



Feb 02, 2017 10:39 GMT

RAC comments on drink-drive road casualty estimates for 2015

Commenting on [new figures released today](#), RAC road safety spokesman Pete Williams said:

“These estimates for 2015 are a real cause for concern as they show a statistically significant rise in the number of people killed or seriously injured in accidents where at least one driver was over the limit when compared to 2014. There has also been a rise in the overall drink-drive casualties of all severities over the same period.

“While there is still considerable uncertainty in this figure as it’s an estimate, if it proves to be correct when the final numbers are released in August 2017 it will be the first rise in this type of drink-drive casualty since 2010.

“With Scotland having lowered its drink-drive limit you would hope to see figures at least staying the same, not rising. The only logical conclusion is that more drivers are prepared to risk breaking the law, sadly with tragic consequences.

“Figures from the 2016 RAC Report on Motoring show 6% of motorists have admitted they have driven at least once whilst over the limit, a rise from 3% in 2012, so our concern is that perhaps the messaging on the dangers of drink-driving needs to be strengthened.

“It would be extremely worrying if this was happening because of the fact there are fewer traffic police on the road. We’ve seen the number decline by 27% over the last five years in England and Wales as chief constables seek to manage priorities with decreased budgets leaving us with fewer than 4,000 dedicated officers to enforce motoring laws.”

The press office email address is press.office@rac.co.uk and media centre is at media.rac.co.uk. **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using [myRAC](#) – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

Contacts



RAC Press Office

Press Contact

press.office@rac.co.uk

Emails monitored during normal office hours. For breakdown queries, call 0330 159 0740

ISDN number on request