SWISS REPORT ON ROAD ACCIDENT TRENDS (2005/2006)

1. Short-term trends in road accidents

The year 2005 (final figures)

The final accident figures[1] for 2005 show that the positive trend of recent years did continue. Last year, the number of traffic fatalities decreased by enormous 19.8 percent to 409 (Table 1), compared to the mean of the last five years they decreased by 24.4 percent. The number of injured persons decreased by 6.9 percent, compared to five years before they decreased by 10.1 percent. These results are proof that the road safety measures, especially the lower alcohol limit and accompanying legal measures, are paying off. More detailed information is available in the bfu SINUS-Report 2006 (**http://www.bfu.ch/pdf/sinus.pdf**) in German language. French and Italian versions will be available soon.

Table 1: **Injuries and fatalities, 2005 vs. 2000 - 2004**

	2005	**Δ (2004)**	**Δ (Ø2000-2004)**
Injuries	26,754	- 6.9 %	- 10.1 %
Fatalities	409	- 19.8 %	- 24.4 %

Trends in 2006, first semester (preliminary figures)

Data on the accidents of the first semester 2006 were collected by survey. Compared with 2005, the provisional data show again significant changes. During the first semester, the number of traffic fatalities decreased by 16 percent to 153 (Table 2), the number of injuries decreased by 8 percent to 11,500.

Table 2: **Injuries and fatalities in first semester, 2006 vs. 2001 - 2005**

	2006 (provisional)	**Δ (2005)**	**Δ (Ø2001-2005)**
Injuries	11,500	- 8 %	- 18 %
Fatalities	153	- 16 %	- 34 %

[1] Data on road accidents in Switzerland are recorded by the police and collected by the Federal Office for Statistics. Since 1992 (introduction of a new Registration procedure), no changes have been made to the Swiss system for registering accidents.

2. Long-term trends in road accidents

Table 3: **Serious injuries, slight injuries and fatalities, 1980 – 2005**

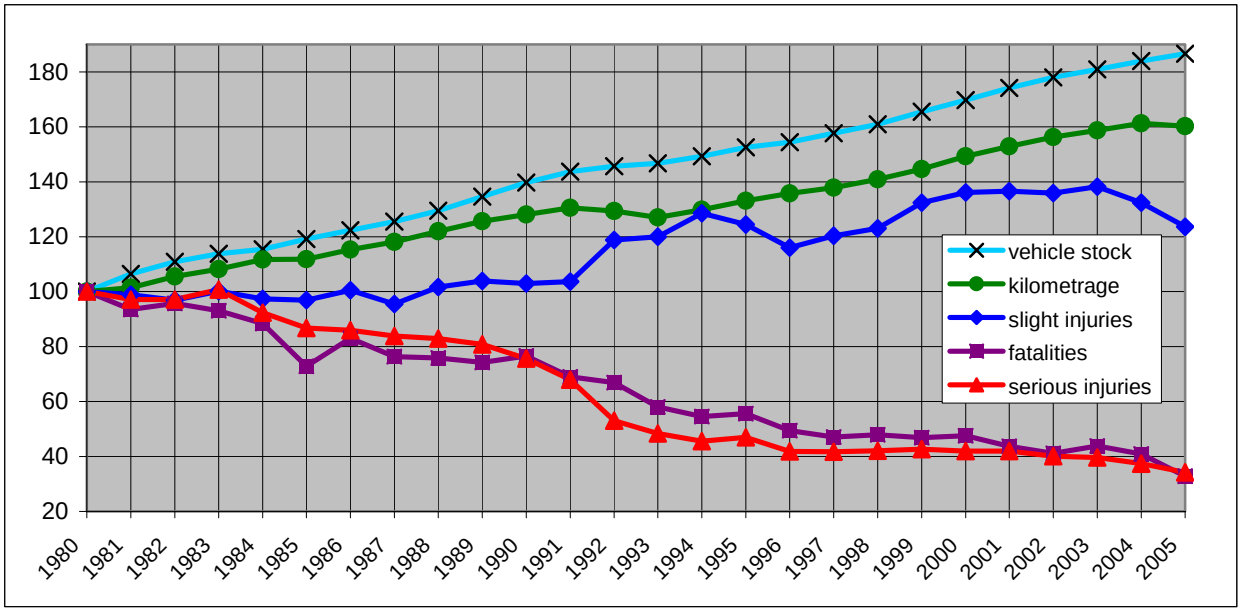
year	serious injuries	slight injuries	fatalities
1980	**14,782**	**17,544**	**1,246**
1981	14,363	17,339	1,165
1982	14,361	16,997	1,192
1983	14,894	17,577	1,159
1984	13,656	17,073	1,101
1985	12,823	17,004	908
1986	12,703	17,643	1,034
1987	12,396	16,754	952
1988	12,255	17,828	945
1989	11,939	18,220	925
1990	11,182	18,061	954
1991	10,052	18,188	860
1992	7,844	20,839	834
1993	7,149	21,061	723
1994	6,739	22,539	679
1995	6,933	21,826	692
1996	6,177	20,362	616
1997	6,166	21,120	587
1998	6,213	21,577	597
1999	6,299	23,228	583
2000	6,191	23,867	592
2001	6,194	23,966	544
2002	5,931	23,843	513
2003	5,862	24,236	546
2004	5,528	23,218	510
2005	**5,059**	**21,695**	**409**

Indices

year	serious injuries	slight injuries	fatalities
1980	**100**	**100**	**100**
1981	97	99	93
1982	97	97	96
1983	101	100	93
1984	92	97	88
1985	87	97	73
1986	86	101	83
1987	84	95	76
1988	83	102	76
1989	81	104	74
1990	76	103	77
1991	68	104	69
1992	53	119	67
1993	48	120	58
1994	46	128	54
1995	47	124	56
1996	42	116	49
1997	42	120	47
1998	42	123	48
1999	43	132	47
2000	42	136	48
2001	42	137	44
2002	40	136	41
2003	40	138	44
2004	37	132	41
2005	**34**	**124**	**33**

3. Traffic and accident development in figures

Figure 1: **Development of vehicle stock, kilometrage, injuries and fatalities, 1980 – 2004**



4. International comparison

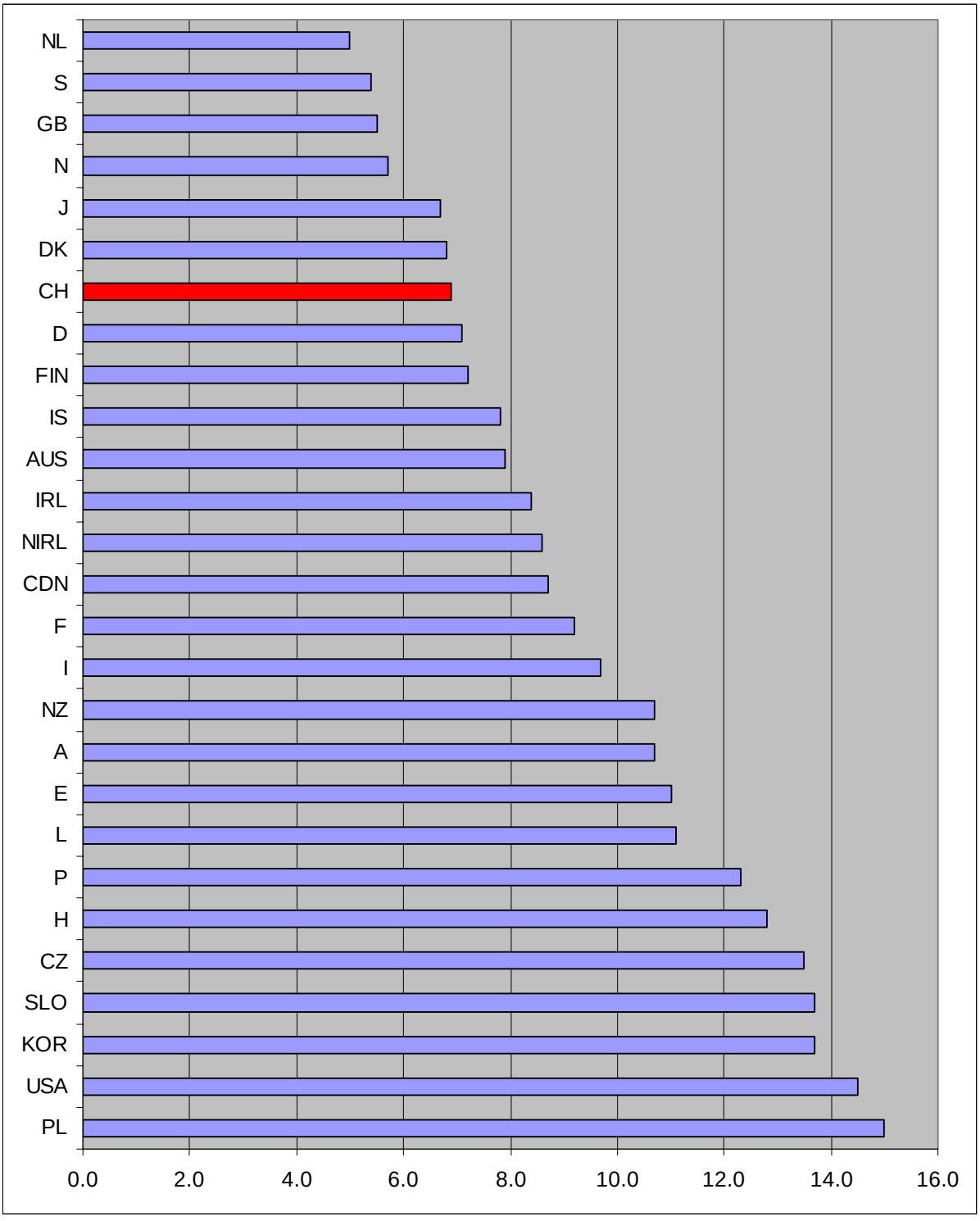
In the last 24 years the death rate (road fatalities per 100'00 inhabitants) decreased in Switzerland from 19.2 to 6.9 (Table 4). Compared to other OECD countries, the death rate in Switzerland is close to the lowest (Figure 2). Were Switzerland to have the same risk as Sweden or Great Britain in terms of population, there would be around 100 fewer fatalities and 1,000 fewer seriously injured persons on Swiss roads per year.

Table 4: **Road fatalities per 100'000 inhabitants in OECD countries, 1980 – 2004**

	1980	1990	2000	2004
A	26.5	20.3	12.2	10.7
AUS	22.3	13.7	9.5	7.9
B	24.3	19.9	14.4	…
CDN	22.7	14.9	9.5	8.7
CH	**19.2**	**13.9**	**8.3**	**6.9**
CZ	12.2	12.5	14.5	13.5
D	19.3	14.0	9.1	7.1
DK	13.5	12.4	9.3	6.8
E	17.7	23.2	14.6	11.0
F	25.5	19.8	13.6	9.2
FIN	11.6	13.1	7.7	7.2
GB	11.0	9.3	5.9	5.5
GR	15.0	20.2	19.3	...
H	15.2	23.4	12.0	12.8
I	16.4	12.4	11.1	9.7
IRL	16.6	13.6	11.0	8.4
IS	11.0	9.5	11.3	7.8
J	9.7	11.8	8.2	6.7
KOR	17.2	33.5	21.8	13.7
L	27.0	18.5	17.5	11.1
N	8.9	7.8	7.6	5.7
NIRL	14.9	11.6	10.2	8.6
NL	14.2	9.2	6.8	5.0
NZ	18.9	21.4	12.1	10.7
P	27.7	28.3	18.1	12.3
PL	16.8	19.2	16.3	15.0
S	10.2	9.1	6.7	5.4
SK	...	...	11.6	…
SLO	29.2	25.9	15.7	13.7
TR	...	14.8	7.6	…
USA	22.5	17.9	14.9	14.5

(source: IRTAD; 2003 data for Canada and Ireland)

Figure 2: **Road fatalities per 100'000 inhabitants in selected OECD countries, 2004**



(source: IRTAD; 2003 data for Canada and Ireland)