Victoria Walks Inc.
Level 7, 225 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
P: 03 9662 3975
E: info@victoriawalks.org.au
www.victoriawalks.org.au
Registration No. A0052693U

Analysis of crashes involving pedestrians

December 2018

Jo Eady

Background

This report has analysed TAC and VicRoads crash data which involved pedestrians.

Points to note:

- Crashes which occurred in the last five complete years (2013-2017 inclusive) are included.
- Fatality and injury data is from the VicRoads CrashStats database, which only includes crashes that occurred on a public road and were reported to the police. Fatality and hospitalisation data is from the TAC Searchable road trauma statistics.
- The Crashstats database classifies all accidents that occurred at or within 10 meters of an intersection are considered 'At an intersection'.

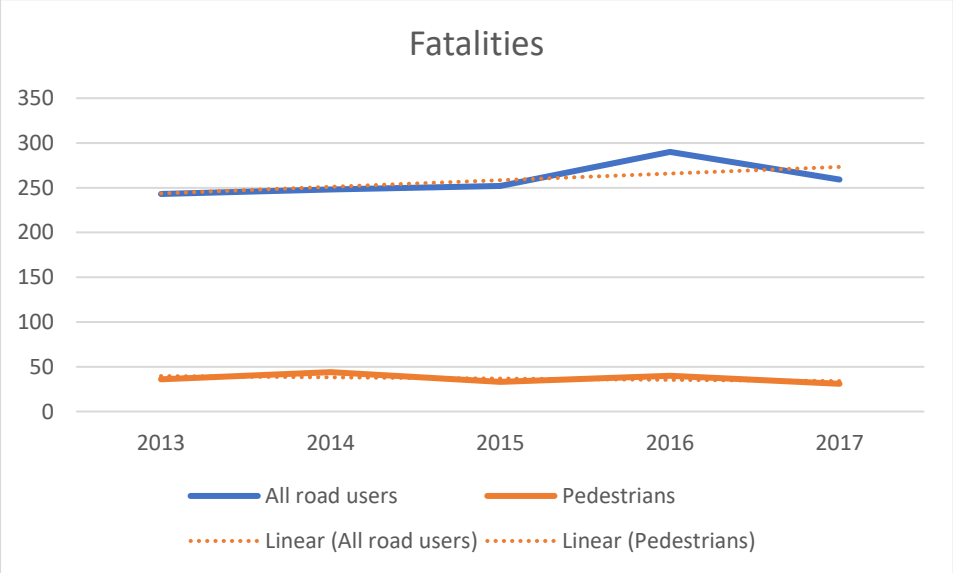
Injury level

- 14% of all people killed on the roads were pedestrians.
- 97% of pedestrians involved in crashes were killed or injured (3% and 94% respectively).
- Pedestrians involved in crashes - 6818; Pedestrians killed - 183

Year	Fatality	Serious injury	Other injury	Not injured	Grand Total
2013	36	585	765	30	1416
2014	44	493	735	58	1330
2015	33	510	790	51	1384
2016	40	534	783	32	1389
2017	30	470	736	63	1299
Grand Total	**183**	**2592**	**3809**	**234**	**6818**

Fatalities

- The number of pedestrian fatalities has been reasonably steady for the last five years.
- Pedestrian fatalities are not increasing as a proportion of total fatalities.
- Pedestrian deaths are trending slightly downwards but given the small numbers it would be inaccurate to report this as a trend.

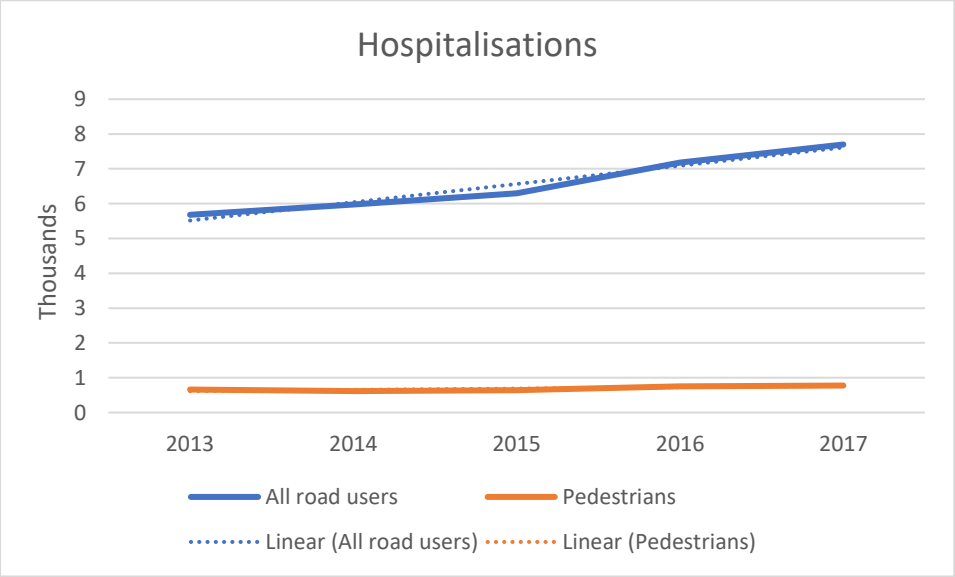


The table below from TAC data shows the 12 month rolling data, as at midnight 11 December 2018. There was an increase in pedestrian fatalities in the most recent 12 months (rolling) compared to the previous 12 months, which is likely to result in an increase in fatalities in 2018 compared to 2017. However, this is not necessarily reflective of the longer term trend, because there were fewer pedestrian deaths in 2017 compared to the long term average.

Road user	2016-17	2017-18	Change	% change	5 year average
Bicyclist	11	7	-4	-36%	9
Driver	123	103	-20	-16%	126
Motorcyclist	37	42	5	14%	38
Passenger	51	32	-19	-37%	46
Pedestrian	29	36	7	24%	36
Unknown	0	0	0	0%	0

Hospitalisations

- The number of pedestrian hospitalisations has been reasonably steady for the last five years, with a slight increase since 2016.
- Pedestrian hospitalisations are not increasing as quickly as hospitalisations for all road users.



Age

- People aged over 50 suffer the highest number of fatalities
- People under 50 are more likely to be injured rather than killed or not be injured at all.

Age group	Fatality	Serious injury	Other injury	Not injured	Grand Total
0-9	4	148	269	66	487
10-19	9	325	624	27	985
20-29	16	446	801	34	1297
30-39	18	287	509	40	854
40-49	18	270	456	27	771
50-59	27	261	395	17	700
60-69	28	301	367	15	711

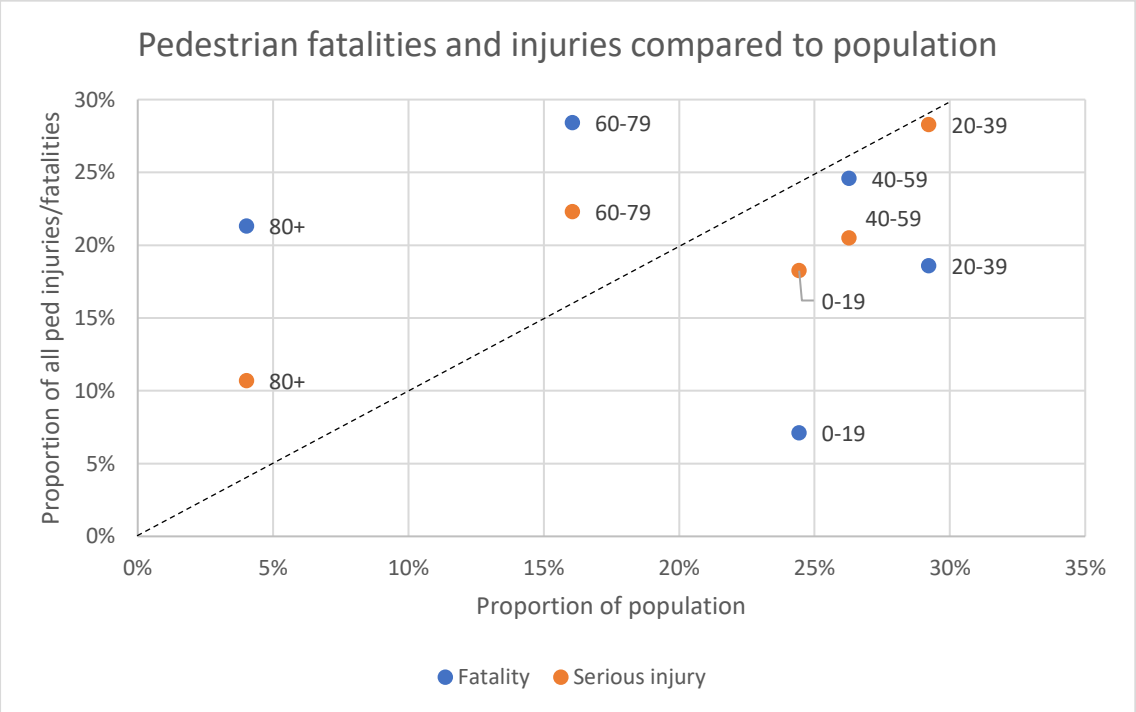
70-79	24	277	222	5	528
80-89	29	238	139	3	409
90-99	10	39	26		75
100+			1		1
Grand Total	**183**	**2592**	**3809**	**234**	**6818**

The graph below shows the proportion of people killed or seriously injured by age range, compared to the proportion of the population they make up (ABS, 2014). The dotted line represents where the proportion of fatalities/injuries is equal to the proportion of population.

- People aged 60+ are overrepresented in pedestrian crashes, and when they are involved, they are more likely to be seriously injured or killed.

This overrepresentation in injuries and deaths increase as people get older:

- People aged 60+ represent 20% of the population but are involved in 26% of pedestrian crashes and represent 33% of serious injuries and 50% of fatalities.
- People aged 70+ represent 10% of the population but are involved in 15% of pedestrian crashes and represent 21% of serious injuries and 34% of fatalities.
- People aged 80+ represent 4% of the population but are involved in 7% of pedestrian crashes and represent 11% of serious injuries and 21% of fatalities.



Gender

- Female and male pedestrians are generally equally involved in pedestrian crashes; 47% and 53% respectively.
- Males are over represented in pedestrian fatality rates, representing 67% of all pedestrians killed.

Location

- 50% (3177) of pedestrian crashes occurred at an intersection, resulting in the deaths of 75 pedestrians.
- The majority of vehicles involved in these crashes were turning at the time.

Location	Number of crashes	Pedestrians killed	Pedestrians seriously injured	Pedestrians injured (other)
Cross intersection	1654	43	616	1070
T intersection	1422	30	558	866
Multiple intersection	93	2	26	67
Y intersection	8		3	6
Not at intersection	3202	108	1382	1779
Dead end	22		4	17
Private property	1			1
Road closure	1			1
Unknown	5		3	2
Grand Total	**6408**	**183**	**2592**	**3809**

Of these 3177 crashes, there was a record for what 2518 of the vehicles were doing at the time. The majority of vehicles were turning at the time of the crash (59%) - 38% were turning right and 21% were turning left. 57 vehicles were recorded in a left turn slip lane.