

Exercise 17: Tables

It is usually harder to describe tables than graphs and pie charts, mainly because they lack the visual organisation in the latter. However, the same principles apply to tables as to graphs: look for patterns. In addition, it might help you to draw a simple line graph next to each line of data, if it is too long to see a visual image immediately.

Study the table below and look for patterns in the data relating to **land transport only** i.e. excluding Foot, Water and Air.

Passenger death rates: by mode of transport

Great Britain	Rates per billion passenger kilometres					Average 1983-1993
	1981	1986	1991	1992	1993	
Motorcycle	115.8	100.3	94.4	97.0	94.6	104.0
Foot	76.9	75.3	62.5	58.5	56.2	70.5
Pedal cycle	56.9	49.6	46.8	43.4	41.3	48.8
Water ¹	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	9.2
Car	6.1	5.1	3.7	3.5	3.0	4.6
Van	3.8	3.8	2.2	2.2	1.7	2.7
Rail	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.9
Bus or coach	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.5
Air ¹	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2

¹ Data are for United Kingdom

Source: Department of Transport, Social Trends 1996, Table 12.15

The table shows clearly that the passenger dying rates by type of transport between 1981 and 1993 in the U.K. With a glance, it is immediately clear that motorbikers-passengers had a the highest rates and air transport were the safest during the years.

Despite of public awareness, the passer-by and bicycle had the second and third position in passengers' death rate. Less than 4% for death rates were connected to the other people using ships and boats, trains, automobiles, vans and buses-transportation, during the corresponding period. The death rate for car and van passengers' dropped slightly, by contrast, the rates for coaches show some fluctuations. The Death rate for water transportation reached a peak in 1986 and hit a zero in 1987, this variation were was repeated for a couple-another years. The pedal cycle rates dipped slightly, having it had 25% of death rates, though.

The Top death rate for motorcycle, bicycle and foot passengers, been-is an alarm for their advocates especially sport men and women. Frequencies-Frequent travelers, using flight and railway, can travel with peace-full.