



ROAD ACCIDENTS

Preliminary estimates. Year 2012

- During 2012, on the basis of a preliminary estimate, 184,500 road accidents resulting in death or injury were counted. The number of deaths, within thirty days, is 3,650, while the injured persons are 260,500.
- Compared to 2011, a decrease of road accidents resulting in death or injury (-10.3%) and the number of deaths (-5.4%) has been registered, as well as a decrease of injuries (-10.8%) (Table 1).
- The mortality index, calculated as the percentage ratio between the number of deaths and the number of accidents resulting in death or injury, reaches, in 2012, the value 2, which is slightly higher than the value registered in 2011 (1,85).
- The percentage change of the number of deaths, in respect to 2001, is -48.6% for 2012, while it was -46.4% in 2011 (Figure 1).
- The mortality rate due to road accidents in Italy, calculated on the basis of the preliminary estimate for 2012, is equal to 61 deaths per 1,000,000 inhabitants. This value accounted for a decrease of more than 50% if compared with the year 2001, when the level of the rate was equal to 125.
- The most significant contribution to the decrease of the number of victims in road accidents is due, in 2012, to the decline of mortality on urban roads (-8%), while the decrease is lower on the extra urban roads (-4%). The value is stable on the highways, where the reduction was consistent in the previous years.
- The 2011-2020 European action program for road safety 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 set at the European 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 2012 among EU27 countries, vary within a range from 26 to 100, respectively for Lithuania and Malta. The value for Italy is equal to 61, compared with a European average of 55 deaths per million inhabitants (Figure 2).
- The percentage change in Europe (EU27) of the number of deaths in road accidents between 2011 and 2012, is about -9%. According to the European Commission, the good result for 2012, compared with the lower reduction recorded in 2011, witnesses the renewed effort by Member States to achieve the goal of halving road accidents fatalities between 2011 and 2020. To reach this goal, an average annual reduction of about 7% is needed (Figure 3).

CHART 1. NUMBER OF DEATHS IN ROAD ACCIDENTS PERCENTAGE CHANGE Years 2002-2012 (in respect of year 2001)

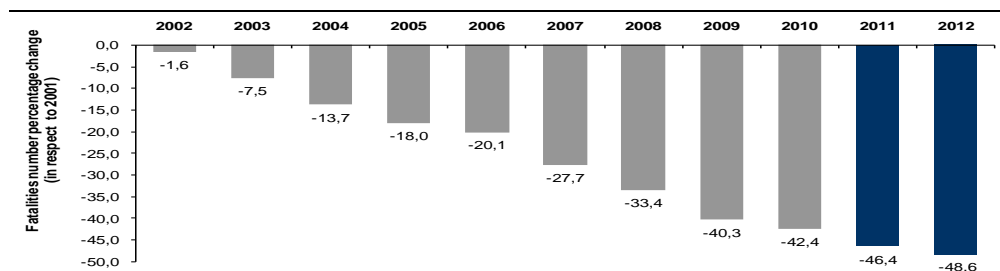


TABLE 1. ROAD ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DEATHS OR INJURIES, KILLED AND INJURED PERSONS IN ITALY

Years 2011 and 2012 absolute numbers and percentage change year 2012 (in respect to year 2011)

ROAD ACCIDENTS RESULTING IN DEATHS OR INJURIES, FATALITIES AND INJURED PERSONS (a)	Absolute values		Percentage change 2012/2011
	2011 (a,b)	2012 (b,c)	
Road accidents resulting in deaths or injuries	205,638	184,500	-10.2
Fatalities (within 30 days)	3,860	3,650	-5.4
Injured persons	292,019	260,500	-10.8

(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 2011 – 2012.

(c) Values based on preliminary estimates - year 2012.

CHART 2. MORTALITY RATES DUE TO ROAD ACCIDENTS IN EUROPE (EU27). YEAR 2012

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

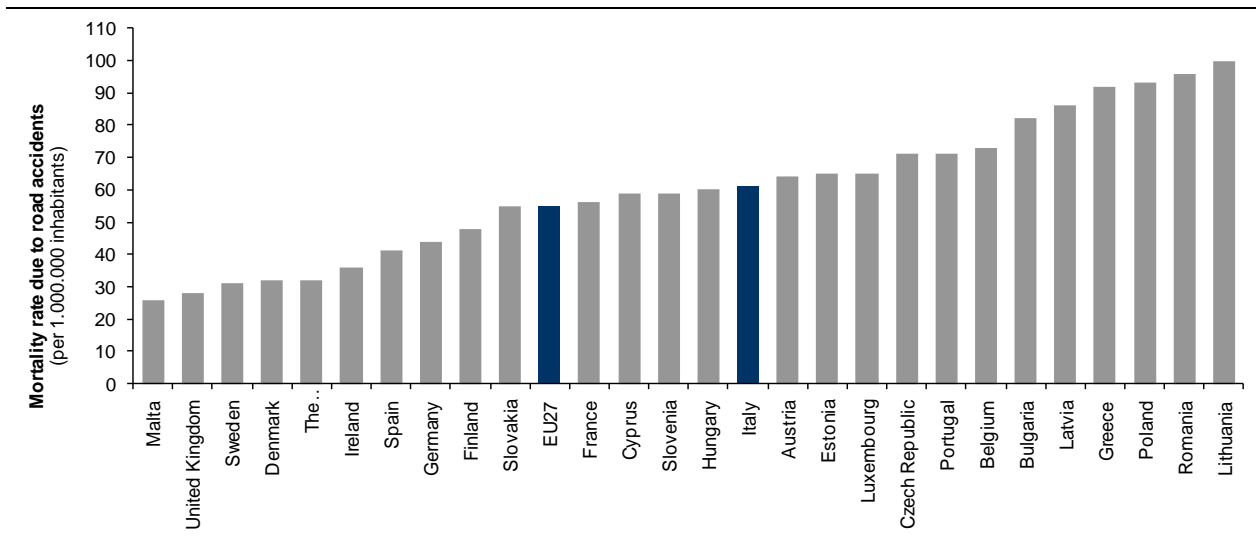
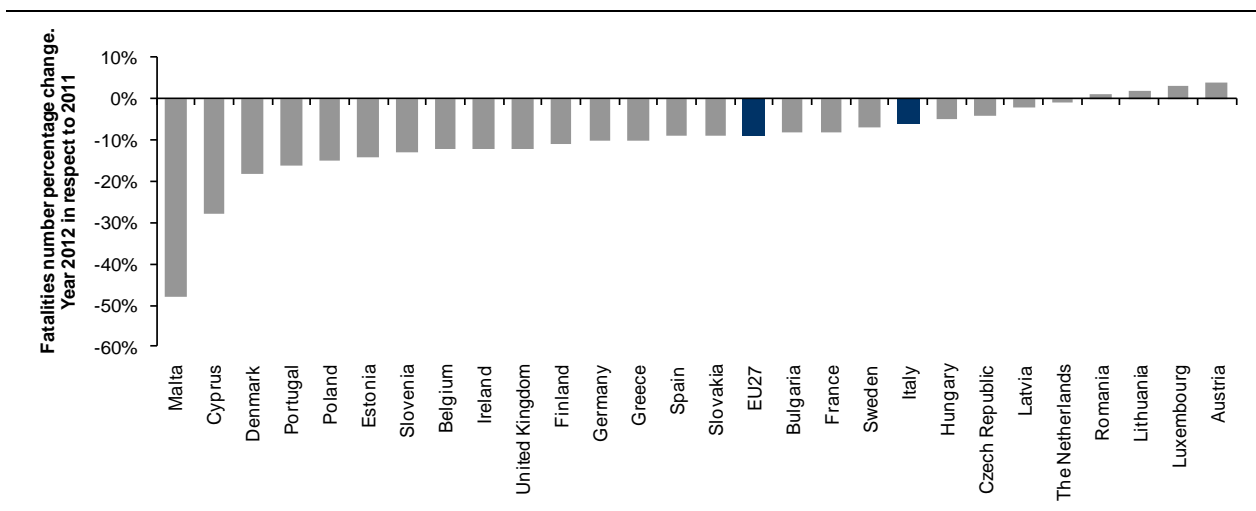


CHART 3. FATALITIES NUMBER PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN EUROPE (EU27). YEAR 2012 (IN RESPECT TO 2011)¹ (a) (b)



(a) The value for Italy has been recalculated on the basis of the preliminary estimates for 2012.

(b) Data referred to 2012 are provisional. Some change could be applied to the final data for each Country.

Source : European Commission (Press release 19/03/2013 - http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-13-236_en.htm)

¹ The EU27 Countries with a low number of deaths in road accidents have a fluctuant time trend .

Methods and data sources

The preliminary estimate for 2012 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 2012 and for 2011, final data, in the same set of municipalities was used. The 2007-2011 time series for road accidents was also taken into account.

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.

Injured²

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.

² There is not currently a definition, adopted by all EU countries, for "serious injuries", the European Commission proposed to EU Members to discuss the options for a common definition, during the High Level Meeting on road safety in June 2012, including road safety experts representing EU Member States. The existing scale of the trauma "Maximum Abbreviated Injury Score" (MAIS) was identified as the solution for a common definition. This choice was confirmed by the High Level Group meeting in January 2013. The seriously injured person is identified by a score $MAIS \geq 3$.
http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/kallas/headlines/news/2013/03/doc/swd%282013%2994.pdf