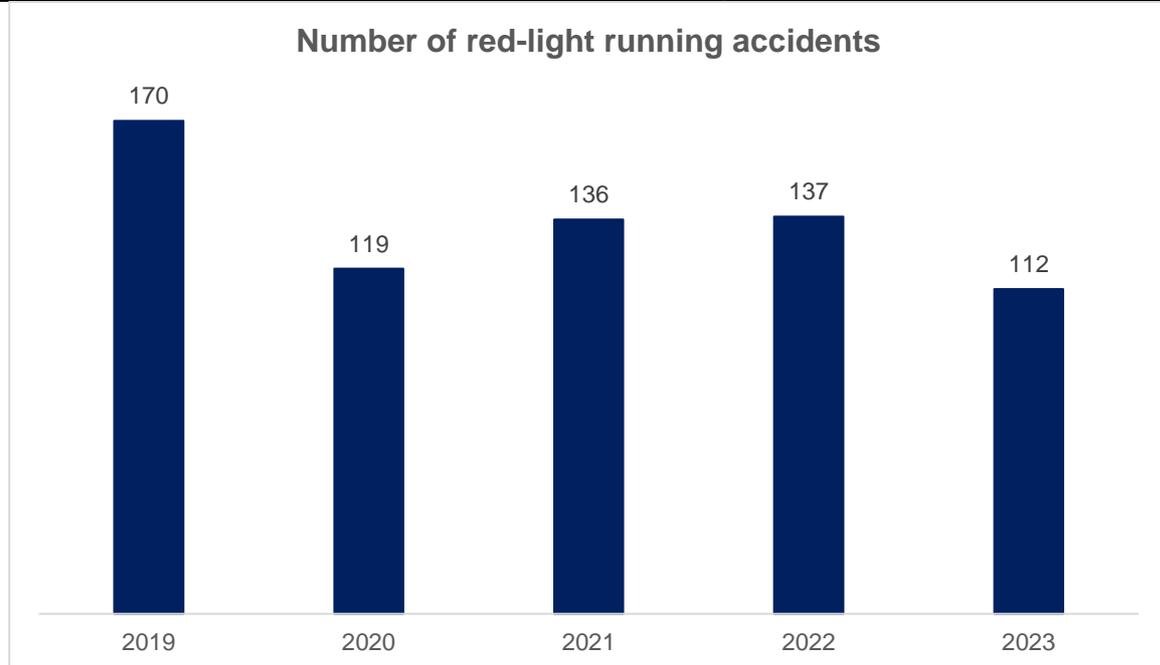
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT  
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE  
20 FEBRUARY 2024 @ 1.00 PM**

## Annex A

### **Red-light running situation (2019 – 2023)**

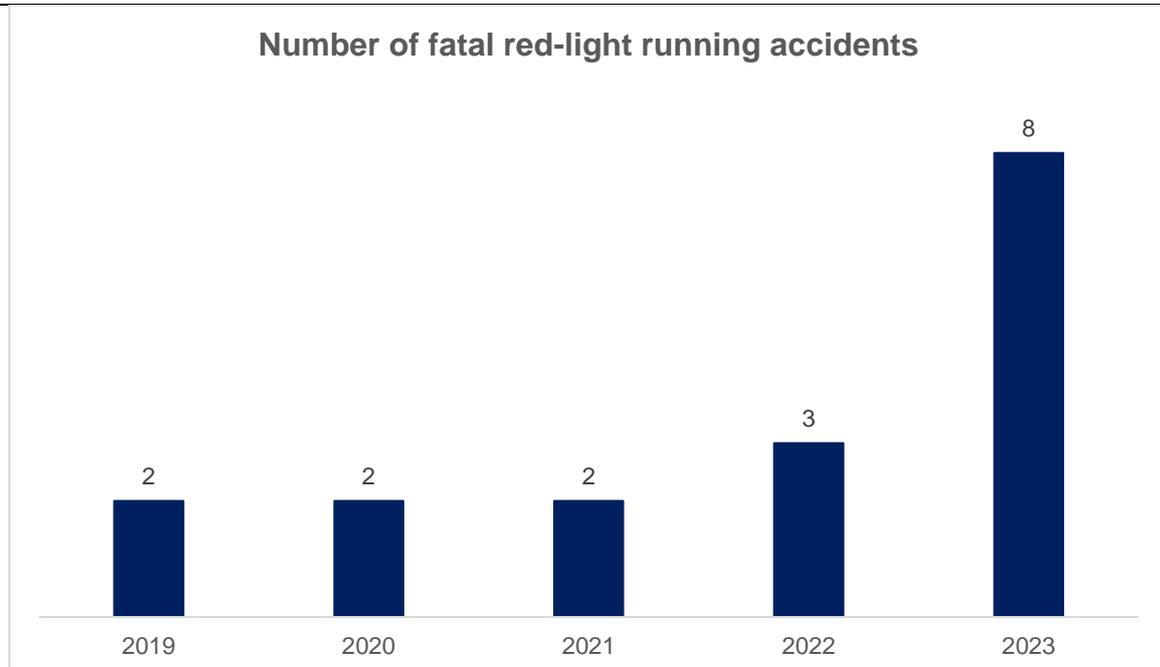
#### **Red-light running accidents**

The number of red-light running accidents decreased by 18.2%, from 137 cases in 2022 to 112 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



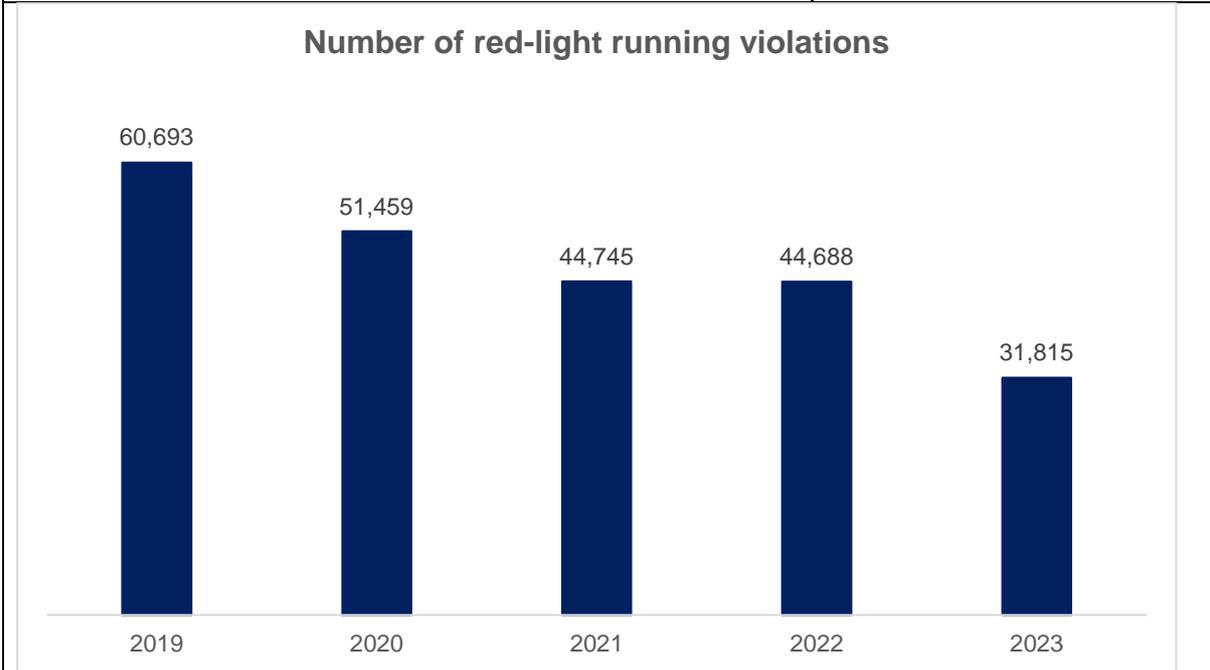
#### **Fatal accidents due to red-light running**

The number of fatal accidents due to red-light running increased from 3 cases in 2022 to 8 cases in 2023. It was significantly higher than the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## Red-light running violations

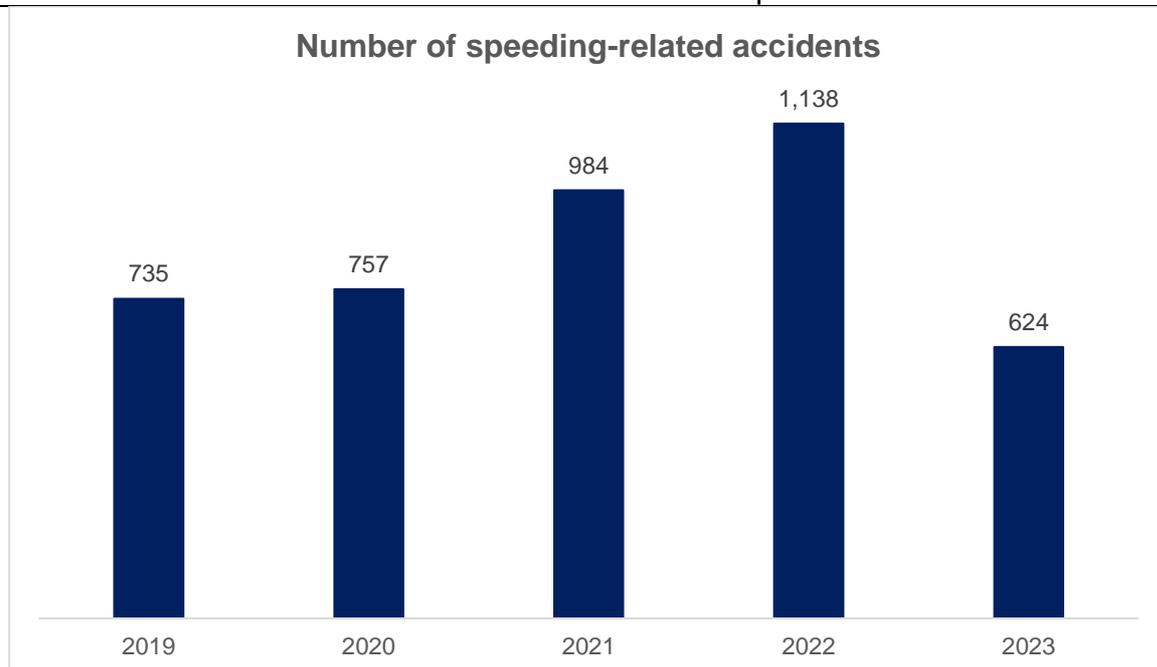
The number of red-light running violations decreased by 28.8%, from 44,688 cases in 2022 to 31,815 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## **Speeding situation (2019 – 2023)**

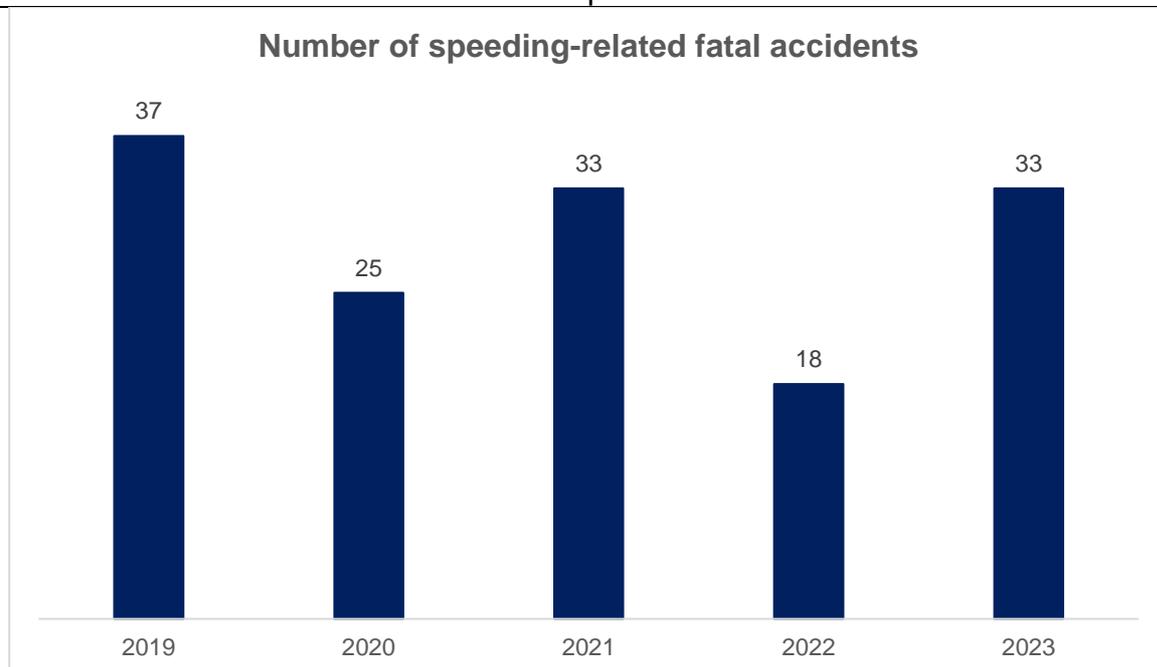
### **Speeding-related accidents**

The number of speeding-related accidents decreased by 45.2%, from 1,138 cases in 2022 to 624 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



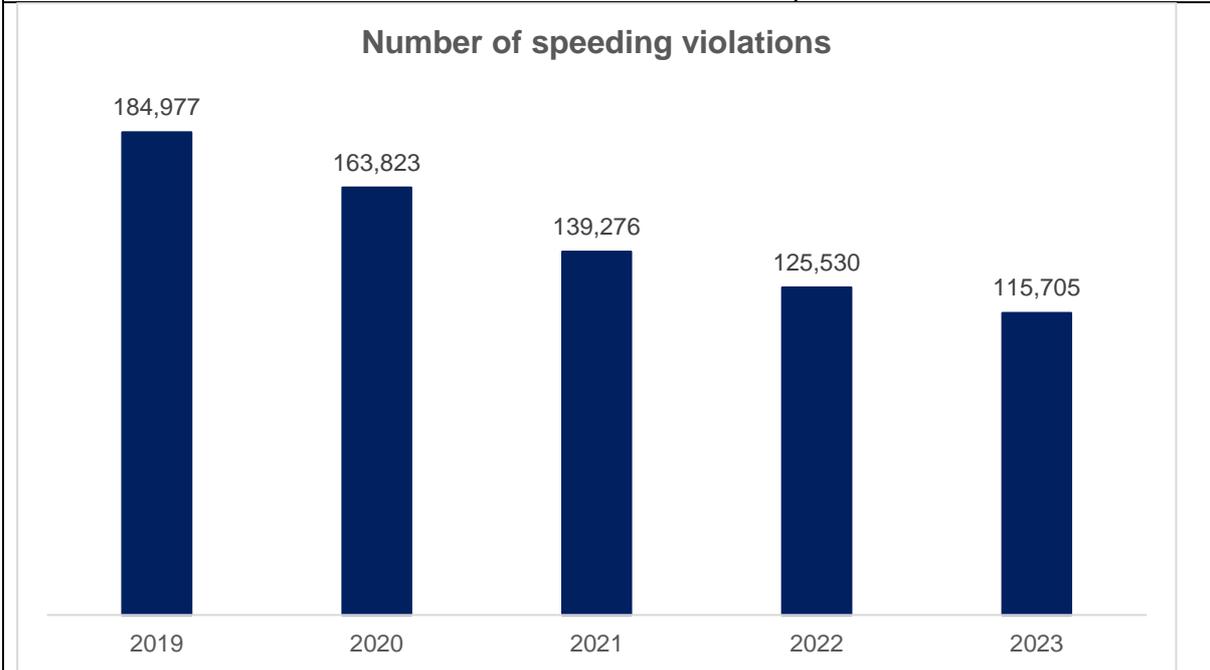
### **Fatal accidents due to speeding**

The number of fatal accidents due to speeding increased from 18 cases in 2022 to 33 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## Speeding violations

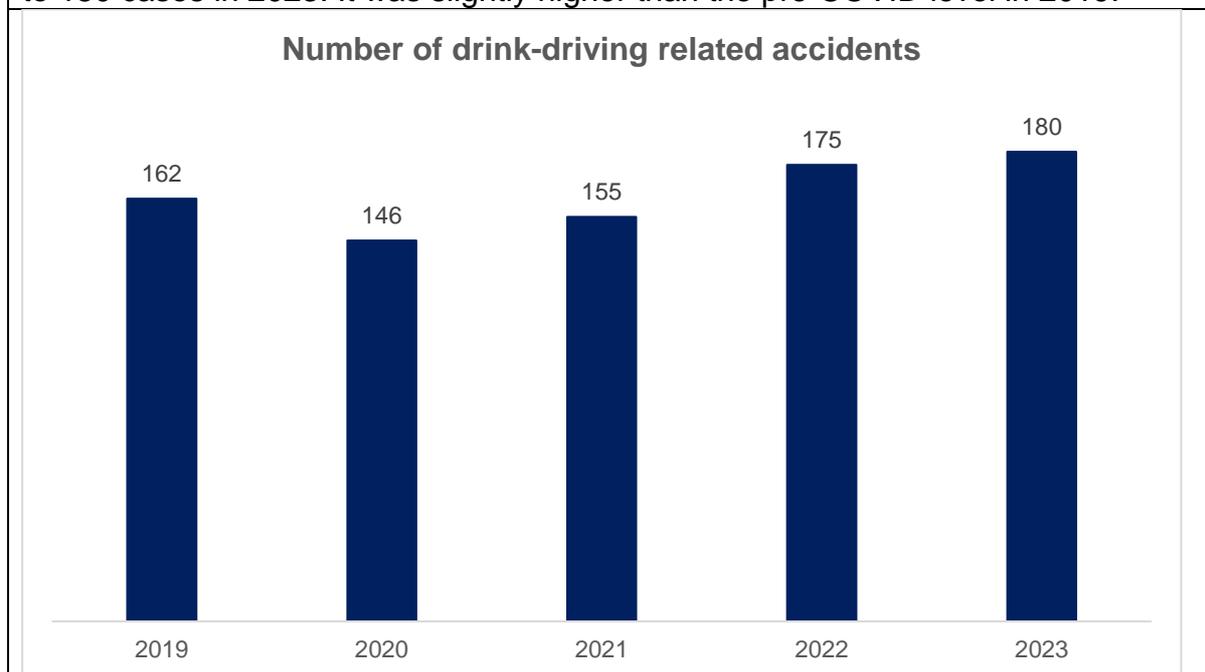
The number of speeding violations also decreased by 7.8%, from 125,530 cases in 2022 to 115,705 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## Drink-driving situation (2019 – 2023)

### Drink-driving related accidents

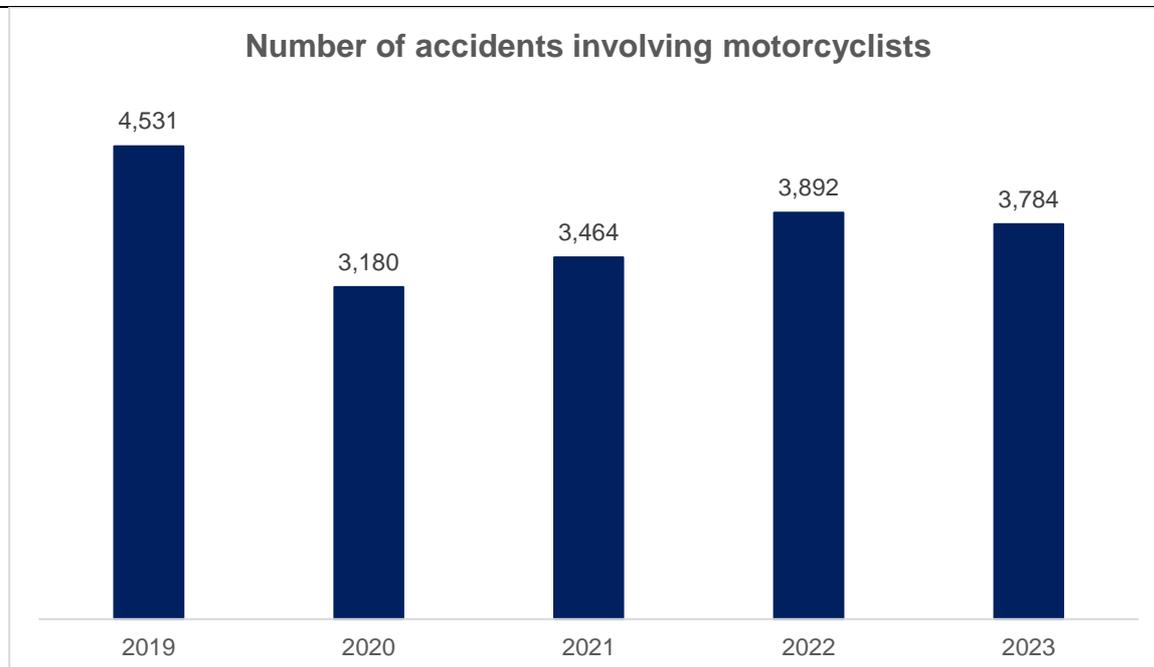
The number of drink-driving accidents increased by 2.9%, from 175 cases in 2022 to 180 cases in 2023. It was slightly higher than the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## **Accident situation involving motorcyclists (2019 – 2023)**

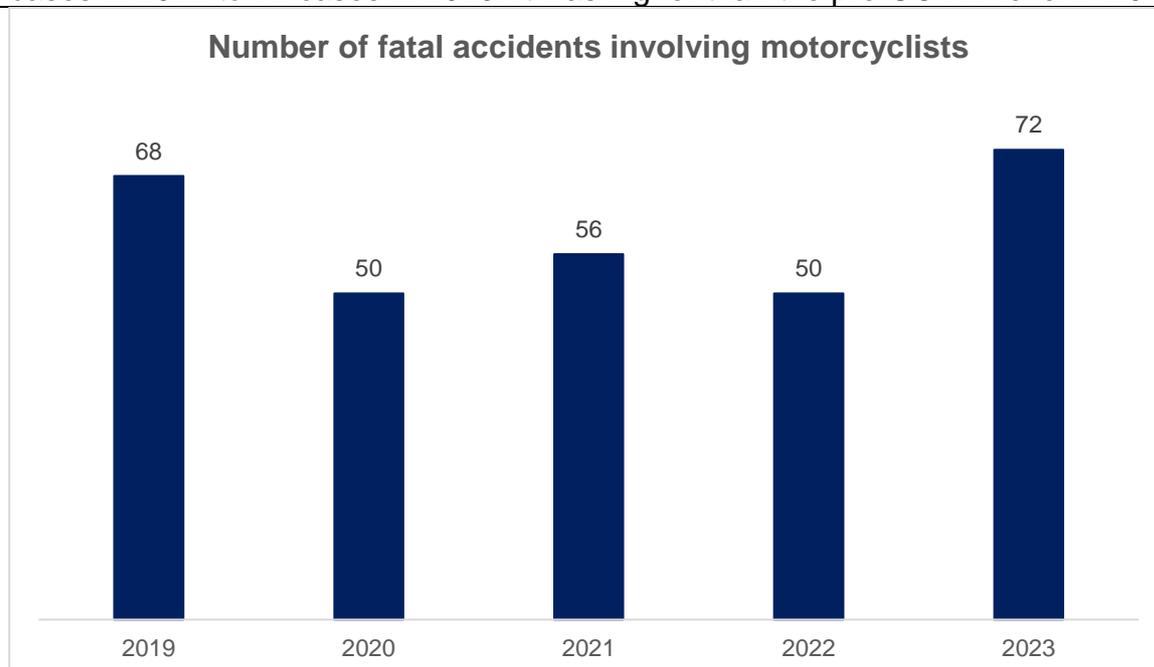
### **Accidents involving motorcyclists**

The number of accidents involving motorcyclists decreased by 2.8%, from 3,892 cases in 2022 to 3,784 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



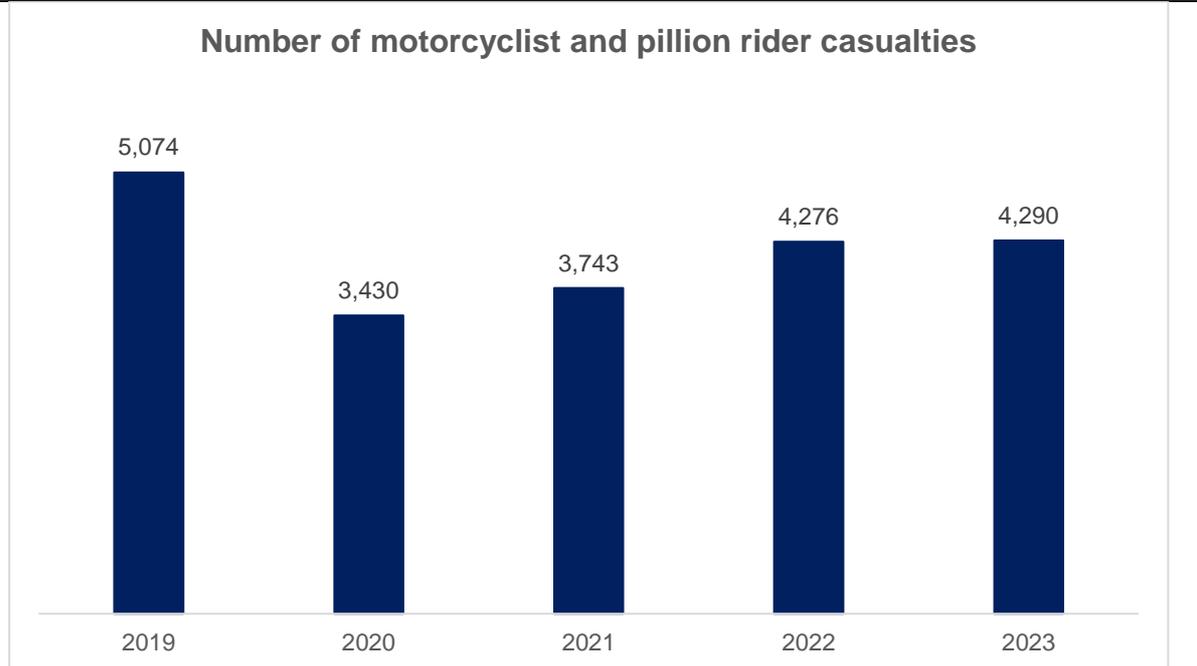
### **Fatal accidents involving motorcyclists**

The number of fatal accidents involving motorcyclists increased by 44.0%, from 50 cases in 2022 to 72 cases in 2023. It was higher than the pre-COVID level in 2019.



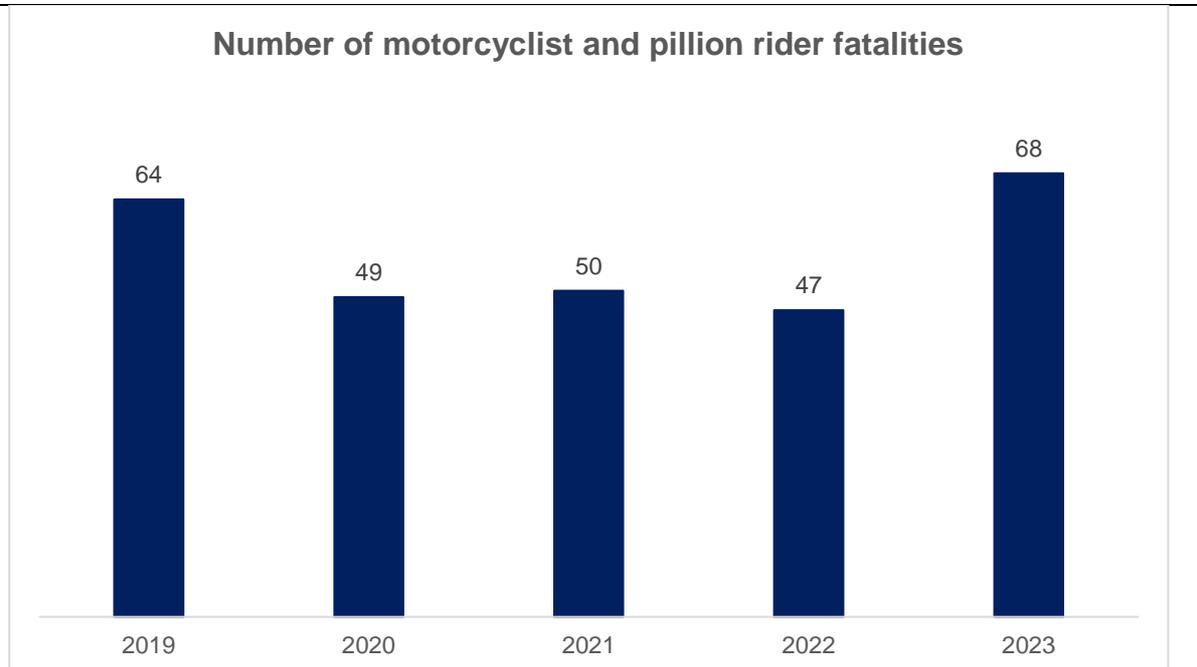
### Number of motorcyclist and pillion rider casualties

The number of motorcyclist and pillion rider casualties increased by 0.3%, from 4,276 persons in 2022 to 4,290 persons in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



### Number of motorcyclist and pillion rider fatalities

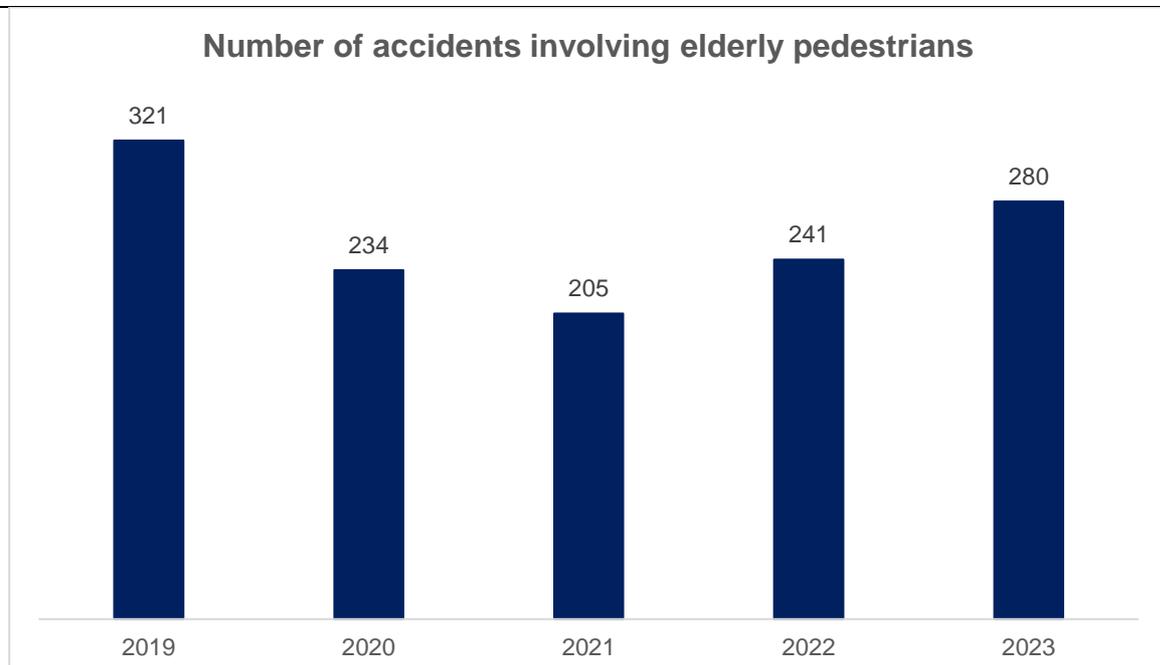
The number of motorcyclist and pillion rider fatalities increased by 44.7%, from 47 persons in 2022 to 68 persons in 2023. It was higher than the pre-COVID level in 2019.



## **Accident situation involving elderly (2019 – 2023)**

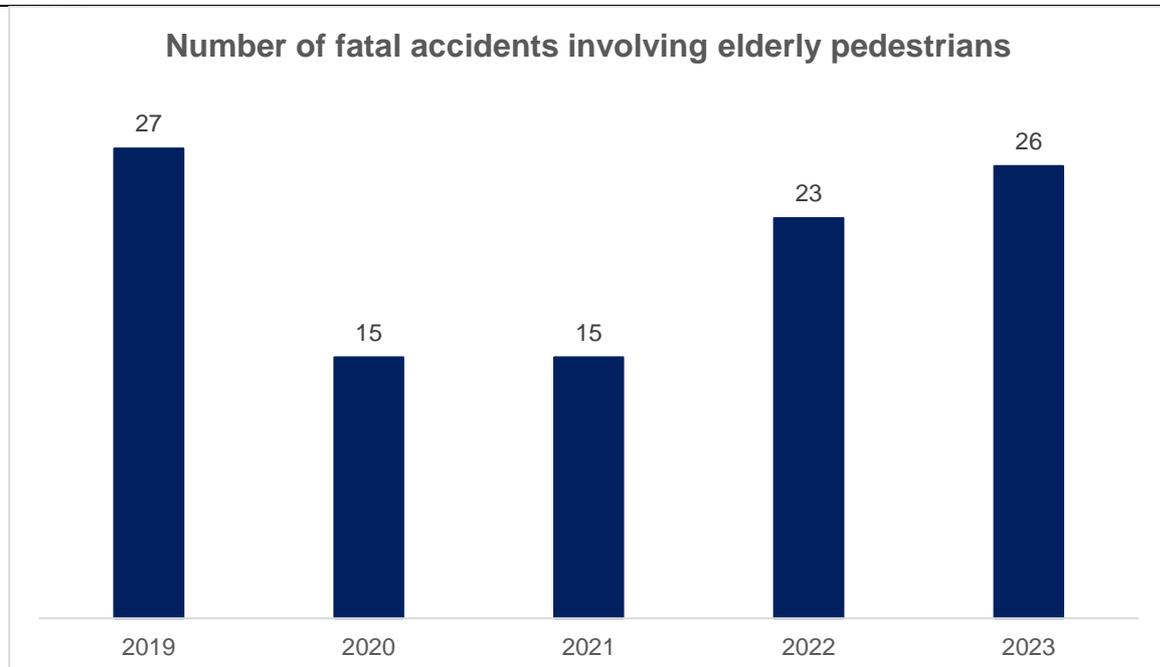
### **Accident involving elderly pedestrians**

The number of accidents involving elderly pedestrians increased by 16.2%, from 241 cases in 2022 to 280 cases in 2023. It remained below the pre-COVID level in 2019.



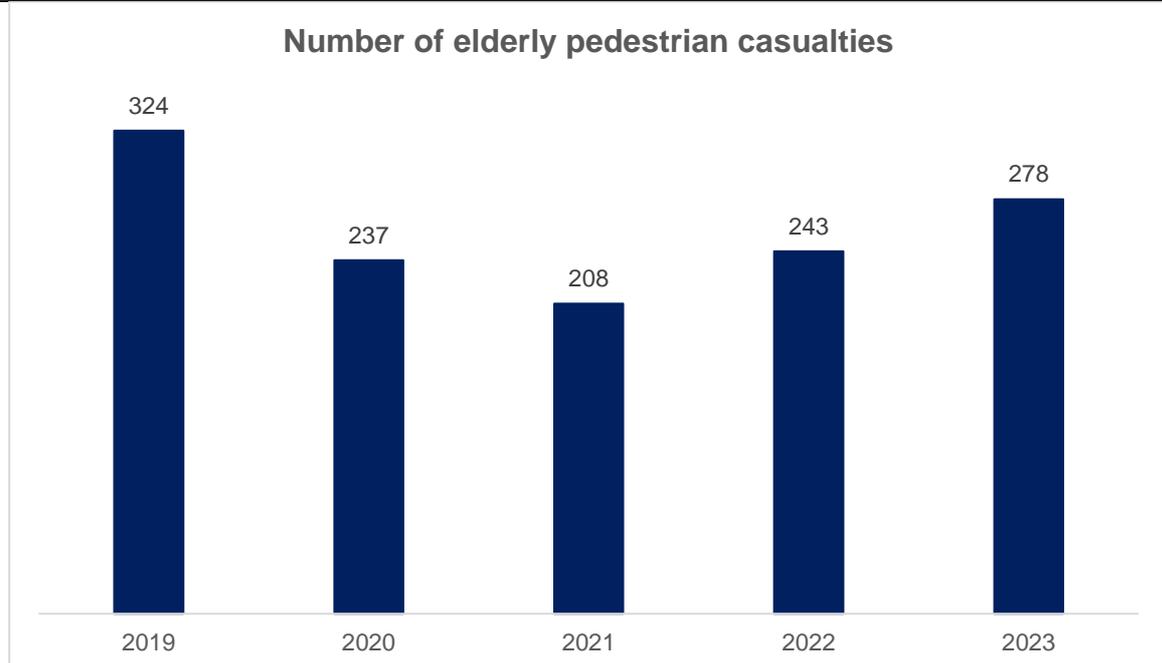
### **Fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians**

The number of fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians increased by 13.0%, from 23 cases in 2022 to 26 cases in 2023, was similar to the pre-COVID level in 2019.



### Number of elderly pedestrian casualties

The number of elderly pedestrian casualties increased by 14.4%, from 243 persons in 2022 to 278 persons in 2023. It remained lower than the pre-COVID level in 2019.



### Number of elderly pedestrian fatalities

The number of elderly pedestrian fatalities increased by 17.4%, from 23 persons in 2022 to 27 persons in 2023, and was the same as the pre-COVID level in 2019.

