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611 injured e-scooter drivers in first half of 2023

E-scooters involved in 4.3% of all accidents with personal injuries

Vienna, 2023-10-25 – According to Statistics Austria, 611 e-scooter drivers were injured in road traffic accidents in the first half of 2023, and another person died in an e-scooter accident. A total of 179 people died in traffic accidents in Austria by June of this year, 6% fewer than in the first half of 2022. 22% of all those killed were in heavy truck accidents, the highest proportion since 1992.

“E-scooters have become part of the street scene in Austria. Therefore, they are now also shown as a separate category in the road traffic accident statistics. The use of e-scooters is not without risk. Between January and June 2023, there were 679 e-scooter accidents with personal injury on Austria’s roads. This means that an e-scooter was involved in every 23rd accident. More than one third of all e-scooter accidents were solo accidents, i.e. they took place without the involvement of other road users,” explains Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

Injured or fatally injured e-scooter drivers were on average 34 years old and 71% of them were male. In the cases in which the e-scooter drivers caused the accident, the most common causes of the accident were carelessness/distraction (27%), followed by disregard of rules and prohibitions (24%) and impairment caused by alcohol, drugs or medication (18%).

Most of the e-scooter casualties, namely 139, were registered in Vienna. In general, accidents with e-scooters occurred significantly more often in large cities compared to accidents of other traffic units: 50% of all accidents with e-scooters were registered in one of the six cities with more than 100 000 inhabitants. By comparison, 36% of all bicycle accidents occurred in these cities. The most frequent accident opponents were cars (40%), followed by bicycles (10%) and pedestrians (9%), with a further 35% of e-scooter accidents being single-vehicle accidents.

Proportion of those killed in heavy truck accidents in relation to all traffic fatalities has never been higher

40 people were killed in accidents involving a heavy truck (over 3.5 t) between January and June 2023. This means that 22% of all fatalities occurred in heavy truck accidents, which is the highest proportion since digital records began in 1992.

Number of women killed in road traffic accidents at highest level since 2014

In the first half of 2023, 60 women were killed in traffic accidents, 7% more than in the first six months of last year and the highest figure in the past ten years. Women were proportionally killed more often while being pedestrians (20%, compared to men: 9%). Another remarkable observation was the higher proportion of seat belts used by fatally injured female car occupants (86%, compared to men: 56%).

High number of children injured

In the first half of 2023, 1 309 children (up to 14 years) were injured in road accidents, the highest figure in the past six years. The majority, specifically 485 children (37%) were injured as car occupants, another 292 children (22%) as pedestrians and 238 children (18%) as cyclists. 37% of these pedestrians were injured on the safety path or sidewalk. In addition, two children had fatal accidents, one as a pedestrian on a safety path and one as a car passenger.

More detailed results are available on our [website](#).

Table 1: Injuries and fatalities in first half 2022–2023 by traffic unit

Traffic unit	Injuries		Fatalities	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Pedestrians	1 447	1 589	26	23
Bikes ¹	4 824	3 943	23	18
Scooter ²	-	632	-	1
Thereof e-scooter	-	611	-	1
Mopeds	1 275	1 229	5	6
Motorcycles	1 720	1 631	31	29
Passenger Cars	9 384	9 300	90	89
Trucks ³	624	632	10	9
Other	716	791	6	4
Traffic unit total	19 990	19 747	191	179

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents – preliminary results. – 1) incl. e-bikes, until 2022 also electric scooters; – 2) from 2023 onwards new category. – 3) incl. articulated vehicles.

Table 2: Road traffic accidents, injuries and fatalities in the first half 2019–2023

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Change of casualties 2022/23 in %
Accidents	16 187	12 525	14 065	16 042	15 727	-2.0
Injuries	20 602	15 524	17 585	19 990	19 747	-1.2
Fatalities	196	152	151	191	179	-6.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents – preliminary results.

Information on methodology, definitions: Statistics Austria has been compiling and publishing statistics on road traffic accidents with personal injury since 1961. The traffic accidents are recorded electronically by the police authorities and transmitted to Statistics Austria via a web service. The currently published half-year results are to be regarded as provisional until the final annual results are available, as changes to the accident data (e.g. subsequent injury reports) that subsequently become known are still possible by the Federal Ministry of the Interior or the police authorities.

Injury accident: Any accident involving at least one road vehicle in motion on a public road, resulting in at least one injured or killed person.

Casualties: include persons injured or killed in and as a result of an accident

Person killed: Any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of an injury accident.

The traffic unit **bicycle** also include e-bikes and until the reporting year 2022 electric scooters as well. From 2023 onwards, they will be published within the separate category **scooter**.

Heavy trucks include trucks, semitrailer trucks and tractor-trailer vehicles of more than 3.5 t.

The information on the **presumed main originator** of the accident is provided according to the assessment of the police authorities who carry out the registration of the accident

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