



DRINK-DRIVING FACT FILE

November 2022



LUXEMBOURG



INTRODUCTION

Road deaths in Luxembourg were 27% lower in 2021 compared to 2011. That progress was slightly below the EU average of 31%. Road mortality, at 38 deaths per million inhabitants, is relatively low, compared to other countries. However, the annual number of deaths in countries as small as Luxembourg may be subject to substantial annual fluctuations.

Figure 1. Relative change in road deaths between 2011 and 2021. *National provisional estimates used for 2021, as final figures for 2021 are not yet available at the time this report went to print.

**UK data for 2021 are the provisional total for Great Britain for the year ending June 2021 combined with the total for Northern Ireland for the calendar year 2021. The annual number of deaths in LU and MT are particularly small and, therefore, subject to substantial annual fluctuations. The annual numbers of deaths in CY and EE are also relatively small and may be subject to annual fluctuations.

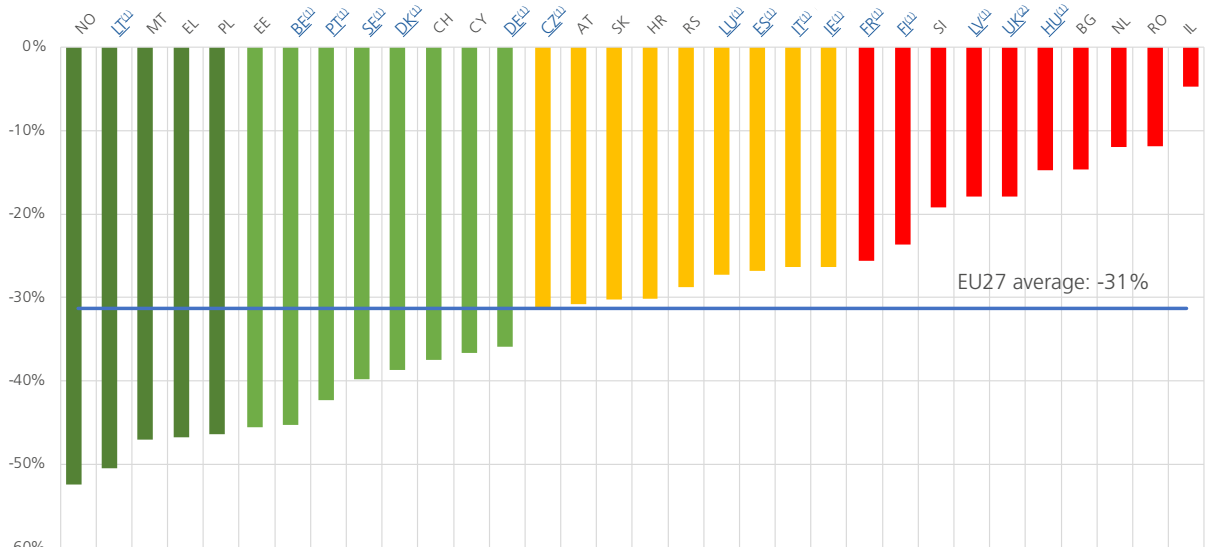
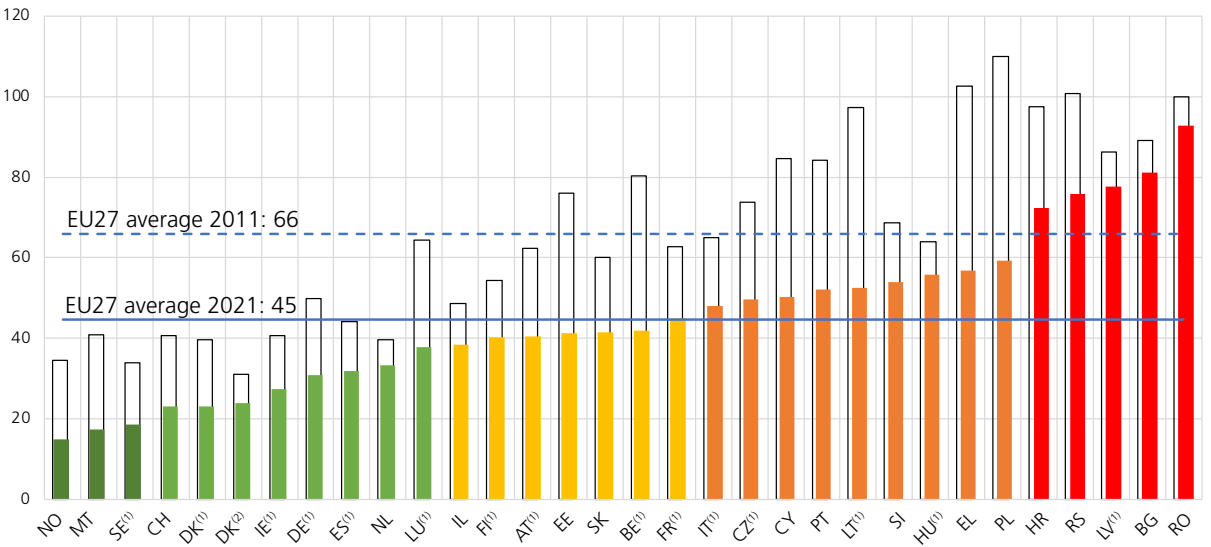


Figure 2. Mortality (road deaths per million inhabitants) in 2021 (with mortality in 2011 for comparison).

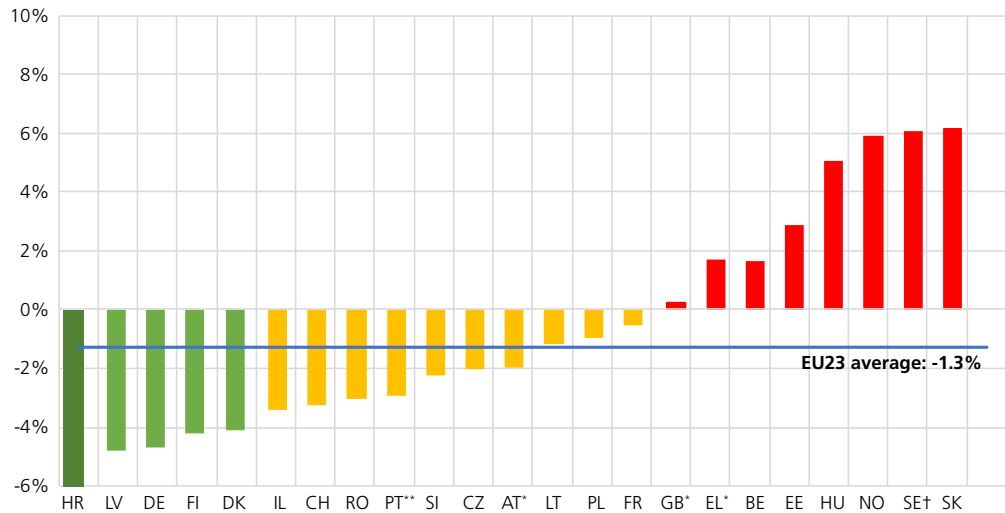
(1) National provisional estimates used for 2021, as final figures for 2021 were not available at the time this report went to print. The annual number of deaths in LU and MT are particularly small and, therefore, subject to substantial annual fluctuations. (2) UK 2021 estimate is based on GB provisional total for the year 2021 and the provisional data for Northern Ireland for the calendar year 2021, population data is an estimate for the year 2021.



Alcohol-related road deaths decreased at a faster rate than all other road deaths combined in the period from 2010 to 2019, as shown in the graph below. The COVID-19 pandemic and accompanying restrictions on mobility had an impact in many countries on road deaths including those attributed to alcohol. Luxembourg saw road deaths attributed to alcohol reduce from 10 in 2019 to 2 in 2020.

Figure 3. Difference between the average annual change in the number of road deaths attributed to alcohol and the corresponding change for other road deaths over the period 2010–2019

(1) PT: Number of road deaths attributed to alcohol are not available, so numbers of positive forensic post-mortem tests of drivers, passengers and pedestrians were used instead. (2) ES: data for Catalonia and the Basque Country are not available. (3) RS: data collection methodology changed in 2016. Serbia is working to improve alcohol-related fatal collision data collection according to the EU guidelines on the Common Accident and Injury Database (CaDas).
EU 23: EU 27 Member States minus Ireland, Italy, Malta and the Netherlands due to insufficient data.





NATIONAL POLICIES

Timeline of national measures to tackle drink-driving:

2007

The legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level was lowered from 0.8 to 0.5g/l. At the same time, the level for novice and professional drivers was set at 0.2g/l.

Two levels of drink-driving offence were defined: driving under the influence of alcohol and "heavy" drink-driving.

A BAC level equal to or greater than 0.5g/l, but less than 1.2g/l, is considered as driving under the influence of alcohol and constitutes a serious violation, with two points lost under the penalty points system. A BAC level equal to or greater than 1.2g/l is considered as "heavy" drink-driving.

2007

2015

2015

Blood alcohol level ≥ 0.8 - $< 1.2\text{‰}$ → loss of four points (instead of two)



BAC LIMITS AND SANCTIONS

The legal limit for
**standard
drivers**

is:

0.5g/l



The legal limit for
novice and professional drivers

is:

0.2g/l

Sanctions are included in the table below:



BAC level (g/L)



Fine in €



Points lost



Driving licence
withdrawal



Driver arrested



Prison

BAC level (g/L)	Fine in €	Points lost	Driving licence withdrawal	Driver arrested	Prison
<0.5g/l	-	-	-	-	-
0.5 TO 0.8g/l	145	2	-	-	-
0.8 TO 1.2g/l	Up to 500	4	-	YES	-
$\geq 1.2\text{g/l}$	500 to 10 000	6	YES	YES	Between eight days and three years



ENFORCEMENT

Luxemburg does not collect national data on the number of roadside alcohol checks but only on alcohol-related offences treated by the police in which the breath alcohol concentration or blood alcohol concentration was found to be above the legal limit or where drink-driving could be proven by driving behaviour.

Based on this, 1034 drivers were caught while driving above the legal limit in 2020, compared to 1606 in 2019.



REHABILITATION AND ALCOHOL INTERLOCK PROGRAMMES

No alcohol interlock programme is in place in Luxembourg.



CAMPAIGNS

No drink driving campaigns were recently carried out in Luxembourg. A new campaign is planned for 2022-2023.



SOURCES

Sanctions:

<https://police.public.lu/en/legislation/code-de-la-route/alcool-au-volant.html>

ETSC, 16th PIN Annual Report (2022):

https://etsc.eu/wp-content/uploads/16-PIN-annual-report_FINAL_WEB_1506_2.pdf

ETSC, How traffic law enforcement can contribute to safer roads (2022):

https://etsc.eu/wp-content/uploads/ETSC_PINFLASH42_v2TH_JC_FINAL_corrected-060522.pdf