



briefing notes - road safety issues

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

Major road safety issues

Waitaki District

Bend - Loss of control or Head-on
Intersections

2008 road trauma

Casualties

Waitaki District

Deaths	4
Serious casualties	22
Minor casualties	102

Nationally

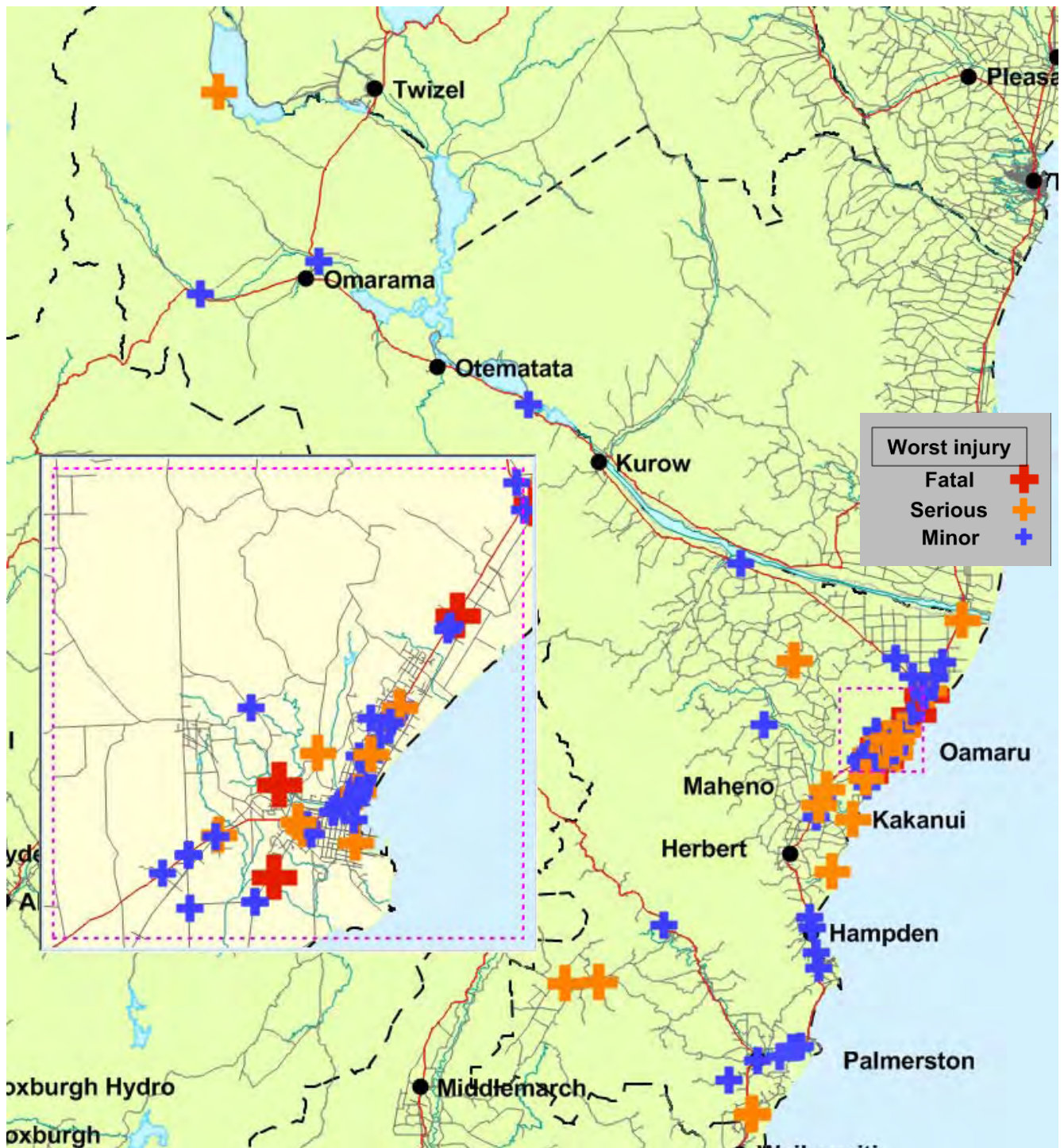
Speed
Alcohol
Failure to give way
Restraints

Crashes

Waitaki District

Fatal crashes	4
Serious injury crashes	21
Minor injury crashes	65
Non-injury crashes	153

Fatal and Injury crashes
Waitaki District
2004 - 2008



Overview

In 2008 on local roads in Waitaki District there were 28 injury crashes and 74 non-injury crashes. In addition there were 62 injury crashes and 79 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 90 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	4	13	59	76
Urban	0	9	43	52
Total	4	22	102	128

Overall 60 percent of casualties were from crashes in rural areas. However for fatal and serious injury crashes 65 percent were in rural areas. All the fatalities occurred in rural areas of the district.

The number of deaths in 2008 was the highest in seven years. There are no apparent trends in the crash numbers.

Crash trends in Waitaki District

Year	Fatal Crashes	Serious Crashes	Minor Crashes	Total Crashes
1999	5	9	30	44
2000	0	19	42	61
2001	6	17	51	74
2002	1	26	60	87
2003	3	37	48	88
2004	2	31	70	103
2005	2	22	74	98
2006	3	22	71	96
2007	2	18	75	95
2008	4	21	65	90

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	11	11
Too fast	25	11
At bends	40	30
At intersections	32	28
Road factors	23	14

Vulnerable road users - casualties

Road user type	Local road Percentage of all casualties	State Highway Percentage of all casualties
Pedestrians	4	5
Cyclists	7	3
Motorcycles	9	6
Total vulnerable	20	14

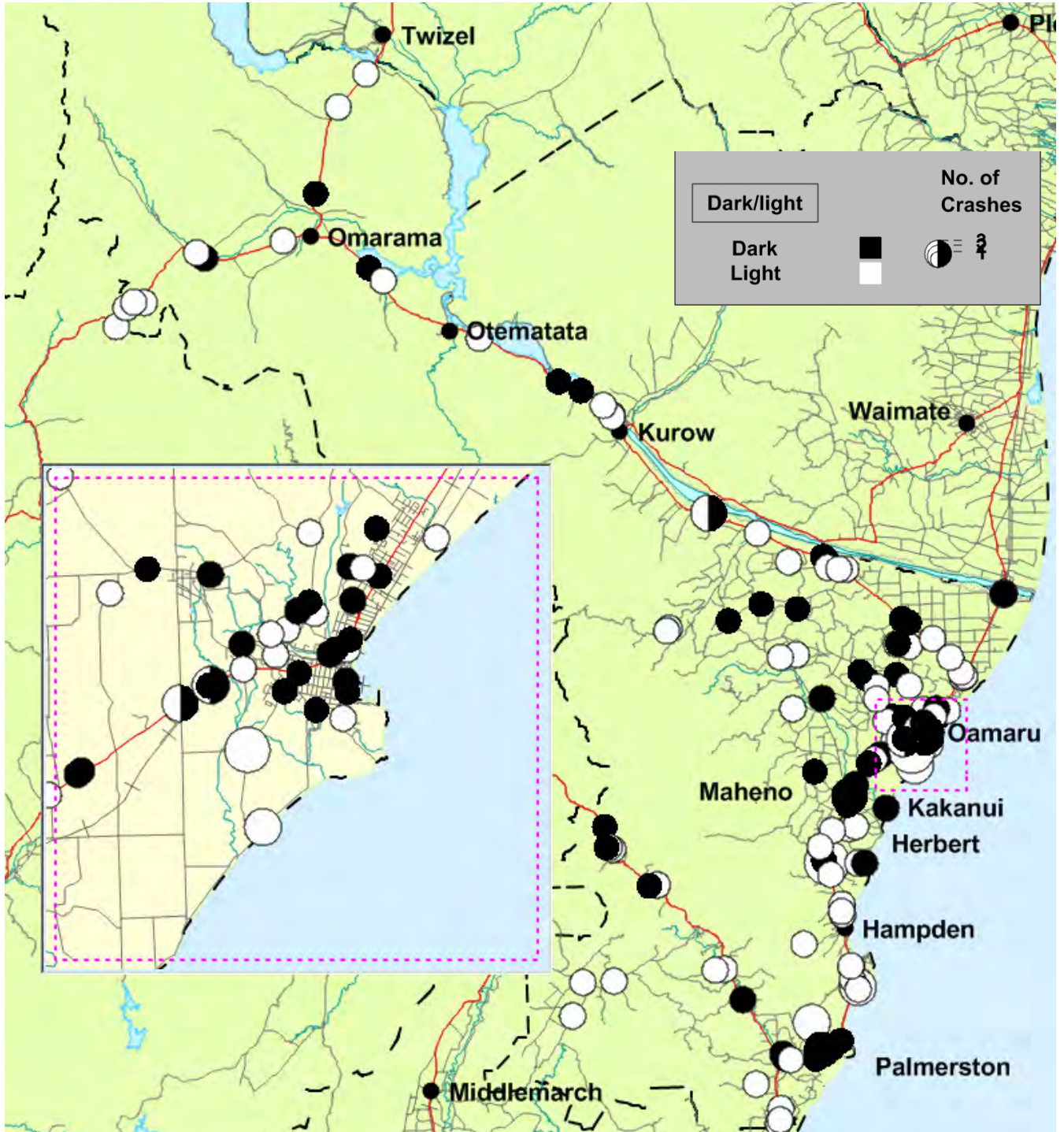
Further information about 2004 to 2008 injury crashes on local roads in Waitaki District :

- Worst month March
- Worst day Tuesday
- 18 percent on wet or icy roads
- 26 percent at night
- 32 percent at intersections
- 111 roadside objects struck
- Social cost of crashes in 2008 \$16.4 m

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

- Worst month October
- Worst day Friday
- 19 percent on wet or icy roads
- 27 percent at night
- 28 percent at intersections
- 216 roadside objects struck
- Social cost of crashes in 2008 \$20.1 m

Injury bend - loss of control or head on crashes
Waitaki District
2004 - 2008



Bend - loss of control or head on

Between 2004 and 2008 thirty four percent of all injury crashes in Waitaki District were bend - loss of control or head on crashes. These crashes resulted in 11 fatalities, 52 serious injuries and 179 minor injuries.

Crash numbers rose to a high of 37 in 2005 and 2006, and has reduced each year since then.

Crashes at bends 2004 to 2008				
Crash year	Fatal crashes	Serious crashes	Minor crashes	Total
2004	1	10	16	27
2005	1	12	24	37
2006	3	11	23	37
2007	2	5	25	32
2008	2	7	20	29
Total	9	45	108	162

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 loss of control or head on crashes on bends in Waitaki District were fences (49), over bank (32), cliff or bank (25) and ditches (24) from a total of 187 objects struck.

Main characteristics of injury lost control or head on crashes at bends	
Crash characteristic	Percentage of crashes
Single vehicle	81
Alcohol	18
Excessive speed for the conditions	31
Road factors	25
Poor handling	56
Rural road	87
Wet or icy road	28
Night time	43

Further information about the 68 injury bend - loss of control or head on crashes (2004 to 2009) on local roads in Waitaki District :

- 1 death, 19 serious injuries and 76 minor injuries
- 71 percent of at fault drivers were male
- Most common at fault driver age group 15 -19 years (26 percent of all at fault drivers)
- 15 percent of crashes involved alcohol
- 40 percent of crashes involved speed too fast for the conditions
- 59 percent involved poor handling
- Worst month March
- Worst day of week Saturday,
- Worst time midday pm till 3 pm

Further information about the 94 injury bend - loss of control or head on crashes (2004 to 2008) on State Highways in Waitaki District:

- 10 deaths, 33 serious injuries and 103 minor injuries
- 69 percent of at fault drivers were male
- Most common at fault driver age group 20 - 24 years (22 percent of at fault drivers)
- 20 percent of crashes involved alcohol
- 24 percent of crashes involved speed too fast for the conditions
- 53 percent involved poor handling
- Worst month October
- Worst day of week Saturday
- Worst time period 3 pm to 6 pm

Injury crashes at intersections
Oamaru area
2004 - 2009



Intersections

During the five year period 2004 to 2008 within Waitaki District there were a total of 318 crashes at intersections, 141 of these were injury crashes and 177 non-injury.

78 percent of these were in urban areas and 3 people were killed, 28 received serious injuries and 161 received minor injuries.

Crashes at Intersections					
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Injury crash	24	30	18	32	37
Non-injury crash	32	24	27	38	56
Total	56	54	45	70	93

In the last two years the number of injury crashes and non-injury crashes reported at intersections has increased.

Locations with the most injury crashes 2004 to 2008

Intersection name (Within a radius of 50m)	Injury crashes 2004 - 2008	Injury crashes 2008
Thames street / Severn Street	8	3
SH 1 / Whiterocks Road	5	3
Thames Street / Frome Street	4	1
SH 1 / SH 83	4	1
Thames Street / Usk Street	4	2
Thames Street / Ouse Street	4	1
Eden Street / Read street	4	0

Sites are listed regardless of any works carried out recently.

Junction control Injury and non-injury crashes

Junction control	Traffic signals	Nil	Give Way	Stop
Number of crashes	1	78	189	48

The most common crash type at intersections is when a two vehicles travelling straight through at right angles to each other collide.

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

- Poor observation
- Failure to give way or stop

Junction type Injury and Non-injury crashes

Junction Type	Rural	Urban
Roundabout	0	24
Tee	58	110
Cross (X)	11	89
Y	2	1
Other (includes driveways)	0	23

Further information about the 54 injury crashes at intersections on local roads in Waitaki District 2004 to 2008:

- 1 death, 12 serious injuries and 60 minor injuries
- 22 percent wet or icy roads
- 20 percent night time
- Worst month March
- Worst day of week Tuesday
- Worst time 3 pm till 6 pm

Further information about the 87 injury crashes at intersections on State Highways in Waitaki District 2004 to 2008:

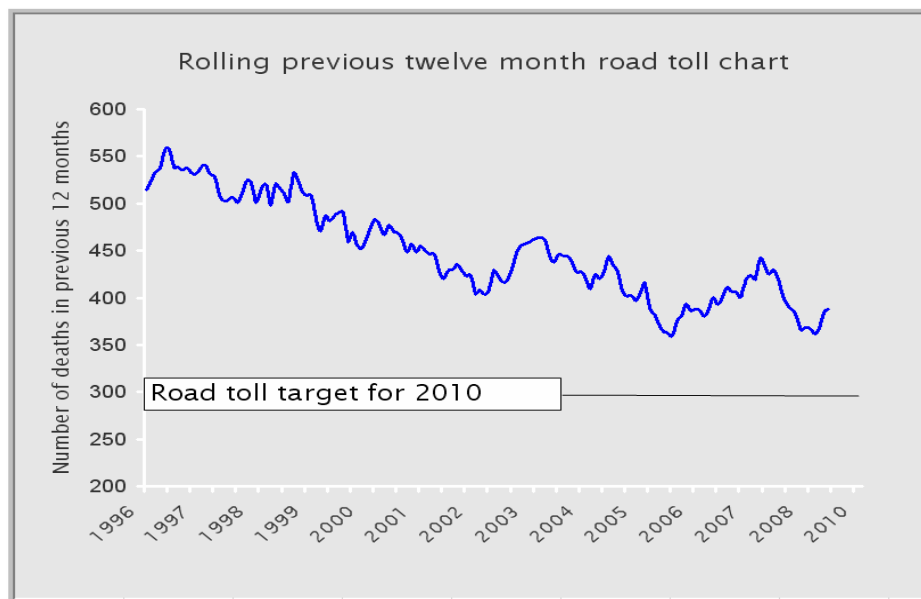
- 2 deaths, 16 serious injuries and 101 minor injuries
- 9 percent wet or icy roads
- 22 percent night time
- Worst month February
- Worst day of week Friday
- Worst time 3 pm till 6 pm

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/>

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