## **Road deaths over the holiday period – frequently asked questions**

### December 2024

**When does the official Christmas holiday period start and finish?**

* The Christmas holiday period starts at 4pm on Tuesday 24 December and runs until 6am on Friday 3 January 2025.
* For an explanation of when the official holiday periods start and end go to:

[Holiday periods (safety – road deaths, transport.govt.nz)](https://www.transport.govt.nz/statistics-and-insights/safety-road-deaths/sheet/holiday-periods)

**Why does the road death figure on the Ministry of Transport website differ from what’s being reported in the media?**

* The Ministry’s website automatically updates the number of road deaths based on crash reports provided by NZ Police.  There can be a delay between the crash happening, the data being sent to us by NZ Police and our website updating.
* Sometimes our system will automatically exclude a crash from the provisional road deaths if the information provided suggested it should be excluded, for example the crash didn’t occur on a public road or it was a result of a medical condition.

**Why would a crash be excluded?**

* There are several reasons why deaths are not included in the road fatalities. For more information see:

[Glossary and references (statistics and insights – transport.govt.nz)](https://www.transport.govt.nz/statistics-and-insights/glossary-and-references)

**Why is the data provisional?**

* The road death data is correct as at the stated date. The figures can change if, for example, more information is provided by NZ Police, or following a Coronial review.

**How do I see the current road deaths for this holiday period?**

* For the current figures go to:  
  [Holiday periods (safety – road deaths, transport.govt.nz)](https://www.transport.govt.nz/statistics-and-insights/safety-road-deaths/sheet/holiday-periods)

**Can I get more specific or historical data?**

* For more detailed information on road deaths, go to the ‘Daily updated provisional road deaths’ page, choose the ‘All data’ tab and filter by ‘Holiday type’:

[Daily updated provisional road deaths (statistics and insights – transport.govt.nz)](https://www.transport.govt.nz/statistics-and-insights/safety-road-deaths/sheet/year-to-date-road-deaths)

* For historical annual road death information go to:

[Deaths on the road since 1921 (statistics and insights – transport.govt.nz)](https://www.transport.govt.nz/statistics-and-insights/safety-road-deaths/sheet/death-on-nz-roads-since-1921)