Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

PSNI Annual Statistical Report

Report No. 6

INJURY ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS & CASUALTIES

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Injury Road Traffic Collisions - Definitions

6. Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties

Summary

Overview

- During 2008/09 there were 6,149 injury road traffic collisions. These collisions resulted in 9,471 casualties, of which 106 were killed, 998 were seriously injured and 8,367 were slightly injured.

- Ten per cent (948) of the casualties in 2008/09 were children aged under 16. Of these 6 were killed, 96 were seriously injured and 846 were slightly injured.

Collisions

- The total number of injury road traffic collisions decreased from 6,321 in 2007/08 to 6,149 in 2008/09 (a decrease of 2.7%). The number of collisions resulting in individuals being killed or seriously injured fell by 3.5% (945 in 2007/08, 912 in 2008/09).

- The total number of injury road traffic collisions involving child casualties decreased from 813 in 2007/08 to 784 in 2008/09 (a decrease of 3.6%). The number of collisions resulting in a child being killed or seriously injured fell by 3.2% (93 in 2007/08, 90 in 2008/09).

- The most common causes of injury road traffic collisions in 2008/09 were ‘inattention or attention diverted’ (941 collisions), ‘emerging from a minor road/driveway without care’ (645 collisions) and ‘driving too close’ (613 collisions).

- The most common causes of fatal and serious injury road traffic collisions in 2008/09 were ‘excessive speed having regard to conditions’ (134 collisions), ‘alcohol or drugs (all road users)’ (134 collisions) and ‘inattention or attention diverted’ (88 collisions).

Casualties

- Overall there was a 2.8% decrease in casualties resulting from injury road traffic collisions (from 9,748 in 2007/08 to 9,471 in 2008/09).

- During the year there were 4 fewer fatalities (down 3.6%) and 78 fewer people seriously injured (down 7.2%).

- Drivers of motor vehicles were the single largest casualty class in 2008/09, accounting for just over half (51.7%) of all casualties, followed by passengers (31.7%), pedestrians (9.0%), motorcyclists (4.7%) and pedal cyclists (2.2%).

- Just under two thirds (64.2%) of all child casualties were passengers, 26.7% were pedestrians and a further 6.6% were pedal cyclists.

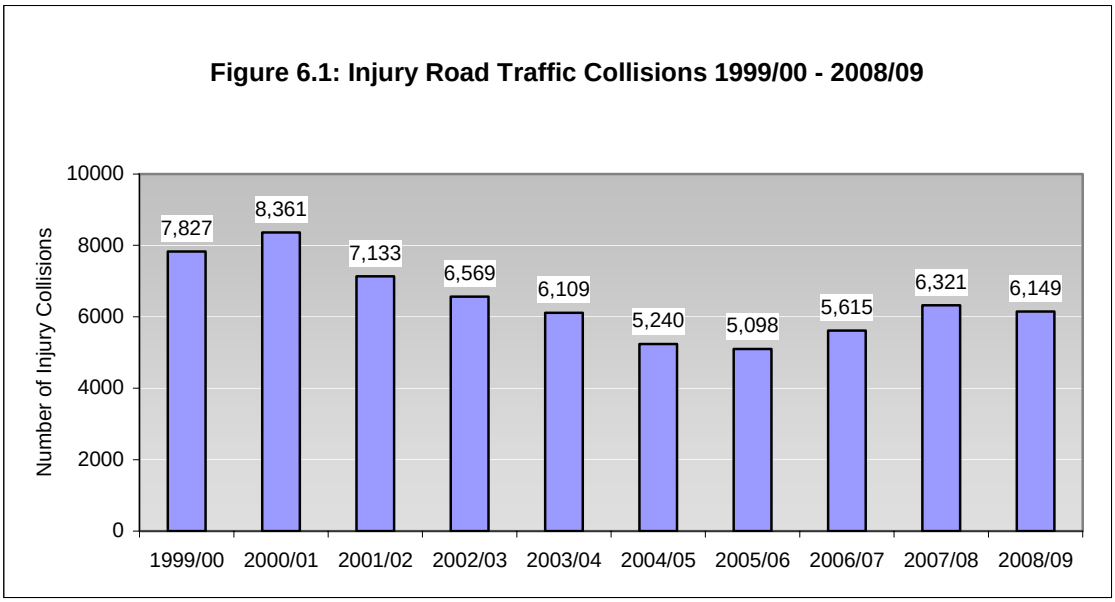

Table 6.2: Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties 1999/00 – 2008/09

	Collisions				Casualties			
	Fatal Collisions	Serious Collisions	Slight Collisions	All Injury Collisions	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
1999/00	140	1,124	6,563	7,827	150	1,573	12,170	13,893
2000/01	142	1,311	6,908	8,361	163	1,801	12,620	14,584
2001/02	140	1,195	5,798	7,133	153	1,638	10,812	12,603
2002/03	139	1,069	5,361	6,569	158	1,487	9,901	11,546
2003/04	121	957	5,031	6,109	142	1,258	9,022	10,422
2004/05	124	867	4,249	5,240	140	1,128	7,478	8,746
2005/06	128	852	4,118	5,098	134	1,115	7,128	8,377
2006/07	112	886	4,617	5,615	128	1,194	7,910	9,232
2007/08	101	844	5,376	6,321	110	1,076	8,562	9,748
2008/09	99	813	5,237	6,149	106	998	8,367	9,471

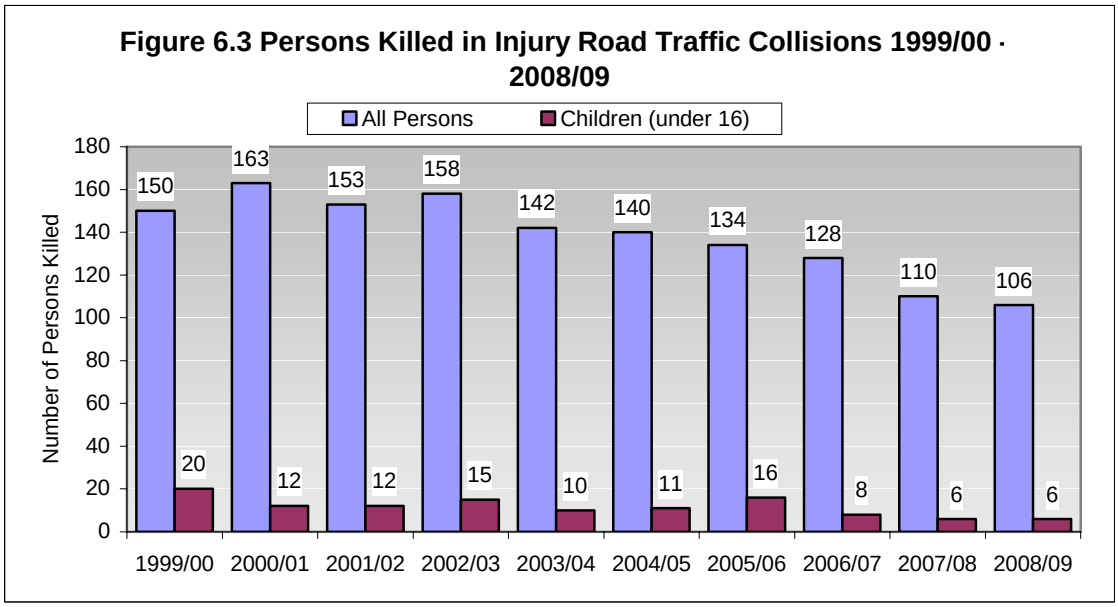

Table 6.4: Injury Road Traffic Collisions Involving Child Casualties (under 16) 1999/00 – 2008/09

	Collisions				Child Casualties			
	Fatal Collisions	Serious Collisions	Slight Collisions	All Injury Collisions	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
1999/00	20	193	1,189	1,402	20	201	1,546	1,767
2000/01	12	210	1,154	1,376	12	226	1,566	1,804
2001/02	12	200	989	1,201	12	219	1,297	1,528
2002/03	14	154	871	1,039	15	173	1,248	1,436
2003/04	9	145	793	947	10	158	1,086	1,254
2004/05	11	118	661	790	11	124	873	1,008
2005/06	16	116	569	701	16	127	752	895
2006/07	8	107	647	762	8	128	847	983
2007/08	5	88	720	813	6	103	931	1,040
2008/09	5	85	694	784	6	96	846	948

Table 6.5: Most Common Principal Causation Factors in Injury Road Traffic Collisions - 2008/09

Principal Factor	Number of Injury Collisions	Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
Inattention or attention diverted	941	11	88	1,330	1,429
Emerging from minor road/driveway without care	645	5	77	884	966
Driving too close	613	0	14	1,017	1,031
Excessive speed having regard to conditions	555	29	141	768	938
Alcohol or drugs (All road users)	394	24	153	436	613
Crossing/entering road junction w/o care	353	6	57	510	573
Turning right w/o care	269	2	49	417	468
Pedestrian heedless of traffic	240	1	65	185	251

Table 6.6: Most Common Principal Causation Factors in Injury Road Traffic Collisions Involving Child Casualties (under 16) 2008/09

Principal Factor	Number of Injury Collisions	Child Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
Inattention or attention diverted	99	0	4	120	124
Pedestrian heedless of traffic	84	0	17	68	85
Emerging from minor road/driveway without care	71	0	5	79	84
Excessive speed having regard to conditions	67	1	8	72	81
Walk/run movement masked	59	0	10	53	63

Figure 6.7 All casualties by type of road user

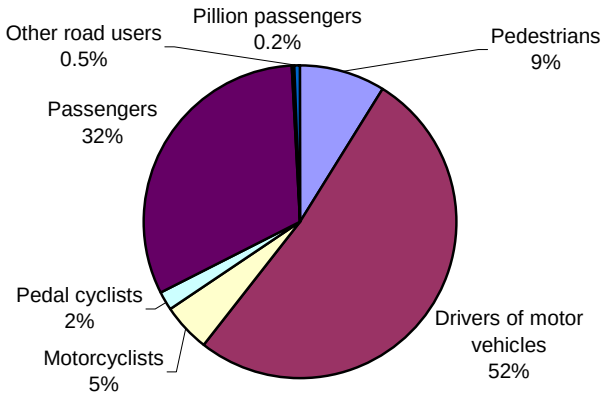

Figure 6.8: Child casualties (under 16) by Type of Road User

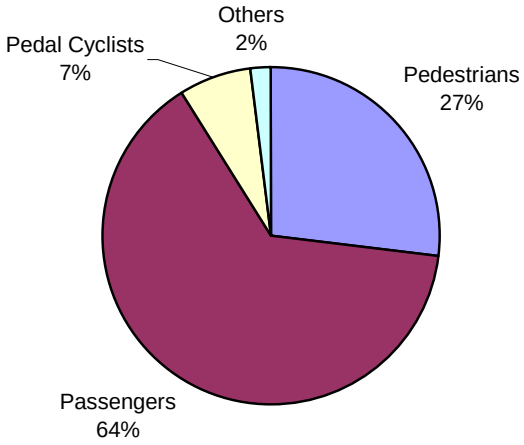

Table 6.9: Casualties in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury and Type of Road User 2004/05 – 2008/09

Type of Road User[1]	*2004/05*	*2005/06*	*2006/07*	*2007/08*	*2008/09*
Fatalities:					
Pedestrians	24	25	23	18	21
Drivers of motor vehicles	62	63	47	43	44
Motorcyclists	24	12	18	19	16
Pedal cyclists	2	4	1	2	2
Passengers	26	30	38	25	21
Pillion passengers	1	0	0	2	0
Other road users	1	0	1	1	2
Totals	140	134	128	110	106
Serious Injuries:					
Pedestrians	180	198	190	163	197
Drivers of motor vehicles	479	467	519	469	415
Motorcyclists	151	126	135	135	121
Pedal cyclists	27	30	30	30	30
Passengers	275	283	300	268	216
Pillion passengers	9	6	8	4	5
Other road users	7	5	12	7	14
Totals	1,128	1,115	1,194	1,076	998
Slight Injuries:					
Pedestrians	474	484	567	637	638
Drivers of motor vehicles	3,905	3,754	4,115	4,475	4,435
Motorcyclists	292	257	259	316	306
Pedal cyclists	131	120	130	209	176
Passengers	2,633	2,473	2,787	2,863	2,762
Pillion passengers	10	12	21	17	17
Other road users	33	28	31	45	33
Totals	7,478	7,128	7,910	8,562	8,367
All Casualties:					
Pedestrians	678	707	780	818	856
Drivers of motor vehicles	4,446	4,284	4,681	4,987	4,894
Motorcyclists	467	395	412	470	443
Pedal cyclists	160	154	161	241	208
Passengers	2,934	2,786	3,125	3,156	2,999
Pillion passengers	20	18	29	23	22
Other road users	41	33	44	53	49
Totals	8,746	8,377	9,232	9,748	9,471

[1] 'Passengers' include pedal cycle passengers. 'Other road users' include drivers/riders and passengers of 'other vehicles' (e.g. tractors, invalid carriages, horse-drawn vehicles).

Table 6.10: Child Casualties (under 16) in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, Type of Road User and Age Group 2007/08 and 2008/09

Type of Road User[1]	2007/08				2008/09			
	Under 5	5 – 10	11 – 15	Totals	Under 5	5 – 10	11 – 15	Totals
Fatalities								
Pedestrians	0	0	2	2	2	0	2	4
Pedal cyclists	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passengers	0	2	2	4	0	0	1	1
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	0	2	4	6	2	0	4	6
Serious Injuries								
Pedestrians	15	16	12	43	12	16	27	55
Pedal cyclists	0	6	4	10	0	0	6	6
Passengers	6	13	28	47	8	10	6	24
Others	0	0	3	3	0	0	11	11
Totals	21	35	47	103	20	26	50	96
Slight Injuries								
Pedestrians	26	70	82	178	32	66	96	194
Pedal cyclists	2	27	38	67	3	27	27	57
Passengers	144	239	294	677	132	218	234	584
Others	0	1	8	9	0	0	11	11
Totals	172	337	422	931	167	311	368	846
All Child Casualties								
Pedestrians	41	86	96	223	46	82	125	253
Pedal cyclists	2	33	42	77	3	27	33	63
Passengers	150	254	324	728	140	228	241	609
Others	0	1	11	12	0	0	23	23
Totals	193	374	473	1,040	189	337	422	948

[1] 'Passengers' include pedal cycle passengers.
'Others' include drivers of motor vehicles, riders and pillion passengers on motor cycles and drivers/riders and passengers of 'other vehicles' (e.g. tractors, invalid carriages and horse-drawn vehicles etc.).

Table 6.11: Casualties in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, District and Area 2007/08 and 2008/09

		2007/08				2008/09			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total
A District	North Belfast	1	31	584	616	7	39	564	610
	West Belfast	1	31	443	475	0	33	510	543
	A District Total	**2**	**62**	**1,027**	**1,091**	**7**	**72**	**1,074**	**1,153**
B District	East Belfast	1	28	376	405	0	20	329	349
	South Belfast	1	36	583	620	3	47	577	627
	B District Total	**2**	**64**	**959**	**1,025**	**3**	**67**	**906**	**976**
C District	Ards	6	46	348	400	1	51	388	440
	Castlereagh	0	22	254	276	1	26	256	283
	Down	5	45	282	332	4	42	326	372
	North Down	0	26	321	347	2	24	283	309
	C District Total	**11**	**139**	**1,205**	**1,355**	**8**	**143**	**1,253**	**1,404**
D District	Antrim	6	34	268	308	4	27	224	255
	Carrickfergus	0	7	114	121	0	12	93	105
	Lisburn	7	76	626	709	6	64	676	746
	Newtownabbey	0	31	433	464	6	27	418	451
	D District Total	**13**	**148**	**1,441**	**1,602**	**16**	**130**	**1,411**	**1,557**
E District	Armagh	4	45	195	244	4	28	244	276
	Banbridge	2	37	208	247	1	22	168	191
	Craigavon	3	32	315	350	1	35	293	329
	Newry and Mourne	9	53	510	572	15	49	404	468
	E District Total	**18**	**167**	**1,228**	**1,413**	**21**	**134**	**1,109**	**1,264**
F District	Cookstown	1	27	158	186	3	25	130	158
	Dungannon and South Tyrone	11	42	246	299	8	50	246	304
	Fermanagh	7	64	323	394	8	59	308	375
	Omagh	7	58	217	282	6	49	188	243
	F District Total	**26**	**191**	**944**	**1,161**	**25**	**183**	**872**	**1,080**
G District	Foyle	8	49	404	461	1	64	484	549
	Limavady	6	38	140	184	1	29	182	212
	Magherafelt	5	40	210	255	2	32	158	192
	Strabane	3	24	137	164	2	22	128	152
	G District Total	**22**	**151**	**891**	**1,064**	**6**	**147**	**952**	**1,105**
H District	Ballymena	5	48	333	386	3	36	301	340
	Ballymoney	3	34	129	166	4	18	99	121
	Coleraine	5	36	260	301	8	30	196	234
	Larne	0	24	92	116	2	24	124	150
	Moyle	3	12	53	68	3	14	70	87
	H District Total	**16**	**154**	**867**	**1,037**	**20**	**122**	**790**	**932**
	Total	**110**	**1,076**	**8,562**	**9,748**	**106**	**998**	**8,367**	**9,471**

Table 6.12: Child Casualties in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, District and Area 2007/08 and 2008/09

		2007/08				2008/09			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total
A District	North Belfast	0	2	66	68	0	8	68	76
	West Belfast	0	4	38	42	0	4	51	55
	A District Total	**0**	**6**	**104**	**110**	**0**	**12**	**119**	**131**
B District	East Belfast	0	3	50	53	0	1	30	31
	South Belfast	1	4	36	41	0	2	33	35
	B District Total	**1**	**7**	**86**	**94**	**0**	**3**	**63**	**66**
C District	Ards	1	2	44	47	0	3	34	37
	Castlereagh	0	4	29	33	0	1	23	24
	Down	0	3	34	37	0	5	53	58
	North Down	0	2	30	32	0	10	14	24
	C District Total	**1**	**11**	**137**	**149**	**0**	**19**	**124**	**143**
D District	Antrim	0	1	20	21	0	2	13	15
	Carrickfergus	0	1	14	15	0	1	7	8
	Lisburn	0	8	65	73	1	3	69	73
	Newtownabbey	0	8	39	47	0	2	37	39
	D District Total	**0**	**18**	**138**	**156**	**1**	**8**	**126**	**135**
E District	Armagh	1	3	26	30	0	4	31	35
	Banbridge	0	1	24	25	0	2	20	22
	Craigavon	0	2	38	40	0	4	34	38
	Newry and Mourne	0	6	60	66	1	3	34	38
	E District Total	**1**	**12**	**148**	**161**	**1**	**13**	**119**	**133**
F District	Cookstown	0	1	22	23	0	2	16	18
	Dungannon and South Tyrone	0	4	24	28	0	4	26	30
	Fermanagh	0	6	46	52	2	3	34	39
	Omagh	0	8	24	32	0	7	23	30
	F District Total	**0**	**19**	**116**	**135**	**2**	**16**	**99**	**117**
G District	Foyle	0	7	45	52	0	7	59	66
	Limavady	0	4	25	29	0	1	26	27
	Magherafelt	0	0	19	19	1	3	11	15
	Strabane	2	1	17	20	0	3	12	15
	G District Total	**2**	**12**	**106**	**120**	**1**	**14**	**108**	**123**
H District	Ballymena	0	5	36	41	0	5	37	42
	Ballymoney	0	5	17	22	0	0	13	13
	Coleraine	0	6	30	36	1	1	19	21
	Larne	0	1	7	8	0	3	11	14
	Moyle	1	1	6	8	0	2	8	10
	H District Total	**1**	**18**	**96**	**115**	**1**	**11**	**88**	**100**
	Total	**6**	**103**	**931**	**1,040**	**6**	**96**	**846**	**948**

Injury Road Traffic Collisions - Definitions

Collisions
Collisions involving personal injury occurring on the public highway (including footpaths) in which a vehicle is involved. Collisions are categorised as either ‘Fatal’, ‘Serious’ or ‘Slight’ according to the most severely injured casualty.

Killed
Died within 30 days from injuries received in a collision.

Serious Injury
An injury for which a person is detained in hospital as an ‘in-patient’, or any of the following injuries whether or not the person is detained in hospital: fractures, concussion, internal injuries, crushings, burns, severe cuts and lacerations or severe general shock requiring medical treatment.

Slight Injury
An injury of a minor character such as a sprain, bruise or cut not judged to be severe, or slight shock requiring roadside attention.

Casualty
A person who sustains a slight, serious or fatal injury.

Children
Persons under 16 years of age.

Drivers of motor vehicles
Drivers of hackneys, cars, motor caravans, LGVs, HGVs, cars used as taxis, minibuses and buses.

Motorcyclists
Drivers/riders of mopeds and motorcycles. Includes riders of two-wheeled motor vehicles, motorcycle combinations, scooters and mopeds.

Pedal cyclists
Drivers/riders of pedal cycles. Includes children riding toy cycles on the carriageway and the first rider of a tandem.

Passengers
Occupants of vehicles other than the driver or rider. Passengers of hackneys, cars, motor caravans, LGVs, HGVs, cars used as taxis, minibuses, buses and pedal cycles.

Pillion passengers
Passenger on a moped or motorcycle.

Other road users
Drivers and passengers of invalid/3 wheelers, tractors, ridden horses, other motor vehicles and other non motor vehicles.

Pedestrians
Include:
- Children on scooters, roller skates or skateboards;
- Children riding toy cycles on the footpath;
- Persons pushing bicycles or other vehicles or operating pedestrian-controlled vehicles;
- Persons leading or herding animals;
- Occupants of prams or wheelchairs;
- People who alight safely from vehicles and are subsequently injured;
- Persons other than cyclists holding on to the back of a moving vehicle;
- Persons pushing or pulling a vehicle.