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Death rates and numbers of deaths from road use among teenagers aged 15-19 in England and Wales by sex, with cumulative changes in death rates, 1985-95

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Motorcyclist*</th>
<th>Pedestrian†</th>
<th>Pedal cyclist‡</th>
<th>Car occupant§</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>12.1 (248)</td>
<td>1.4 (27)</td>
<td>3.2 (65)</td>
<td>1.8 (35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>11.8 (236)</td>
<td>1.1 (21)</td>
<td>4.1 (83)</td>
<td>2.0 (39)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>11.0 (216)</td>
<td>0.9 (17)</td>
<td>3.3 (64)</td>
<td>1.8 (33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>8.9 (169)</td>
<td>0.9 (16)</td>
<td>2.9 (56)</td>
<td>1.3 (24)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>8.5 (155)</td>
<td>1.0 (17)</td>
<td>3.6 (65)</td>
<td>1.9 (33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>8.5 (150)</td>
<td>0.9 (15)</td>
<td>1.9 (34)</td>
<td>1.5 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>6.3 (105)</td>
<td>0.7 (11)</td>
<td>2.7 (45)</td>
<td>1.7 (27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>4.4 (71)</td>
<td>0.7 (10)</td>
<td>2.0 (32)</td>
<td>1.3 (19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>3.0 (47)</td>
<td>0.3 (5)</td>
<td>2.2 (34)</td>
<td>1.3 (19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>3.1 (48)</td>
<td>0.3 (4)</td>
<td>1.7 (26)</td>
<td>1.5 (22)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>2.5 (39)</td>
<td>0.0 (0)</td>
<td>2.1 (32)</td>
<td>0.6 (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>7.6 (142)</td>
<td>0.8 (141)</td>
<td>2.8 (536)</td>
<td>1.6 (285)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage change in death rate (95% CI)</td>
<td>1985-95</td>
<td>-78 (-81 to -75)</td>
<td>-81 (-90 to -67)</td>
<td>-51 (-63 to -35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1995-96</td>
<td>-31 (-42 to -17)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>-39 (-54 to -20)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*E810-819 ending in .2 or .3. †E810-819 ending in .7. ‡E810-819 ending in .6, and E826. §E810-819 except ending in .2, .3, .6, or .7.

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Comment

The 32% decline in mortality from unintentional injury among people aged 15-19 since 1985 is largely due to falling mortality among motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. These declines correspond to large decreases in motorcycling, walking and cycling. Mortality among car occupants has not declined, despite a 27% decrease in deaths per km travelled by car, because of the large increases in the distance travelled by car. Transport patterns are an important determinant of adolescent health. Strategies to influence transport patterns could substantially reduce mortality from road crashes.

We gratefully acknowledge the Office for National Statistics and the Department of Transport for providing data for this study. Contributors: CD participated in study formulation, design and analysis, interpreted the results, and wrote the paper. LL performed the statistical analysis, and edited the paper. IR obtained the data, participated in study formulation and design, and interpretation of results, and edited the paper. Guarantors: CD and IR.

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Conflict of interest: None.