



briefing notes - road safety issues

Selwyn District

New Zealand Transport Agency has prepared this road safety issues report. It is based on reported crash data and trends for the 2004–2008 period.

The intent of the report is to highlight the key road safety issues and be a resource to identify possible ways to reduce the number of road deaths and injuries in Selwyn District.

In each new report one year's data is added to a five year block and the oldest dropped so it is unlikely that the core issues would change radically from report to report.

The issues chosen for this report are drawn from either the most common crash types, those that appear over-represented when Selwyn District is compared to similar local bodies or those with high social cost (high numbers of fatal and serious crashes mainly).

We have included a brief overview of crashes in the district.

We encourage Selwyn District to delve deeper into the highlighted issues and other road safety issues in the district. Contact the NZTA Christchurch Performance Information team for additional information from the Ministry of Transport's Crash Analysis System (CAS). All data and maps in this note are from CAS.

Major road safety issues

Selwyn District

Straight road loss of control or head-on

Intersections

2008 road trauma

Casualties

Selwyn District

Deaths 4

Serious casualties 29

Minor casualties 115

Nationally

Speed

Alcohol

Failure to give way

Restraints

Crashes

Fatal crashes

Serious injury crashes

Minor injury crashes

Non-injury crashes

Selwyn District

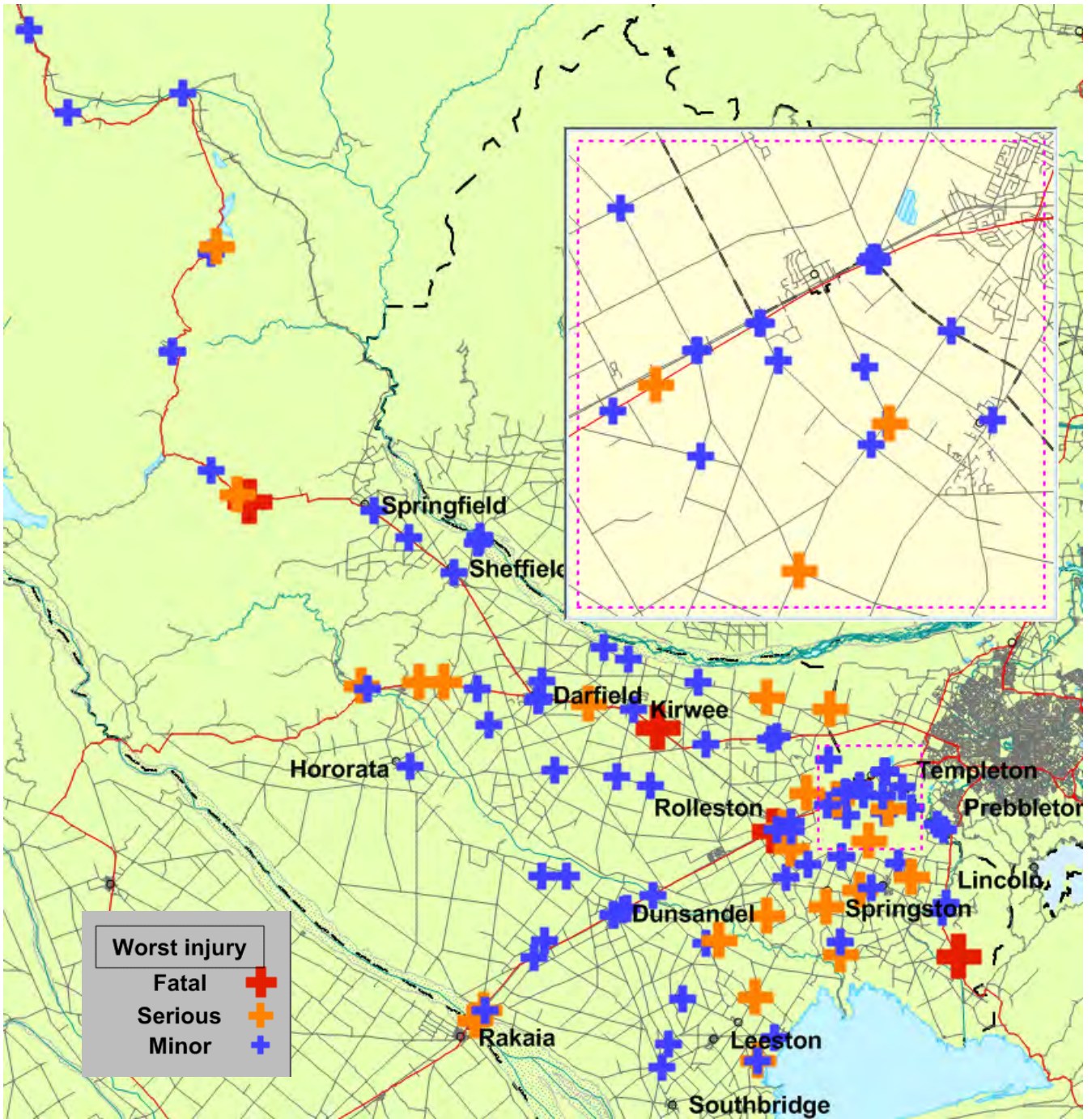
4

24

79

147

Fatal and injury crashes
Selwyn District
2008



Overview

In 2008 on local roads in Selwyn District there were 64 injury crashes and 84 non-injury crashes. In addition there were 43 injury crashes and 63 non-injury crashes on State Highways both as reported by the New Zealand Police.

The table below shows the number of injuries resulting from the 107 injury crashes by rural or urban areas (rural is defined as an area with a speed limit of 80km/h or more).

Casualties by urban / rural 2008

	Fatalities	Serious injuries	Minor injuries	Total
Rural	7	27	94	128
Urban	0	2	21	23
Total	7	29	115	152

In 2008, all fatal crashes, 93 percent of serious injuries and 82 percent of minor injuries were sustained in crashes in rural areas of the district.

In 2007, the number of fatal crashes was the highest in the last ten years. In 2008 the number dropped to be the same as the previous low. Overall there is an upward trend in the total crash numbers. This is largely due to an increase in minor injury crashes.

Crash trends in Selwyn District

Year	Fatal Crashes	Serious Crashes	Minor Crashes	Total Crashes
1999	6	15	42	63
2000	5	28	41	74
2001	11	21	61	93
2002	4	17	56	77
2003	4	21	45	70
2004	5	17	46	68
2005	9	19	55	83
2006	4	18	61	83
2007	14	26	61	101
2008	4	24	79	107

Injury crashes 2004 to 2008

Crash type or contributory cause 2004 to 2008	Local road Percentage injury crashes	State Highway Percentage of injury crashes
Alcohol	16	9
Too fast	15	14
At bends	19	29
At intersections	43	23
Road factors	12	10
On straights	29	32

Vulnerable road users - casualties

Road user type	Local road Percentage of all casualties	State Highway Percentage of all casualties
Pedestrians	1	1
Cyclists	5	1
Motorcycles	8	6
Total vulnerable	14	8

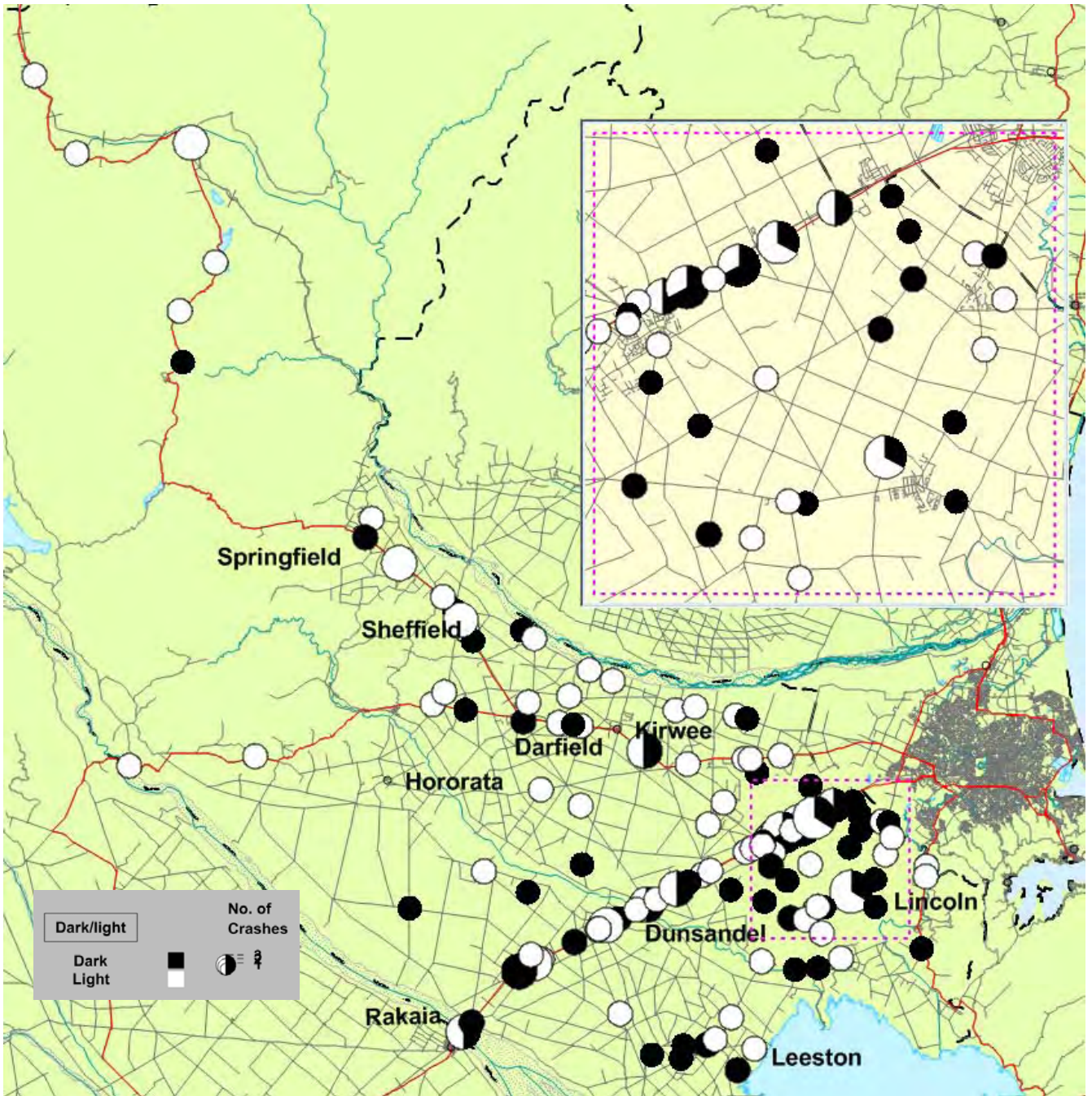
Further information about 2004 to 2008 injury crashes on local roads in Selwyn District :

- Worst month April
- Worst day Friday
- 28 percent on wet or icy roads
- 30 percent at night
- 43 percent at intersections
- 143 roadside objects struck
- Social cost of crashes in 2008 \$16.7 m

Further information about 2004 to 2008 injury crashes on State Highways in Selwyn District :

- Worst month November, December
- Worst day Sunday
- 21 percent on wet or icy roads
- 26 percent at night
- 23 percent at intersections
- 129 roadside objects struck
- Social cost of crashes in 2008 \$25.9 m

Injury straight road - loss of control or head on crashes
Selwyn District
2004 - 2008



Straight road –loss of control or head on

Between 2004 and 2008 thirty one percent of all injury crashes in Selwyn District were straight road - loss of control or head on crashes. These 135 crashes resulted in 12 fatalities, 48 serious injuries and 137 minor injuries.

Straight road - loss of control or head on injury crashes 2004 to 2008

Crash year	Fatal crashes	Serious crashes	Minor crashes
2004	2	6	13
2005	1	8	20
2006	1	3	17
2007	3	11	17
2008	2	7	24
Total	9	35	91

Most of these crashes occur when a driver loses control of their vehicle and either runs off the road or collides with another vehicle.

After drivers lose control their vehicles often crash into roadside hazards such as ditches, banks, poles or trees. Hitting these objects can result in a relatively minor off-road event turning into something far more serious.

The most common roadside hazards struck in injury crashes in Selwyn District were post or pole (33), fences (27), trees (18, and ditch (15) from a total of 126 objects struck.

Main characteristics of injury straight road - loss of control or head on crashes 2004 to 2008

Crash characteristic	Percentage of crashes
Single vehicle	81
Alcohol	20
Excessive speed for the conditions	9
Road factors	13
Poor handling	33
Rural road	94
Wet or icy road	30
Night time	40

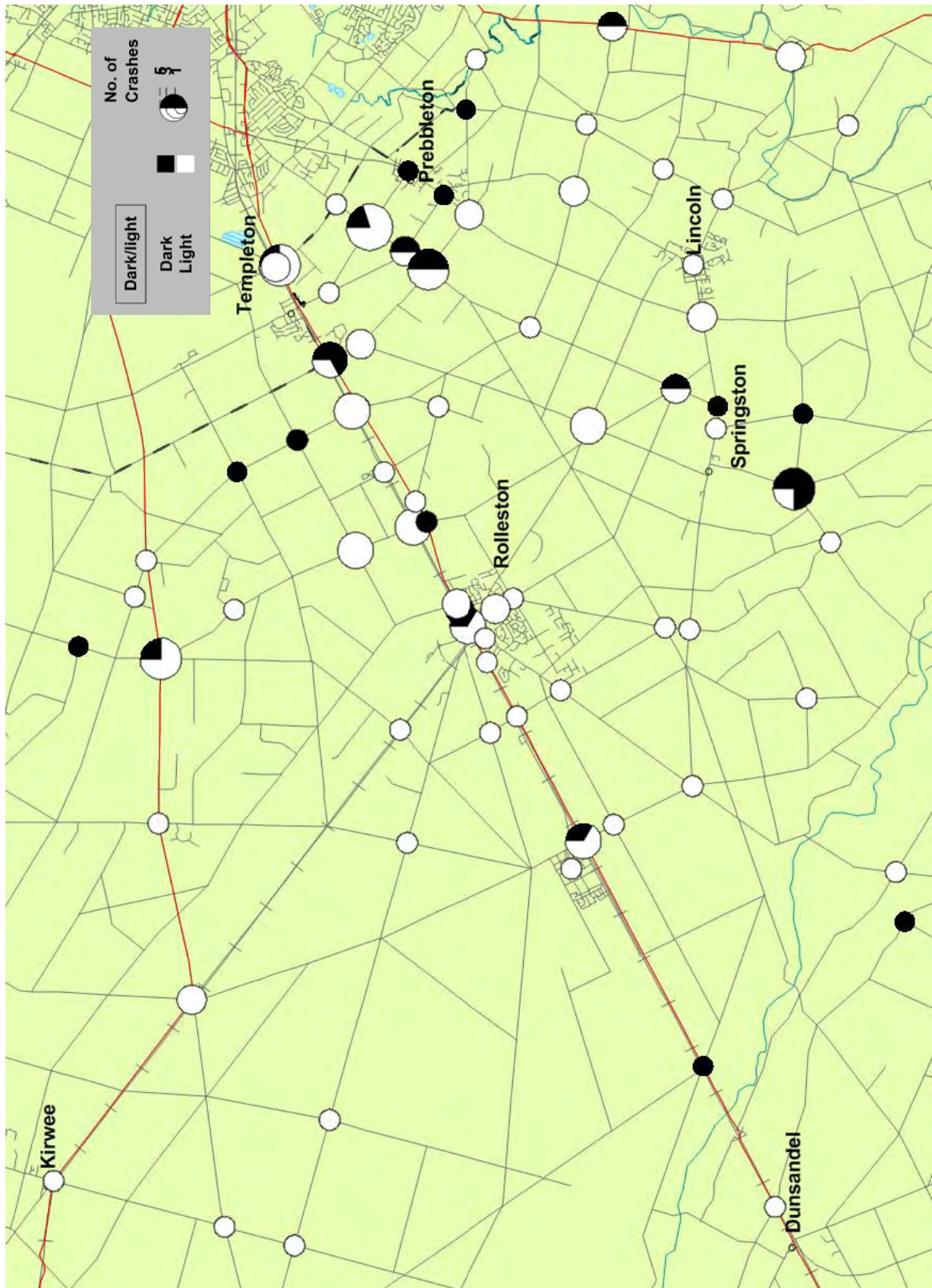
Further information about the 65 injury straight road - loss of control or head on crashes (2004 to 2008) on local roads in Selwyn District:

- 6 deaths, 16 serious injuries and 57 minor injuries
- 68 percent of at fault drivers were male
- Most common crash type “off road to right”
- Most common at fault driver age group 30 to 39 years
- 23 percent of crashes involved alcohol
- 14 percent of crashes involved speed
- 18 percent involved “road factors”
- 14 percent involved fatigue
- 32 percent involved post or pole as an struck object
- 32 percent on wet or icy roads
- 45 percent at night
- Worst month April, October
- Worst day of week Friday, Sunday
- Worst time 3 pm to 6 pm

Further information about the 70 injury straight road - loss of control or head on crashes (2004 to 2008) on State Highways in Selwyn District:

- 6 deaths, 32 serious injuries and 80 minor injuries
- 79 percent of at fault drivers were male
- Most common crash type “off road to left”
- Most common at fault driver age group 15 to 19 years
- 17 percent of crashes involved alcohol
- 4 percent of crashes involved speed
- 9 percent involved “road factors”
- 31 percent involved fatigue
- 20 percent involved fences as a struck object
- 27 percent on wet or icy roads
- 36 percent at night
- Worst February
- Worst day of week Sunday
- Worst time period midday to 6 pm

Injury crashes at intersections
Selwyn District (inner area)
2004 - 2008



Intersections

During the five year period 2004 to 2008 within Selwyn District there were a total of 364 crashes at intersections, 147 of these were injury crashes and 217 non-injury.

21 percent of these were in urban areas and 11 people were killed, 33 received serious injuries and 172 received minor injuries.

Crashes at Intersections					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Injury crash	27	27	25	32	36
Non-injury crash	45	34	42	50	46
Total	72	61	67	82	82

In the last two years, the number of crashes was the highest in the five year period.

Locations with the most injury crashes 2004 to 2008		
Intersection name (Within a radius of 50m)	Injury crashes 2004 - 2008	total Injury crashes 2008
Shands Road / Blakes Road	5	0
SH 73 / Weedons Ross Road	4	0
Leeston Road / Powells Road	4	0
Shands Road / Hamptons Road	4	1
SH 1 / Barters Road	4	3

These sites are listed regardless of any recent works.

Junction control Injury and non-injury crashes				
Junction control	Traffic signals	Nil	Give Way	Stop
Number of crashes	6	30	128	200

The most common crash type at intersections is when a two vehicles approaching an intersection at right angles to each other collide.

The main causes contributing to crashes described in Police reports were:

- Poor observation
- Failure to stop and give way

Junction type Injury and Non-injury crashes		
Junction Type	Rural	Urban
Roundabout	1	11
Tee	98	19
Cross (X)	161	44
Other (includes driveways)	28	2

Further information about the 98 injury crashes at intersections on local roads in Selwyn District 2004 to 2008:

- 10 deaths, 25 serious injuries and 110 minor injuries
- 28 percent wet or icy roads
- 24 percent night time
- Worst month March, April
- Worst day of week Friday
- Worst time 3 pm till 6 pm

Further information about the 49 injury crashes at intersections on State Highways in Selwyn District 2004 to 2008:

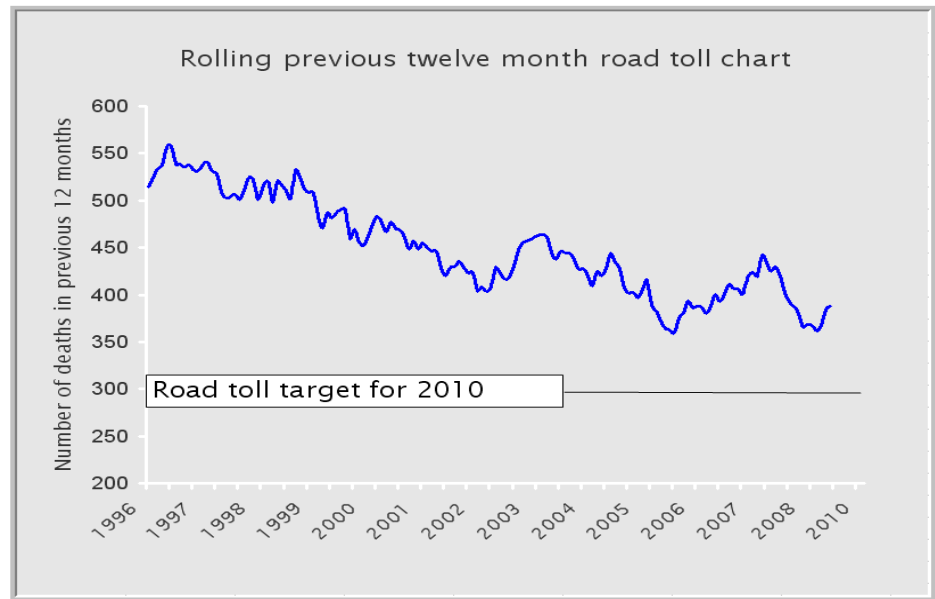
- 1 death, 8 serious injuries and 62 minor injuries
- 6 percent wet or icy roads
- 29 percent night time
- Worst month August, December
- Worst day of week Tuesday, Friday
- Worst time 3 pm till 6 pm

The next ten years—moving beyond Road Safety 2010

In August this year the Ministry of Transport (MoT) will embark on a nationwide road safety consultation programme as it moves to formulate priorities for the next ten years.

The chart on the right illustrates the progress made during the life of the Road Safety 2010 strategy and while progress has been made it would seem unlikely that the target of 300 or fewer fatalities will be met.

Information will be published on the Ministry of Transport web site and we would encourage any person or group with an interest in road safety to watch the site carefully for developments.



Follow this link: <http://www.transport.govt.nz/ourwork/Land/landsafety/SaferJourneys-RoadSafetyStrategyto2020/>

Restraints

The Ministry of Transport conducts surveys of restraint use. Results are available for front, rear and child restraints although not all at a local authority level. The results of these surveys are available at the MoT website: <http://www.transport.govt.nz/research/safetybeltstatistics/>

Contacts

New Zealand Transport Agency

Performance Information Manager (Southern)
Geoff Holland
PO Box 13364
Christchurch
03 964 2845

Regional Communications Advisor
Bob Nettleton
PO Box 9058
Dunedin
03 951 3005

www.nzta.govt.nz

Local Authority

Transport and Road Safety Co-ordinator
Lee Wright

Schools Travelwise Coordinator
Carolyn Bennison

Selwyn District Council
PO Box 90
Rolleston

Phone 03 347 2800

www.selwyn.govt.nz

New Zealand Police

Road Policing Manager
New Zealand Police
PO Box 2109
Christchurch
Phone 03 363 7417

www.police.govt.nz