



**SINGAPORE
POLICE FORCE**

NEWS RELEASE

ANNUAL ROAD TRAFFIC SITUATION 2017

OUR ROADS WERE SAFER, WITH DECREASE IN FATAL ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES

The road safety situation improved in 2017, compared to 2016. There were fewer road traffic accidents. The number of fatal accidents and fatalities fell to an all-time low.

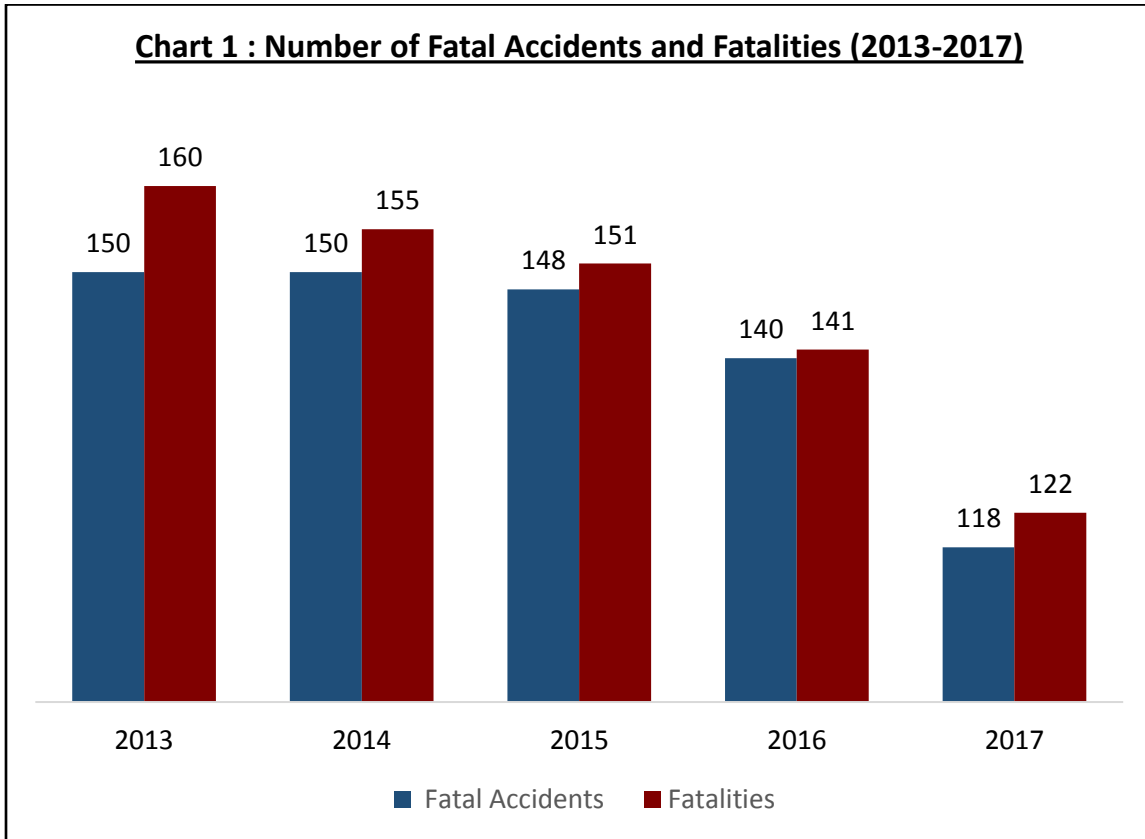
2. There were also fewer accidents related to drink-driving, speeding and red-light running.

3. Nevertheless, every accident or death is one too many, and more can be done to prevent tragedies on our roads. Elderly pedestrians¹ and motorcyclists remain vulnerable groups. The Traffic Police (TP) will step up efforts to reach out to these road users.

Fatal Traffic Accidents and Fatalities at an All-time Low

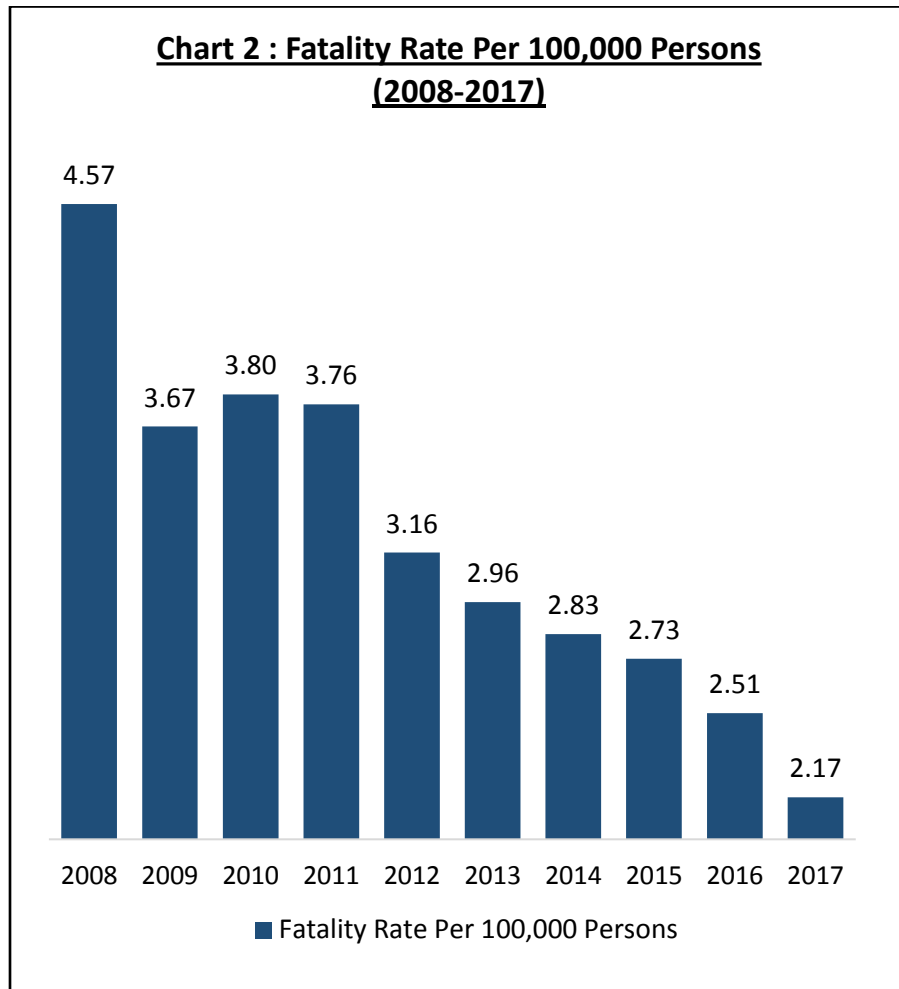
4. The number of fatal accidents decreased to 118 cases in 2017, from 140 cases in 2016. The number of fatalities also decreased, to 122 in 2017, from 141 in 2016. Please refer to [Chart 1](#) for the number of fatal accidents and fatalities in recent years.

¹ The term 'elderly pedestrians' refers to pedestrians aged 60 years old and above.



5. Road traffic fatality rates have been in steady decline since 2010. In 2017, the fatality rate per 100,000 persons fell to 2.17, from 2.51 in 2016. This is the lowest fatality rate since 1981². Please refer to Chart 2 for the fatality rates for the past ten years.

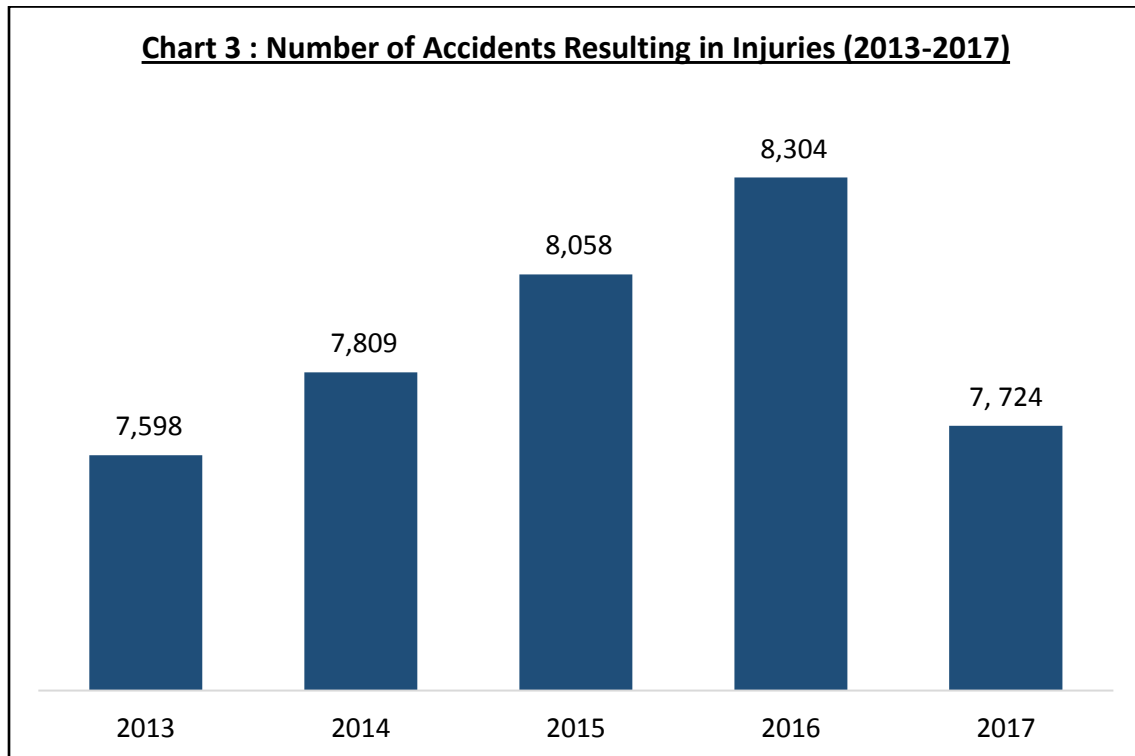
² The data collation for fatality rate began in 1981.



6. TP will continue to educate road users and work with stakeholders to increase awareness of road safety.

Decrease in the Number of Accidents Resulting in Injuries

7. The number of accidents resulting in injuries decreased by 7%, to 7,724 cases in 2017, from 8,304 cases in 2016. Please refer to Chart 3 for the number of accidents resulting in injuries over the past five years.



Decrease in Speeding and Red-Light Running Related Accidents

8. In 2017, TP continued to deploy a range of enforcement cameras to deter and detect speeding. To ensure that motorists were aware of these cameras, new enforcement cameras were painted in orange, and more prominent warning signs were put up before enforcement camera zones began. In addition, the locations of these enforcement cameras were listed on the Singapore Police Force's website.

9. The number of speeding-related accidents decreased by 29.9%, to 762 in 2017, from 1,087 accidents in 2016. The number of speeding violations detected also decreased, by 5% to 164,315 in 2017, from 172,920 in 2016.

10. The number of red-light running accidents decreased slightly by 0.8%, to 117 in 2017, from 118 accidents in 2016. However, the number of red-light running violations increased by 32.5%, to 45,617 in 2017, from 34,437 in 2016.

11. TP takes a serious view of such violations. Motorists should slow down as they approach a signalised junction, and prepare to stop their vehicle when they see the amber light. Beating the red light is irresponsible and puts the lives of the motorist and other road users at risk.

Improvement in Drink-Driving Situation

12. The number of drink-driving related accidents decreased slightly by 2.7%, to 143 accidents in 2017, from 147 accidents in 2016. The number of persons arrested for drink-driving also decreased by 3.9%, from 2,126 persons in 2016 to 2,044 persons in 2017.

13. While the drink-driving situation has improved, TP will continue to take tough enforcement actions against irresponsible drink drivers who put themselves and other road users at risk. Motorists who drink and drive will face the full consequences of the law.

LOOKING OUT FOR VULNERABLE ROAD USERS, ESPECIALLY ELDERLY PEDESTRIANS AND MOTORCYCLISTS

More Accidents involving Elderly Pedestrians Who Jaywalked

14. Traffic accidents involving elderly pedestrians remain a key area of concern. Although the number of accidents involving elderly pedestrians decreased slightly by 0.4% to 273 in 2017, from 274 in 2016, the number of accidents involving elderly pedestrians who jaywalked increased by 23.2%, to 101 in 2017, from 82 in 2016. In addition, 1 in 2 fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians in 2017 occurred due to jaywalking.

15. TP would like to appeal to senior citizens to use pedestrian crossings and to keep a proper lookout for oncoming vehicles at all times, especially when they are crossing major roads, as well as at car parks, carpark entrances and service roads.

16. TP urges all motorists to slow down and keep a lookout for elderly pedestrians even when they have the right of way. TP will continue to engage and reach out to senior citizens to educate them on the dangers of jaywalking. Members of the public should also reach out to their elderly friends and relatives to warn them of the dangers of doing so.

Motorcyclists Continue to be Over-represented in Traffic Accidents

17. The number of fatal accidents involving motorcyclists decreased by 29.7%, to 45 in 2017, from 64 in 2016. The number of motorcyclists and pillion riders injured in accidents also decreased by 5.9%, to 4,800 in 2017 from 5,102 in 2016. Despite this, accidents involving motorcyclists still made up more than half of the overall traffic accidents, and close to 36% of overall traffic fatalities.

18. TP will continue to educate motorcyclists through road safety talks on the importance of wearing safe riding attire and riding safely on the roads. TP will also continue to take tough enforcement actions against errant riders who pose a risk to other road users.

ENHANCING ROAD SAFETY EDUCATION INITIATIVES

19. Education is key to making our roads even safer and TP will be stepping up efforts for both existing and learner motorists in this respect.

Educating New Learner Motorists

20. To inculcate good driving and riding behaviour, simulation training will be introduced to allow learner motorists to practise defensive driving and riding. Unlike traditional methods, simulation training will enable learner motorists to undergo experiential learning and experience real-life traffic situations in a safe and controlled environment. On 1 February 2018, the simulation training trial for all Class 2B, 2A, 3 and 3A learner motorists commenced at ComfortDelGro Driving Centre. The trial will subsequently be held at Singapore Safety Driving Centre and Bukit Batok Driving Centre. In 2019, simulation training will be made compulsory for all learner motorists.

21. TP's Online Learning Portal provides existing and learner motorists with easy access to traffic rules and other useful information. Currently, learner motorists are able to obtain free digital copies of the Basic and Final Theory Driving handbooks in English, Malay, Chinese and Tamil. In December 2018, learner motorists can also take online mock tests for Basic, Final and Riding Theory tests using the portal.

Continuous Education for Existing Driving Licence Holders

22. The Safe Driving Course (SDC) was introduced in November 2015 as a voluntary programme for motorists who have accumulated half of the maximum allowable demerit points before getting a suspension, to improve their driving behaviour. Following positive feedback from participants, TP revised the SDC so that more motorists would benefit from it. On 1 November 2017, the practical component of the SDC was increased from 30 minutes to 50 minutes. In addition, motorists who have successfully completed the SDC will have four demerit points expunged from their driving records instead of three. TP encourages eligible motorists to attend the SDC to correct and improve their driving habits.

23. TP will also be introducing more learning programmes for existing driving licence holders, to ensure that they are aware of the changes in the traffic landscape. The Online Learning Portal will include information on new traffic policies, rules and signs, educational videos on major causes of accidents, as well as road safety tips, such as the do's and don'ts of driving or riding overseas. TP hopes that this will help cultivate safe driving and riding behaviour and make our roads safer for all.

“The road traffic situation in 2017 showed an encouraging improvement as road fatalities continued to fall. We would like to commend all road users for playing a role in ensuring that our roads remain safe. We encourage everyone to continue adopting the right RoadSense. Together, we can make the roads safer for all.

In the coming year, TP will step up its education efforts for both new and existing motorists. Education is a key enabler to impart and inculcate good driving or riding competencies and behaviour. TP will be making major changes to the training curriculum to train new learners to be smart drivers or riders. For example, learner motorists will have a chance to undergo experiential learning and handle real-life traffic situations through simulation training in a safe and controlled environment.

For existing motorists, TP plans to introduce a continuous learning programme to update them on the traffic landscape, including changes to traffic rules and signs, as well as common causes of accidents with accompanying safety tips. These will be made available on TP’s Online Learning Portal.

*–Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Sam Tee
Commander of Traffic Police*

IMPROVED ROAD SAFETY SITUATION

SAFER ROADS IN 2017

Fatal traffic accidents and fatalities at an



All-time Low

Drop in accidents resulting in injuries



7% Decrease

Drop in speeding, red-light running and drink-driving accidents



SPEEDING
29.9% Decrease

RED-LIGHT RUNNING
0.8% Decrease

DRINK-DRIVING
2.7% Decrease



TRENDS OF CONCERN ON THE ROAD

Motorcyclists continue to be over-represented in traffic accidents



Accidents involving motorcycles made up more than half of overall traffic accidents

More accidents involving elderly pedestrians who jaywalked



Jaywalking is the cause for 1 in 2 fatal accidents involving elderly pedestrians

EDUCATION IS KEY FOR SAFER ROADS

Reach Out to Elderly Pedestrians and Motorcyclists



► Road Master Test Kit

- Engaged elderly pedestrians with test kits

Since NOV 2016



► Ride Safe Campaigns

- "Gear up, Ride safe" reminder to motorcyclists

AUG 2017

Educate Learner and Existing Motorists



► Improved safe driving course for existing motorists

- Changes help motorists correct driving behaviour

1 NOV 2017 Effective



► Online learning portal reinforces learning

- Educational videos on top causes of accidents
- Dec 2018 - Mock Basic & Final Theory tests available

MAR 2018



► Introducing simulation training to help learner motorists apply driving/riding technique in a safe environment

- Trials by driving school
- 2019 - Mandatory

From 1 FEB 2018



SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE

SAFEGUARDING EVERY DAY



TRAFFIC STATISTICS IN 2017



Fatal Accidents



Fatalities



Fatality Rate Per 100,000 persons



Accidents Resulting in Injuries



Speeding Related Accidents



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EVERY DAY



TRAFFIC STATISTICS IN 2017



Speeding Violations



Red-light Running Related Accidents



Red-light Running Violations



Drink-driving Accidents



Persons Arrested for Drink-driving

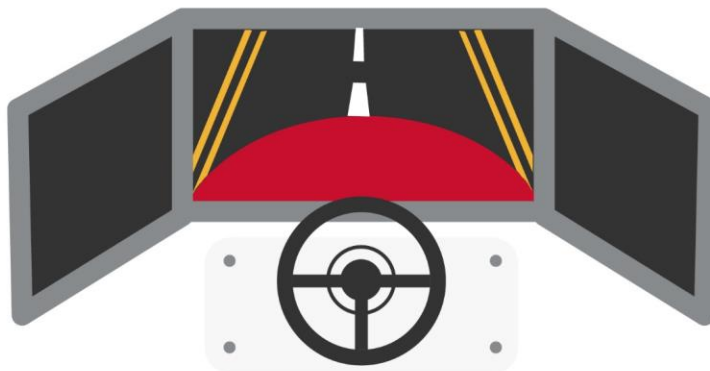


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POLICE FORCE**

SAFEGUARDING
EVERY DAY



LAUNCH OF SIMULATION TRAINING



1 FEB
2018

Implementation Timeline

- On 1 February 2018, trial commenced at ComfortDelGro Driving Centre.
- In 2019, simulation training will be made **compulsory** for all learner motorists

YEAR

2019

Applicable To:



Key Features

Enable learner motorists to apply defensive driving and riding techniques in a safe environment

- Modular scenario-based training with realistic traffic situation developed based on Singapore's actual road terrain
- Immersive experience with motion and sound simulation system to enhance virtual driving environment
- Equipped with virtual instructor that provide audio instructions & commentary



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SAFEGUARDING
EVERY DAY



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
SINGAPORE POLICE FORCE
7 FEBRUARY 2018 @11.00AM**