# Dashcam footage exposes surge in reckless driving ahead of UK bank holiday



Dashcam footage has increasingly illuminated some of the UK's most perilous drivers, capturing a range of shocking behaviours from reckless overtaking to blatant disregard for traffic signals. As the year progresses, particularly during busy periods like the upcoming bank holiday weekend, concerns about the safety of UK roads are magnifying. An alarming wave of impatience among drivers is contributing to risky behaviour, prompting experts to issue warnings about the consequences of such actions.

Nextbase, a leading dashcam firm, recently compiled distressing video evidence that showcases drivers exhibiting dangerous manoeuvres. The footage reveals shocking examples of motorists speeding through red lights, crossing pedestrian pathways, and overtaking on blind bends, all in a desperate bid to shave mere seconds off their journey times. This sort of driving not only endangers the drivers themselves but also poses significant risks to other road users, including pedestrians and cyclists.

Bryn Brooker, head of road safety at Nextbase, expressed growing concerns about the imminent bank holiday. “What we're seeing just ahead of one of the biggest driving weekends of the year is genuinely alarming,” he noted. With approximately 20 million drivers expected to take to the roads each day during this busy period, the potential for chaos on the roads is high. Brooker emphasised that this reckless behaviour is not just a minor nuisance but represents a serious threat to public safety, showcasing a disturbing willingness among some drivers to flout the Highway Code.

The statistics on dangerous driving are sobering. In 2023, the National Dash Cam Safety Portal reported a staggering increase of over 33,000 submissions of irresponsible driving behaviours, marking a 30% rise from the previous year. Notably, around 70% of these videos prompted police action, indicating that public engagement in reporting such behaviours is becoming an essential tool in combating road danger. Specific regions like the West Midlands and Northumberland have particularly high rates of dashcam footage being turned into actionable police responses.

This trend underscores a growing societal commitment to road safety, as the public increasingly takes it upon themselves to document and report dangerous driving. With approximately one in five vehicles now equipped with dashcams, the evidence collected is being used increasingly in legal contexts. Since 2018 alone, over 57,000 clips of dangerous driving have been submitted, with a significant percentage being used in prosecutions against offenders. The impact is palpable: the authorities are more equipped than ever to address dangerous driving.

Another facet to consider is the propensity for lengthy traffic jams during peak periods, such as the May bank holiday. The AA has already cautioned drivers to expect severe congestion, particularly in areas around tourist hotspots and major retail parks. The combination of increased leisure travel and impatience from drivers could lead to an uptick in dangerous driving incidents.

Yet, despite these alarming trends, awareness and vigilance are on the rise. Recent compilations of footage released by various police forces, including Lancashire, highlight the urgent need for public intervention in promoting road safety. By pushing back against dangerous behaviours, the public can play a crucial role in preventing potential tragedies on the roads.

In conclusion, as the UK prepares for another busy driving weekend, it is imperative for motorists to resist the urge to prioritise speed over safety. Reports suggest that treating the Highway Code as an inconvenience continues to pose a risk to all road users. The consequences of these actions, both legal and potentially fatal, serve as stark reminders of the responsibilities inherent in driving.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2. Paragraph 4
3. Paragraphs 2, 4
4. Paragraph 4
5. Paragraph 4
6. Paragraph 2
7. Paragraph 4

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14731647/UK-worst-motorists-dashcam-videos.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.rac.co.uk/drive/news/motoring-news/more-than-33000-dangerous-driving-videos-sent-to-police-in-2023/> - In 2023, the National Dash Cam Safety Portal received over 33,000 dangerous driving videos, marking a 30% increase from the previous year. About 70% of these submissions led to police action, including prosecutions. The West Midlands, West Mercia, Northumberland, Warwickshire, and South Yorkshire regions processed over 23,000 of these videos, highlighting a significant rise in public involvement in reporting dangerous driving behaviors.
3. <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/dec/30/rise-in-dashcam-submissions-leads-to-more-dangerous-drivers-being-caught> - The number of dashcam videos submitted to UK police increased by 30% in 2023, with over 33,500 videos sent to authorities by November. Approximately 70% of these submissions resulted in police action, ranging from warning letters to prosecutions. The Midlands and northern regions saw the highest number of submissions, indicating a growing public initiative to report dangerous driving.
4. <https://www.roadsafe.com/increasingdashcamevidenceusedbypolice> - With one in five vehicles now equipped with dash cams, motorists are increasingly capturing and submitting footage of driving offenses to the police. This trend has led to a significant rise in the use of dashcam evidence in legal proceedings, with over 57,000 video clips of dangerous driving sent to the National Dash Cam Safety Portal since 2018, resulting in 70% being used as evidence to punish offenders.
5. <https://media.rac.co.uk/pressreleases/89-dashcam-videos-of-driving-offences-sent-to-police-every-day-3070663> - In 2019, UK police forces received an average of 89 dashcam videos daily, totaling 32,370 submissions that year. This marked a significant increase from 2018, with a quarter of these submissions leading to prosecutions. The Metropolitan Police received the highest number of submissions, totaling 8,082, reflecting the growing role of public involvement in reporting driving offenses.
6. <https://www.independent.co.uk/tv/news/uk-dangerous-drivers-dashcam-video-b2068307.html> - Lancashire Police released a compilation of dashcam footage highlighting dangerous driving behaviors, including running red lights and driving the wrong way down dual carriageways. The footage, captured by other drivers' dashcams, underscores the risks posed by reckless driving on British roads and the importance of public vigilance in reporting such incidents.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/videos/c89l8v3qd7go> - The BBC reports on the increasing role of the public in capturing and submitting footage of dangerous driving to the police. With an estimated 150,000 clips sent to police in England and Wales annually, approximately 90% result in drivers being sanctioned. The West Midlands Police have set up a special portal to allow the public to submit footage as part of an operation targeting dangerous driving.