

UK Road Safety: Traffic Accidents & Vehicles



POLITECNICO DI MILANO
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF BUSINESS

Fundamentals of Statistics – Group Project

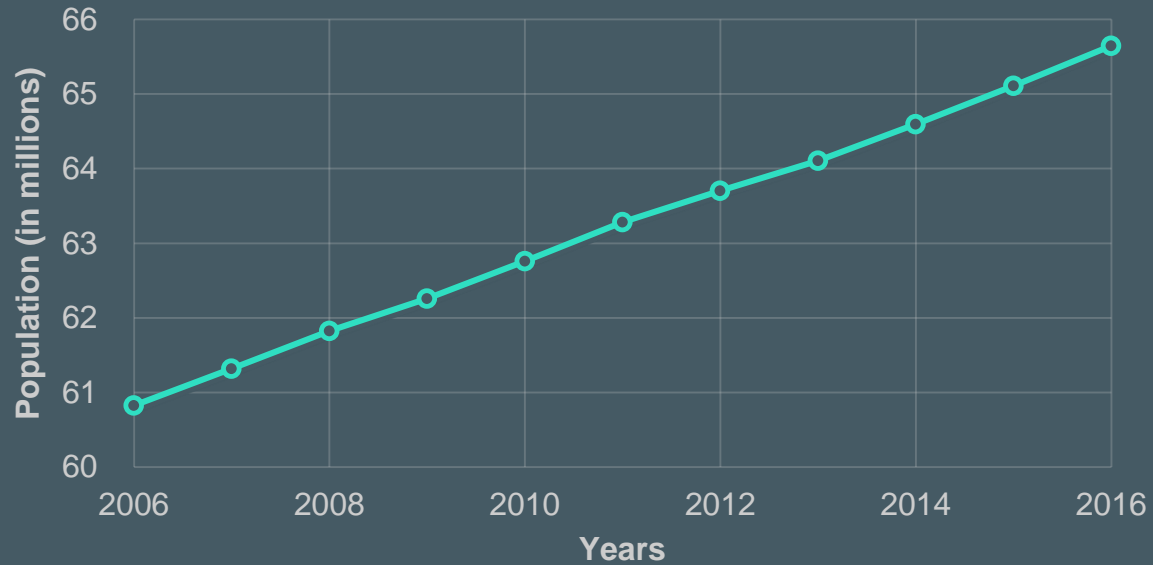
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Business Problem Identification

UK TOTAL POPULATION (MILLIONS)



ACCIDENTS IN UK



Data Sources & Methodology



DATABASE

2 Open Databases published by the UK Government.

They include many parameters about the driver, the conditions of the accident, the causes, the number of people involved, the vehicle information



TIME FRAME

Data range selected goes from 2006 to 2016



NEW DATAFRAME

Merged the two databases into one to start our analysis.

New dimensions of the new set of data is:

1,946,120 observations of 27 variables



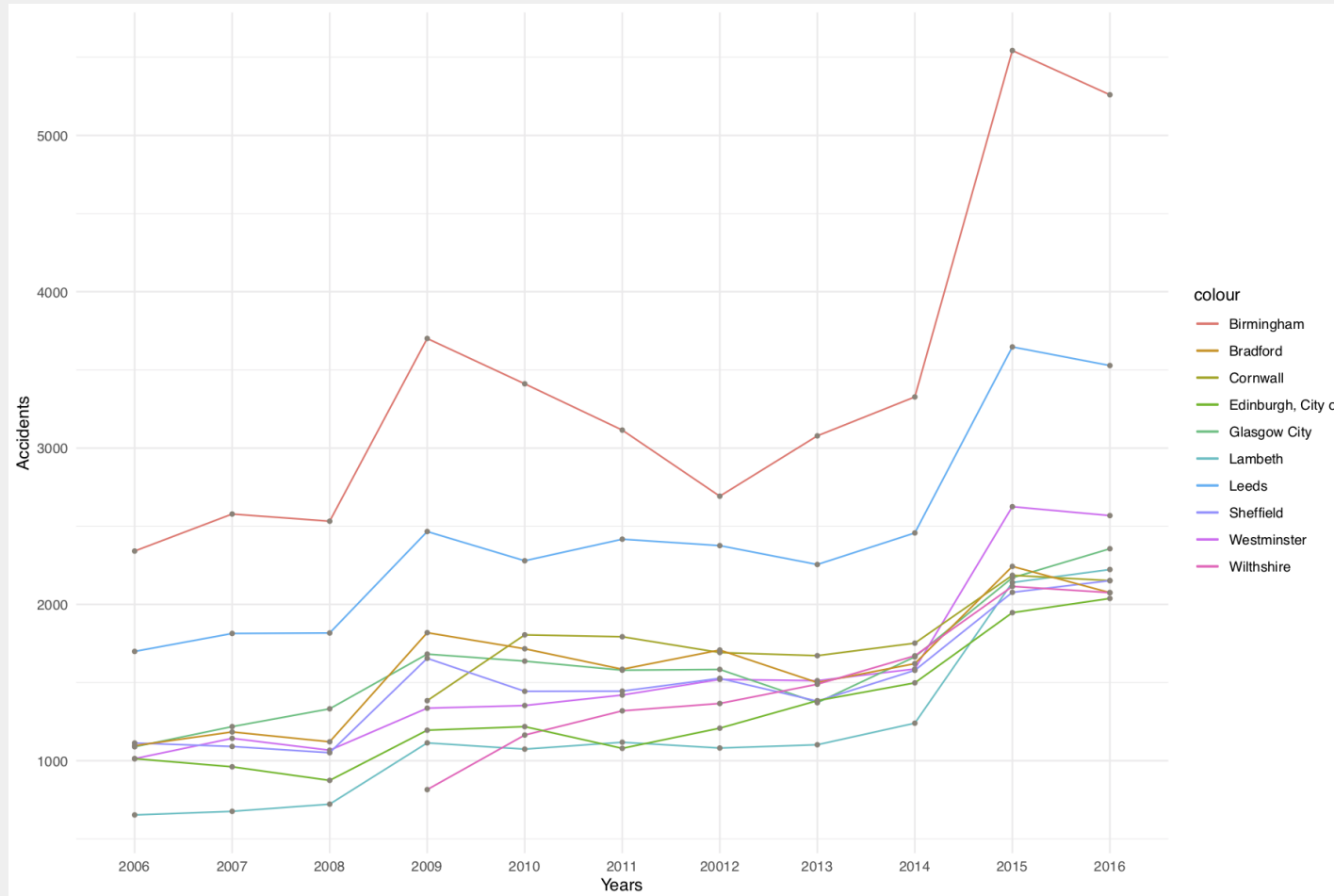
DATA CLEAN

- Kept only relevant variables
- Excluded null and unknown values



UK Car Accidents 2006 – 2016

Accidents in top 10 cities by accident count 2006-2016



Cities with most accidents in 2016 in the UK:

- 01 Birmingham
- 02 Leeds
- 03 Westminster
- 04 City of Edinburg
- 05 Lambeth

Birmingham

- Focus on the city of **Birmingham** which reports the **highest number of road accidents** between 2006 and 2016
- Evaluate which variables cause the majority of the accidents



Our Decision Maker

Birmingham City Council

- Carries out studies into the cause of accidents on roads in their area
- Takes appropriate measures to **prevent** such accidents
- Provides **road safety education**, training and publicity for all ages and types of road user, from pre-school to the elderly

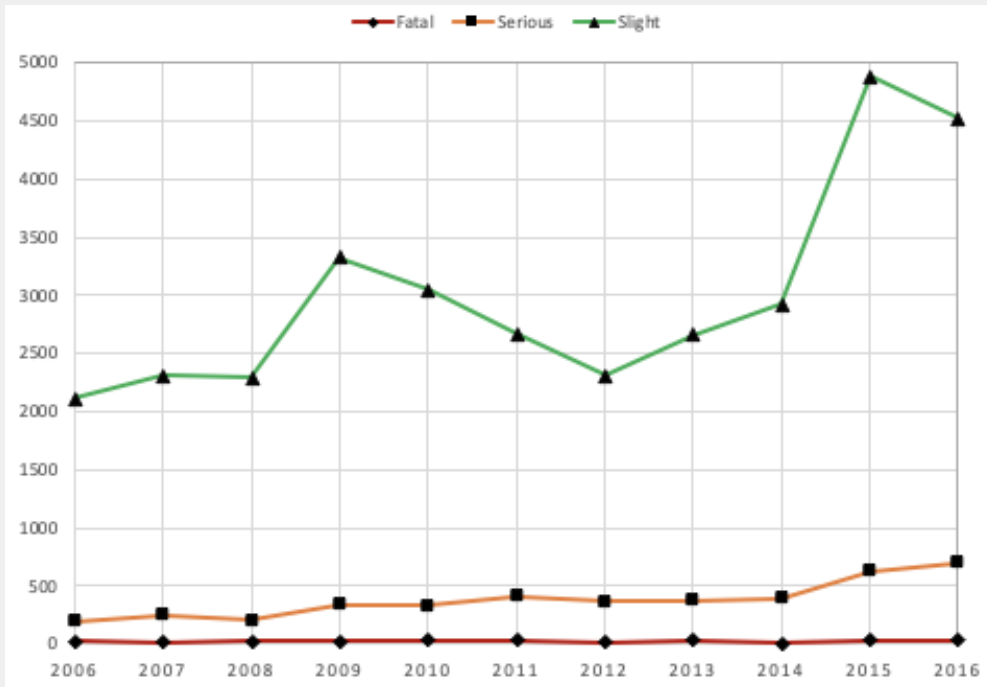


«Which are the main causes of road accidents & how can the number be reduced? »

Birmingham Geographic Area & Accidents

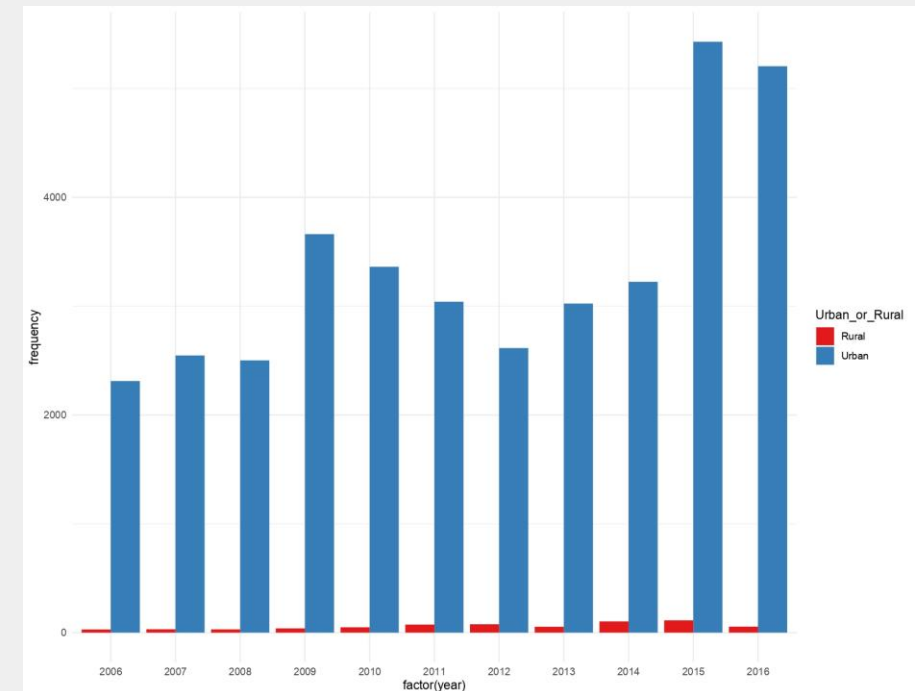
Severity

Accidents severity in Birmingham 2006-2016



- Number of **Slight** Accidents → 33,051 (88%)
- Number of **Serious** Accidents → 4,214 (11%)
- Number of **Fatal** Accidents → 313 (1%)

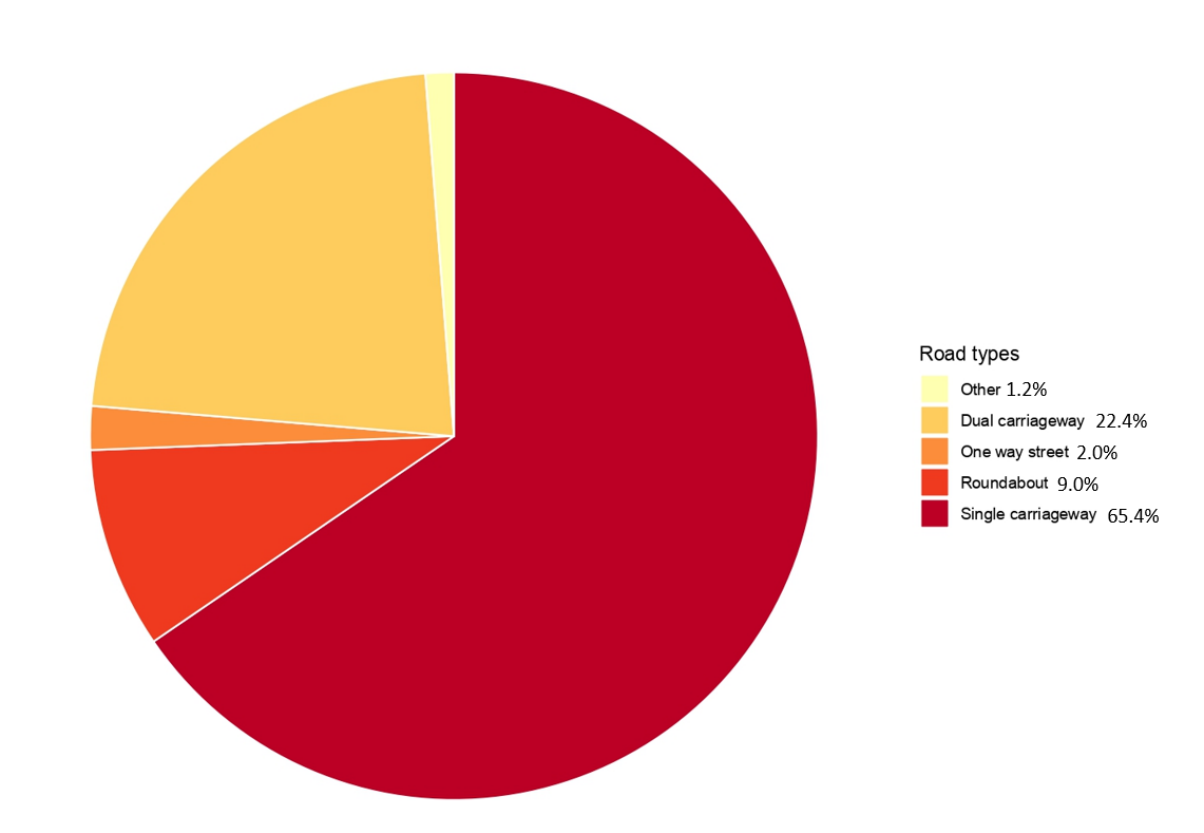
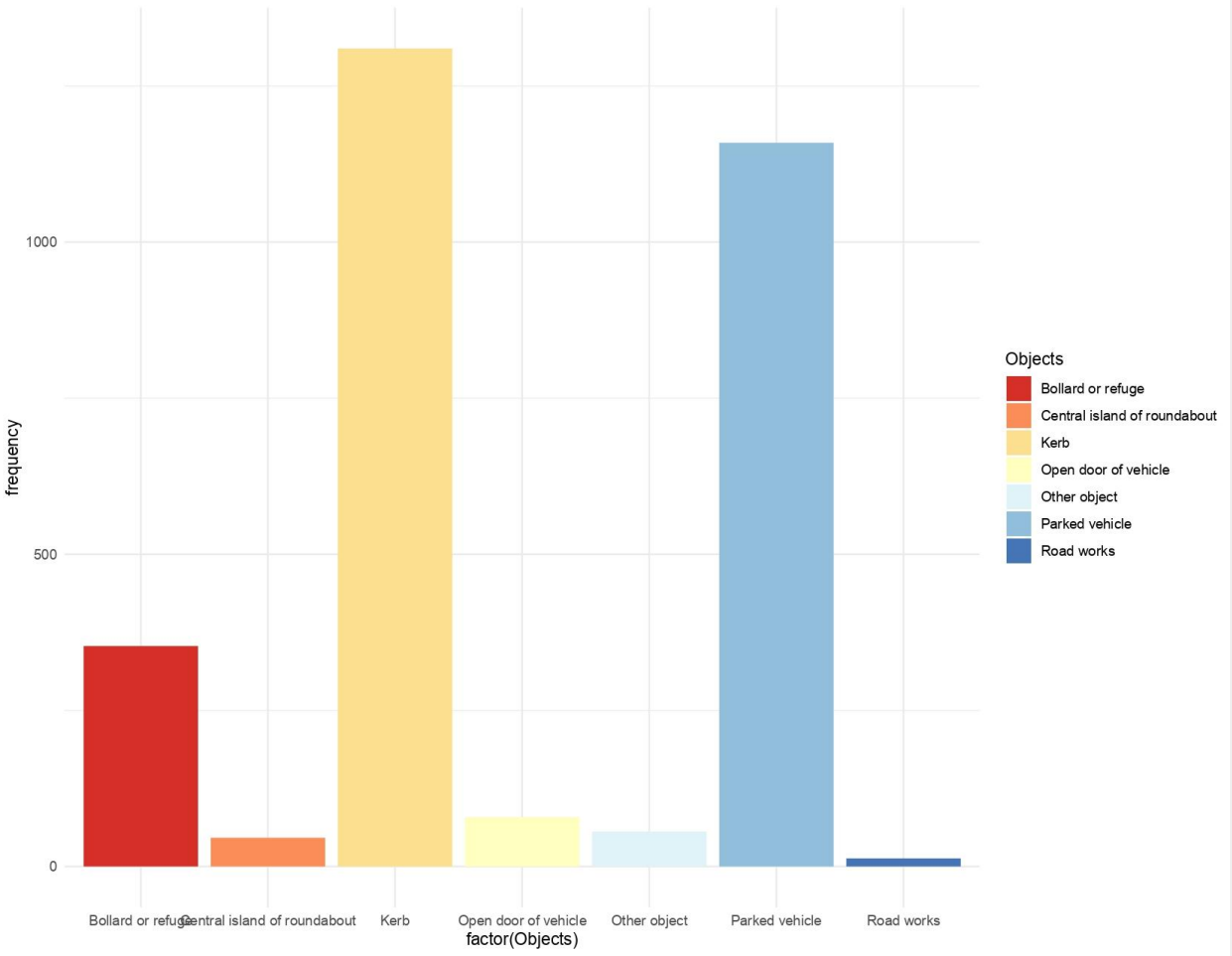
Accidents in Birmingham Rural vs. Urban areas
2006-2016



Birmingham Road Conditions

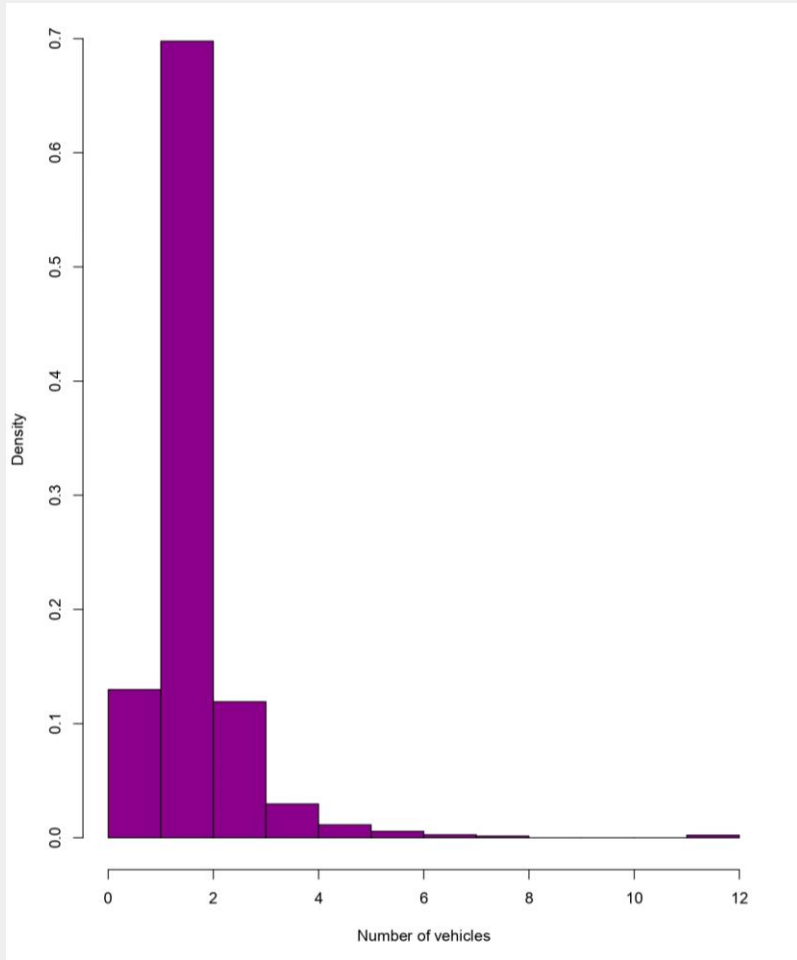
Accidents in Birmingham in 2016 –
Pie chart of road conditions

Objects hit in Car Accidents in 2016

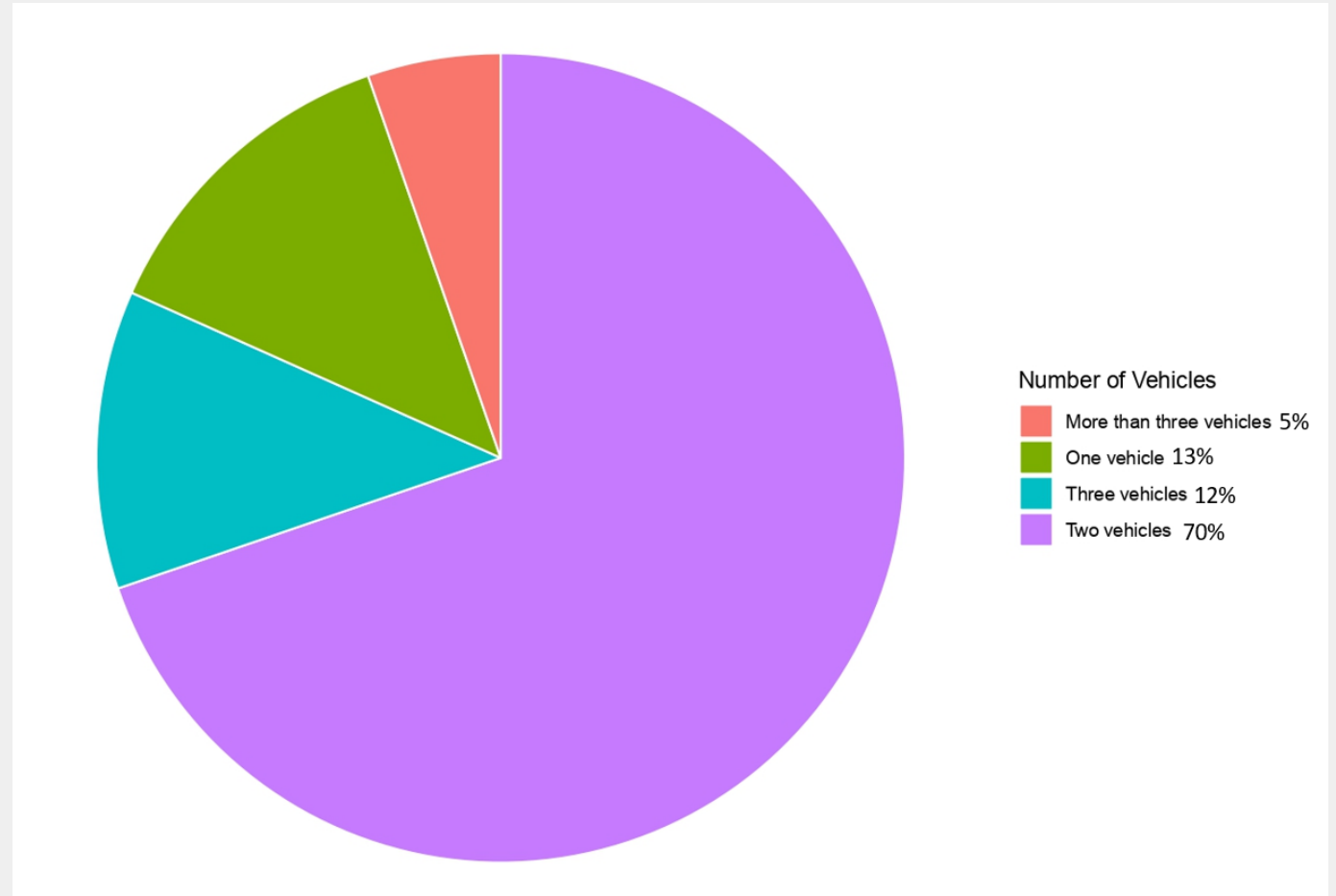


Birmingham Number of Vehicles Involved

Accidents in Birmingham in 2016 –
Histogram of number of vehicles involved

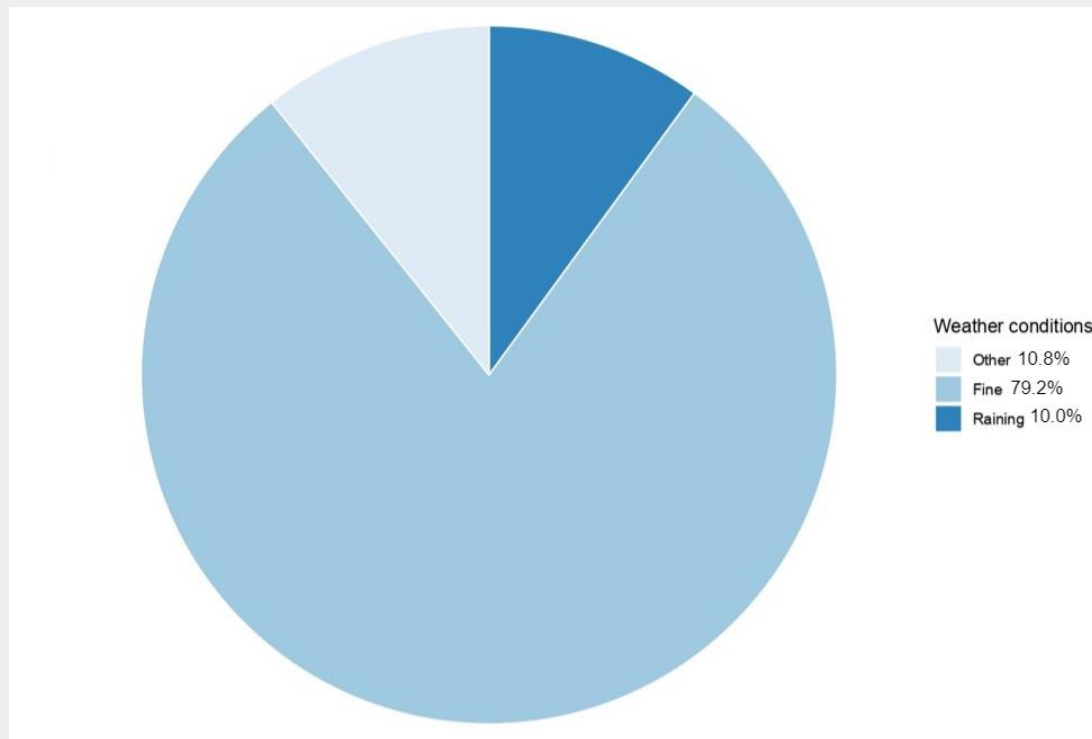


Accidents in Birmingham in 2016 –
Pie chart of number of vehicles involved (grouped)

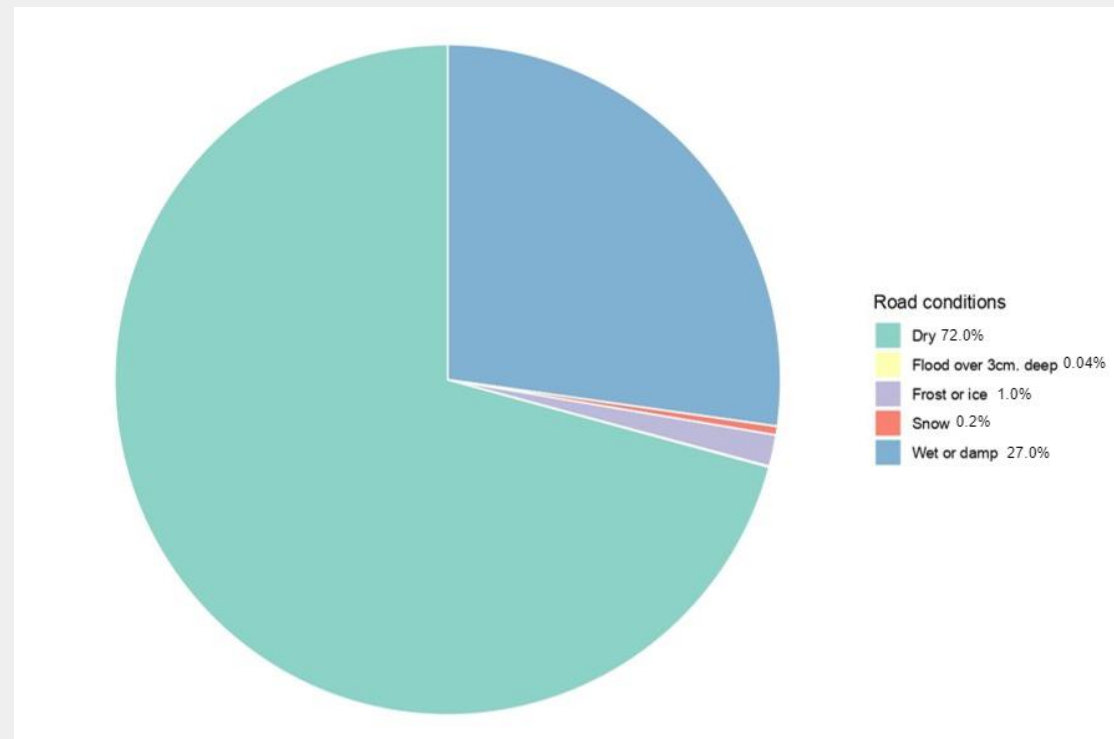


Birmingham Road and Weather Conditions

Accidents in Birmingham in 2016 –
Pie chart Weather Condition



Accidents in Birmingham in 2016 –
Pie chart of Road Conditions




*Note:

- The **wetter season** lasts **8.5 months**, with a greater than **28%** chance of a given day being a wet day
- The **drier season** lasts **3.5 months**, and the smallest chance of a wet day is **22%** on **July 13**

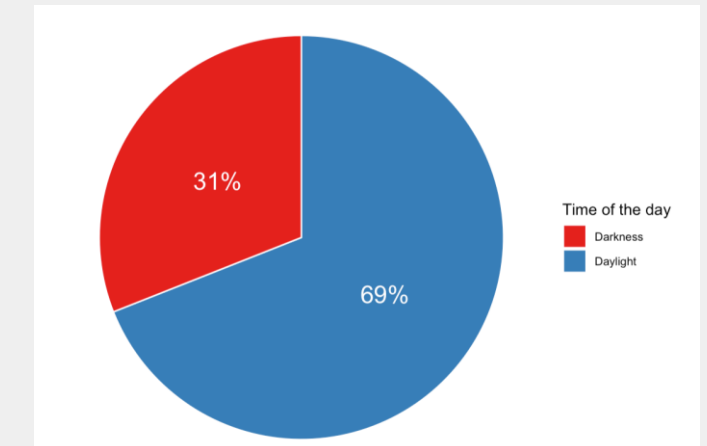
Accidents behaviour by time

Heat Map of accidents in Birmingham in 2016 - by Months and Days of the Week

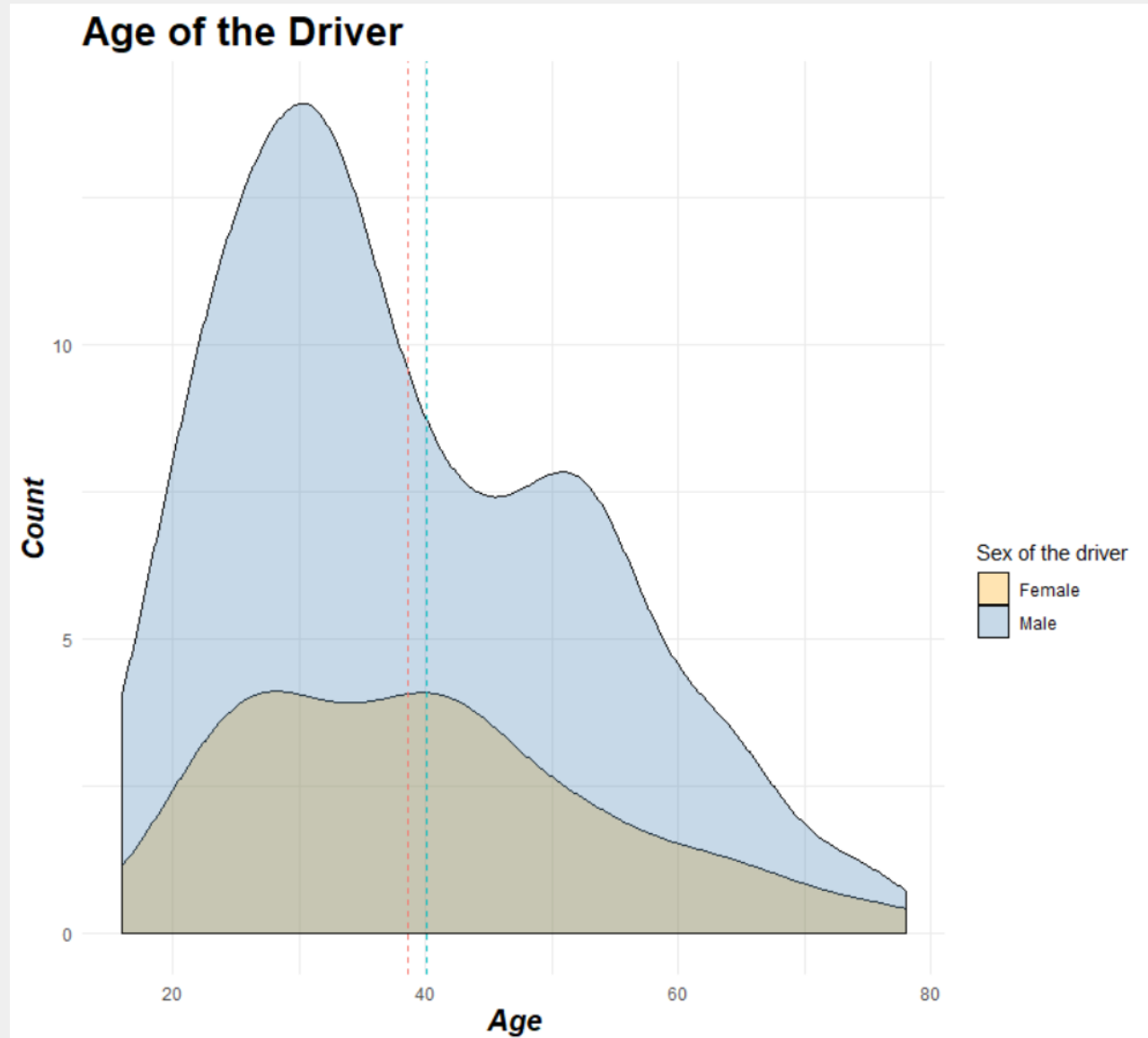
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Totals
January	425	448	507	420	478	407	307	2992
February	417	525	463	456	544	321	302	3028
March	402	492	527	544	581	377	301	3224
April	372	403	399	435	463	434	311	2817
May	514	529	490	417	500	386	335	3171
June	430	416	553	520	521	408	342	3190
July	483	476	458	436	569	480	427	3329
August	389	499	561	448	503	370	323	3093
September	425	460	405	462	656	461	327	3196
October	458	469	415	349	454	357	312	2814
November	402	470	566	516	502	361	247	3064
December	398	412	420	456	550	408	258	2902
Totals	5115	5599	5764	5459	6321	4770	3792	

Lower  Higher

Pie chart of accidents in Birmingham in 2016 - during dark vs. light



Drivers' Characteristics



Graph depicts the age **distribution of drivers involved in the accidents**

- Younger drivers engage in a greater number of accidents unsafe traffic safety compared to older drivers

Conclusions



ROAD CONDITIONS

Improve road conditions to reduce 'slippery'

For example: usage of porous concrete that allows rainwater to flow through it

ONE-WAY

Construct roads to divert traffic from congested area.

For example: Increase the number of one-way roads

MAINTENANCE

Implement road maintenance by better signaling bollards and kerbs

CONTROL

From the day-month heatmap, we can suggest to increase response time during rush-days

REPORTING

Citizens can report odd situations (for example broken, dirty, damaged or dumped streets, and need fixing, cleaning or clearing. Also potholes or streetlights that don't work) by using the *FixMyStreet* app

Note: The weather conditions, road conditions & collision objects provide useful insights for policy makers to understand how accidents happen and provide solutions to limit the cause

Conclusions

Our Recommendations:

- **Develop roads conditions** in order to make them less slippery. For ex: usage of porous concrete that allows rainwater to flow through it
- Construct roads to divert traffic from congested area. For ex: **Increase the number of one - way roads**
- **Implement road maintenance** by better signaling bollards and kerbs
- From the day-month heatmap, we can suggest to **increase response time during rush-days**
- The weather conditions, road conditions & frequency of type of collision objects, these insights are useful for policy makers to understand how accidents happen and provide solutions to limit the cause
- Citizens can **report things** which are broken or dirty or damaged or dumped, and need fixing, cleaning or clearing, potholes or streetlights that don't work in **FixMyStreet** app

THANK YOU

