

road safety issues

Invercargill City

Land Transport New Zealand has prepared this report based on reported crash data and trends for the 2000–2004 period. The intent of the report is to highlight the key road safety issues within Invercargill City.

Road crashes in Invercargill City over the five-year period have killed 17 people and injured over 1,300. Nearly 1,500 non-injury crashes also occurred over the same period.

The number of reported injury crashes fell again in 2004, from 210 to 197. This fall was made up of a 50 percent drop in rural crashes, while urban crash numbers increased slightly.

One measure used to gauge road safety performance is the number of crashes per 10,000 population. In 2004 this was 38, a reduction on 2003 but still above the national rate of 25. The peer group rate fell to 24. The difference can partly be explained by the high crash reporting rate in the Southern Police District.

The proportion of different road users injured in Invercargill City is shown to the right and is further detailed over the page.



2004 road trauma for Invercargill City



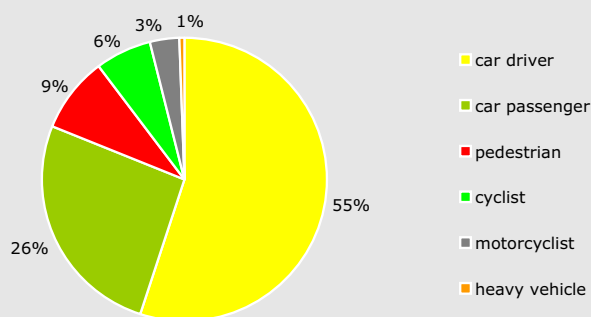
Deaths	2
Serious casualties	35
Minor casualties	239



Fatal crashes	2
Serious injury crashes	32
Minor injury crashes	163
Non-injury crashes	277

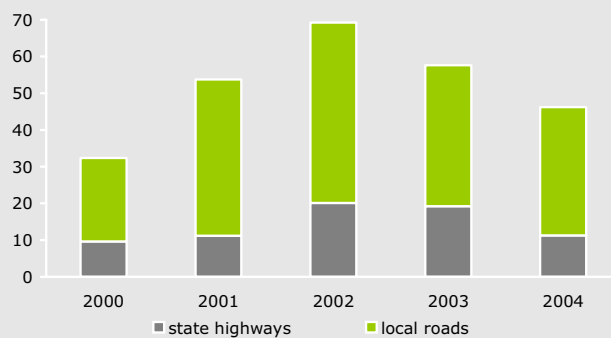
Road casualties 2000–2004

User type 2000–2004



Estimated social cost of crashes*

Social cost (\$ million)



*The estimated social cost includes loss of life or life quality (estimated by the amount New Zealanders are prepared to pay to reduce their risk of fatal or non-fatal injury), loss of output due to injuries, medical and rehabilitation costs, legal and court costs, and property damage. These costs are expressed at June 2004 prices.

Major road safety issues

Nationally

Speed

Alcohol

Failure to give way

Restraints

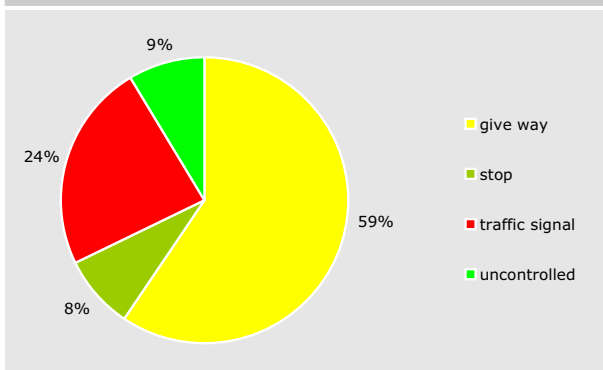
Urban crashes

The proportion of injury crashes that occurred in urban areas of Invercargill City, including Bluff, reached 90 percent of the total number of all crashes for the first time. This occurred due to the fall in crashes reported on rural roads.

Over 250 people were injured in 178 urban crashes last year. There were also 256 non-injury crashes reported to the Police. Just over half the total number of urban crashes occurred at intersections.

The two intersections with the highest number of reported crashes were at each end of Gala Street. There were eight crashes at the intersection with Queens Drive and seven at Dee Street. Both of these are signalised intersections – nearly one quarter of all intersection crashes last year took place at traffic signals, as shown on the chart below.

Intersection control 2004



There were two fatalities within Invercargill itself in 2004. The two crashes were very similar – both involved a vehicle failing to give way at an intersection controlled by Give Way signs.

In total there were 20 intersections in Invercargill City with three or more reported crashes in 2004. While both SH 1 and SH 6 run through the centre of Invercargill, three quarters of the urban crashes last year took place on local roads.

Fourteen crashes on urban roads involved alcohol last year. At eight percent of all urban crashes, this is the lowest rate seen in the city for more than 10 years and is half that of 1999.

Over one third of urban crashes last year occurred on a wet road surface. This figure is significantly higher than the less than 25 percent average across the country.

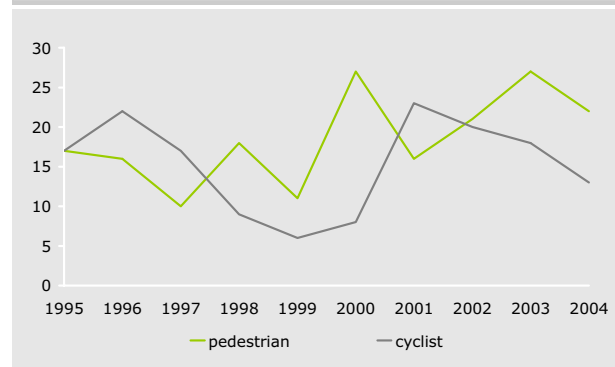
Both male and female 15 to 19 year olds are over-represented in Invercargill City crash statistics. Over the last five years nearly one in five drivers involved in an injury crash was from this age group.

Eighty-four percent of the male drivers from this age group were at fault in the crash while for females the figure was 74 percent. Less than 20 percent of the at-fault drivers in this age group held a full licence.

The number of over 60-year-old drivers involved in injury crashes over the last five years is also slightly higher than the national average.

The graph below shows the number of pedestrians and cyclists injured on Invercargill roads over the last 10 years.

Pedestrian and cyclist casualties



As shown above, the number of pedestrian casualties fell to 22 last year. At eight percent of all casualties this is the same as the national rate. However, as with other user groups, the 15 to 19 year age range is over-represented in Invercargill. More than twice as many pedestrians of this age have been injured over the last five years than any other age group.

For the third consecutive year the number of cyclists injured fell and, at 13, is now below the national average for the first time in 10 years. The 10 to 14 year age group has made up nearly one third of cyclists injured since 2000, a figure slightly higher than for the rest of the New Zealand.

This report is a brief summary of crashes that took place on Invercargill roads in 2004. For more detailed information contact Land Transport New Zealand at the address below.



Dunedin Regional Office

450 Moray Place
PO Box 5245
Dunedin

Telephone 03 951 3009
Fax 03 951 3013

www.landtransport.govt.nz