

LEADING CAUSED OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS JAMAICA 2016-2022

The leading causes of traffic accidents or crashes

This indicator identifies the main reasons or circumstances that leads to a traffic accident. Three reasons stand out and these are namely excessive speeding; failing to keep near side (left lane) i.e. proper traffic lane; and pedestrians walking or standing in the roadway.

In order to measure this indicator, a count of the number of times each incident occurs after an investigation is concluded.

Figure 1.0

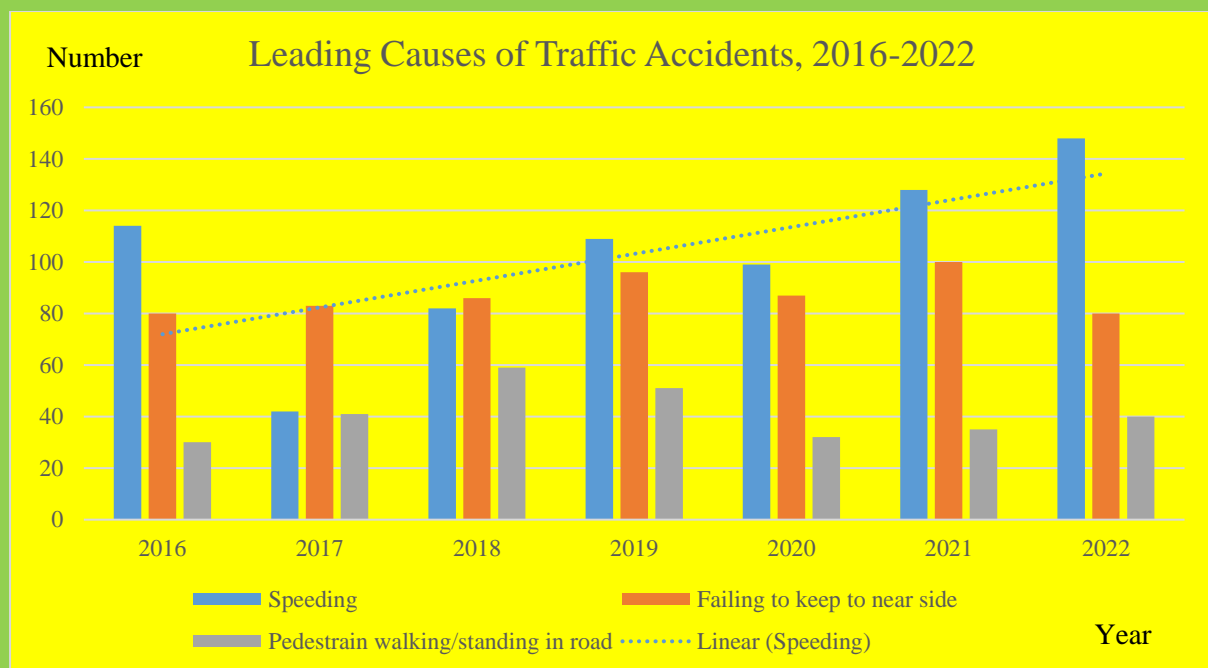


Table 1.0

Speeding	114	42	82	109	99	128	148
Failing to keep to near side	80	83	86	96	87	100	80
Pedestrian walking/standing in road	30	41	59	51	32	35	40
Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

Three causes for traffic accidents were identified in this document and these were tracked for the period 2016 to 2022. Observing the overall trend for the three causes identified, it was noted that the trend for excessive speeding was an upward one using a linear model (Figure 1.0). The other two causes remain generally flat. Excessive speeding has consistently been the leading cause of traffic accident, for the period with the year 2017 and 2018 been the only years that, failing to keep left side recorded higher values. Pedestrian's incidents had consistently been the lowest and this is so for all the years under investigation.

The highest value recorded for excessive speeding was 128 and this occurred in 2021, while the highest recorded value for failing to keep left side was 100, and also in 2021 and finally the highest recorded value for pedestrian walking/standing in the roadway been 59 and in the year 2018 (Table 1.0).

It is observed that the pattern mapped out by the data for pedestrian involving crashes is actually cyclic with peaks occurring in the years 2018 and 2022; and troughs in the years 2016 and 2020. This is the only reported cause for traffic crashes that has displayed this pattern in the short time frame.

It must be noted that the data on Motor Vehicle Crashes are based on reports made to the nearest Police Station within 24 hours of the collision. There are limitations that may occur as a result of one-sided reports, which oftentimes limit information gathering and hinder Police investigations. So consideration should be given to the limitations provided above when interpreting the data.