

June 18, 2014

Road accidents

Preliminary estimates. Year 2013

During 2013, on the basis of a preliminary estimate, 182,700 road accidents resulting in death or injury were counted. The number of deaths, within thirty days, is 3,400, while the injured persons are 259,500.

Compared to 2012, a decrease of road accidents resulting in death or injury (-2.2%) and the number of deaths (-6.9%), a decrease of injuries has been registered too (-2.0%) (Table 1).

In 2013, the mortality index, calculated as the percentage ratio between the number of deaths and the number of accidents resulting in death or injury, is equal to 1.86. This value is slightly lower than the same index in 2012 (1,96).

The percentage change of the number of deaths, in respect to 2001, is -52.1% for 2013 (Chart 1). Between 2011 and 2013 the variation is equal to -11.9%.

The most significant contribution to the decrease in the number of victims in road accidents is due, in 2013, to the decline of mortality on extra urban roads (-8.6%) and on urban roads (-8.5%). The value is stable on the highways, where the reduction was consistent in the previous years.

The mortality index, by accident road type, based on the 2013 preliminary estimate, is equal to 3.44 on the highways, 4.62 on the extra urban roads and 1.04 on the urban and minor extra urban roads.

The European program of action for road safety 2011-2020 has the target of halving the number of deaths on European roads by 2020 and a significant reduction in serious injuries. For this purpose, to establish a target, it is necessary that EU countries apply an harmonized definition of severity of injuries established at the international level.

With reference to the international context, the preliminary estimates of mortality rates, calculated as the ratio between the number of deaths in road accidents and the resident population (rates per 1,000,000 inhabitants), recorded in 2013 among the countries of the EU28, vary in a range from 27 for Sweden and 93 for Romania. The value for Italy is equal to 57, compared with a European average of 52 deaths per million inhabitants (Chart 2).

The average percentage change in Europe (EU28) of the number of deaths in road accidents, between 2012 and 2013, amounts to -7.6% (Chart 3). Between 2011 and 2013, this variation, among EU28 Countries, is equal to -15.3%.

TABLE 1. ROAD ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DEATHS OR INJURIES, KILLED AND INJURED PERSONS IN ITALY¹
Years 2012 and 2013 absolute numbers and percentage change year 2013 (with respect to year 2012)

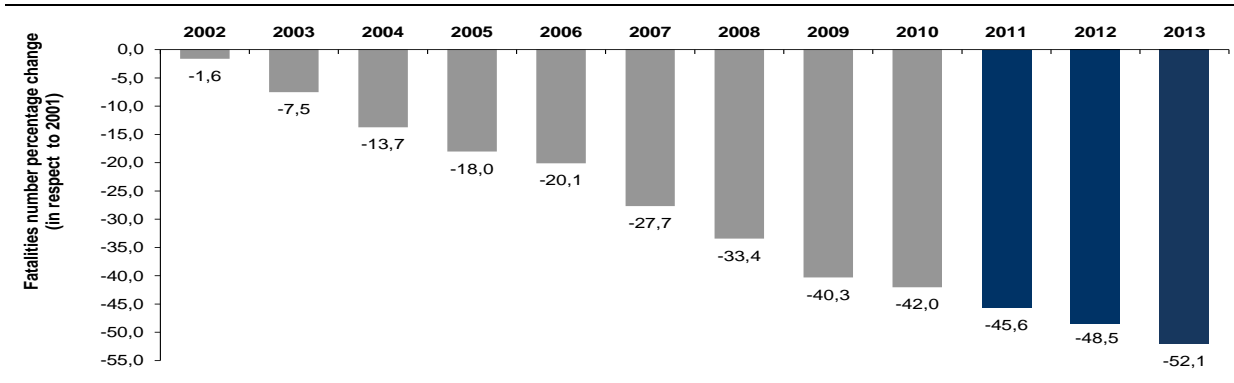
ROAD ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DEATHS OR INJURIES, FATALITIES AND INJURED PERSONS (a)	Absolute values		Percentage change 2013/2012
	2012 (a,b)	2013 (b,c)	
Road accidents resulting in deaths or injuries	186,726	182,700	-2.2
Fatalities (within 30 days)	3,653	3,400	-6.9
Injured persons	264,716	259,500	-2.0

- (a) Any road accident involving at least one vehicle in motion on public road, resulting in at least one killed (within 30 days) or injured person.
 (b) Source: Istat – Survey on Road accidents resulting in death or injury. Years 2012–2013.
 (c) Values based on preliminary estimates - year 2013.

¹ Data on Road accidents resulting in death or injury could be revised after the official dissemination.

CHART 1. PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF DEATHS IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

Years 2002-2013 (in respect of year 2001)



Source: Istat – Survey on Road accidents resulting in death or injury. Years 2013.

CHART 2: MORTALITY RATES DUE TO ROAD ACCIDENTS IN EUROPE (EU28). YEAR 2013

(Rates per 1,000,000 of inhabitants) (a) (b)

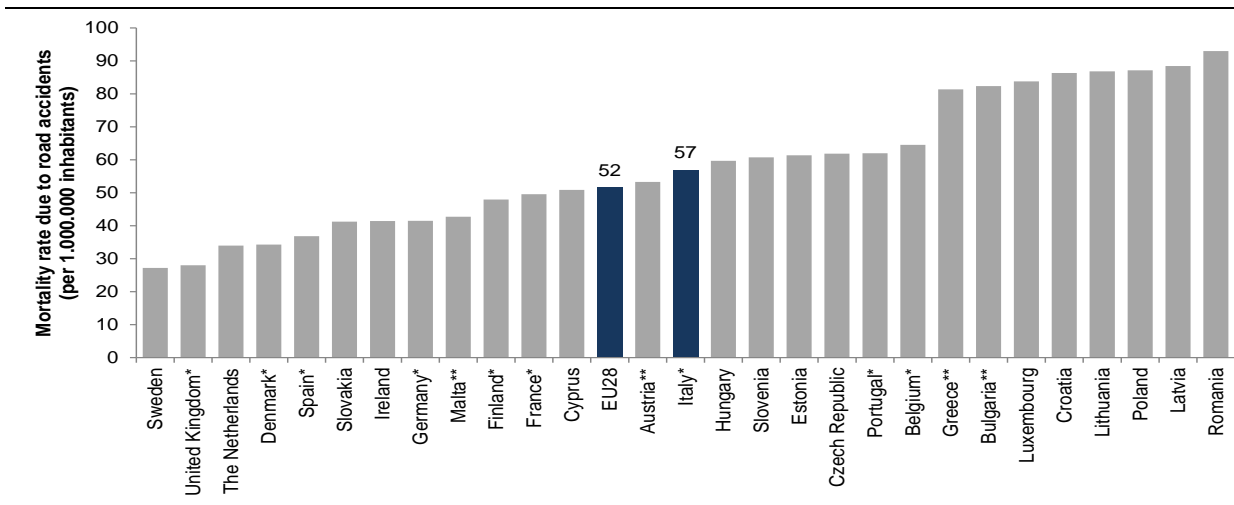
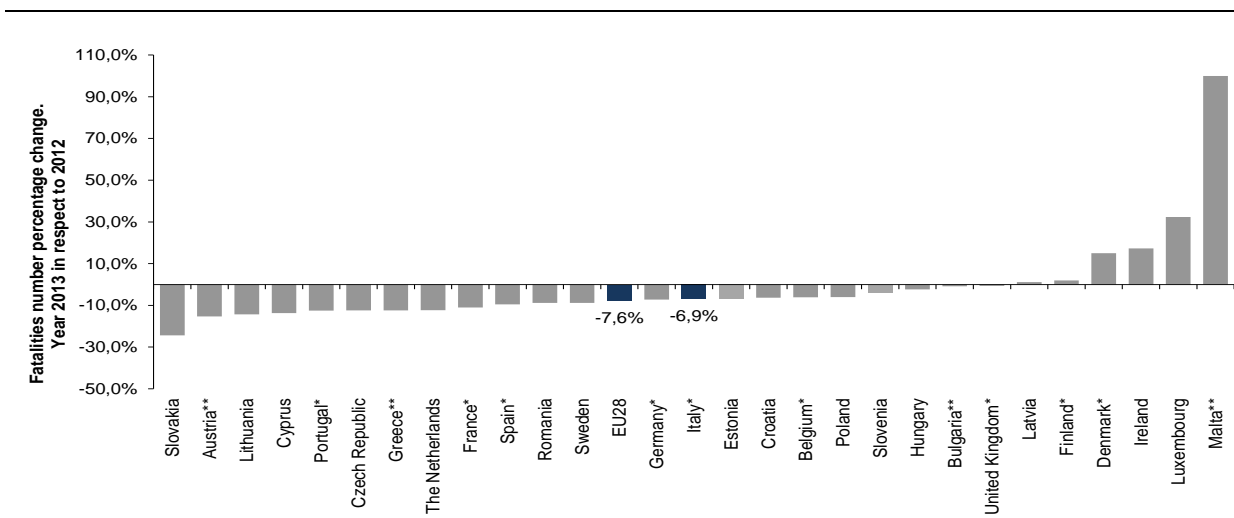


CHART 3. FATALITIES NUMBER PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN EUROPE (EU28). YEAR 2013 (WITH RESPECT TO 2012)²



* Provisional data referred to 2013.

** ETSC 2013 data estimate, based on EC CARE Quick indicator.

Source : ETSC - European Transport Safety Council - Performance Index (PIN) Project. Year 2014.

Population on 1 January-Eurostat Database - Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union (Last update 10.06.2014).

² The EU28 Countries with a low number of deaths in road accidents have a fluctuant time trend.

Data and Methods

The preliminary estimate for 2013 of road accidents resulting in death or injury data has been calculated on the basis of the final data provided by the Ministry of the Interior (Servizio di Polizia Stradale), by the provisional figures provided by the Ministry of Defence (Arma dei Carabinieri) and the data from the quarterly survey of road accidents in urban areas (main municipalities), carried out by Istat with the cooperation of ACI (Automobile Club of Italy) and Regions and Provinces participating to a National Agreement with Istat, aimed to a decentralization of collection and monitoring for road accidents statistics.

To calculate the preliminary estimate of road accidents resulting in death or injury in urban areas, the quarterly trend for the municipalities subgroup in 2013, provisional, and for 2012, final data, in the same set of municipalities, was used. The 2008-2012 time series for road accidents was also taken into account.

The figures on the preliminary estimate of deaths in road accidents, referred to year 2013, was communicated, in agreement among Istat, Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport and ACI, to the European Transport Safety Council (ETSC) for the Italian data inclusion in the "Annual Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) Report. Year 2014". The source for European countries (EU28) data included is the cited report too. The Istat-ACI dissemination has been planned simultaneously with the presentation of the "Annual Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) Report. Year 2014" in Brussels.

Definitions

Road accidents resulting in death or injury

All road accidents involving at least one moving vehicle and one person injured or killed as a consequence of this accident. Not injured participants within an injury accident can optionally be recorded. Material damage-only accidents are not considered.

Injured³

The road user was seriously or slightly injured (but not killed within 30 days) in the road accident.

Killed or Fatally injured persons

Death within 30 days of the road accident, confirmed suicide and natural death are not included.

³ The harmonized definition of severity of lesions, established at the international level, involves the use, for serious injuries of MAIS 3+ score, i.e., the maximum AIS value equal to or greater than 3. AIS (Abbreviated Injuries Scale) is a classification which describes the severity of the trauma, reported for each of the nine regions in which the human body is divided: the head, face, neck, chest, abdomen, spine, upper limbs, lower limbs, other. The degree of injury varies from 1 (minor injury) to 6 (fatal injury).