



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

## **PSNI Statistics: Annual Statistical Report**

### **Statistical Report No. 6**

# **INJURY ROAD TRAFFIC COLLISIONS AND CASUALTIES**

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# 6. Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties

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## Injury Road Traffic Collisions - Definitions

Data Quality: The PSNI's statistics on injury road traffic collisions and casualties are collated by the PSNI's Central Statistics Branch. These statistics are National Statistics and are produced to high professional standards as set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice.

### **A National Statistics Publication**

National Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

## 6. Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties

### Summary

#### Overview

- During 2007/08 there were 6,321 injury road traffic collisions. These collisions resulted in 9,748 casualties, of whom 110 were killed, 1,076 were seriously injured and 8,562 were slightly injured.
- Just under eleven per cent (1,040) of the casualties in 2007/08 were children aged under 16. Of these, 6 were killed, 103 were seriously injured and 931 were slightly injured.

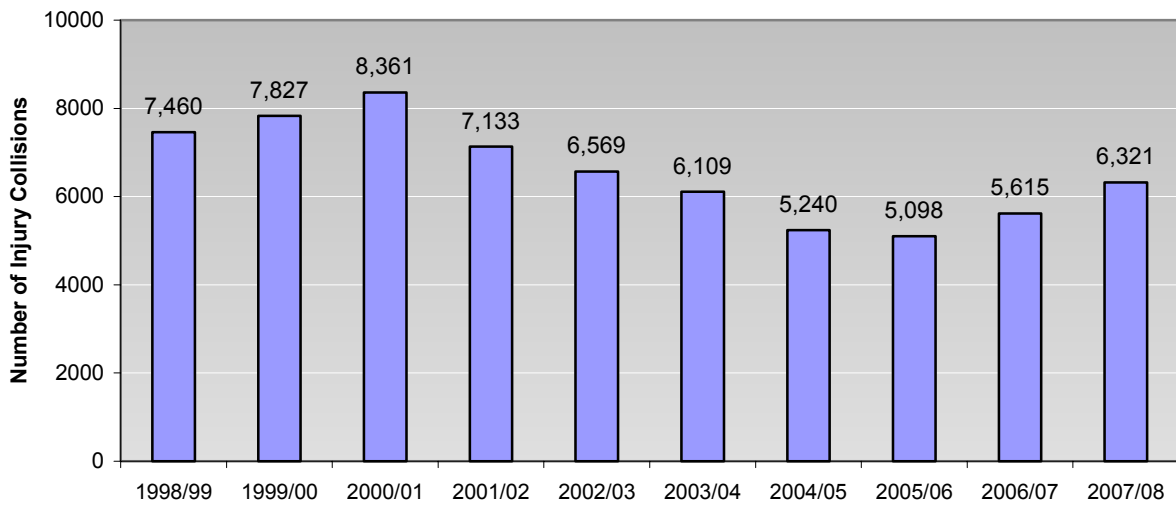
#### Collisions

- The total number of injury road traffic collisions increased from 5,615 in 2006/07 to 6,321 in 2007/08 (an increase of 12.6%). This increase was due to an increase in the number of slight injury collisions. The number of collisions resulting in individuals being killed or seriously injured fell by 5.3% (998 in 2006/07, 945 in 2007/08).
- The total number of injury road traffic collisions involving child casualties increased from 762 in 2006/07 to 813 in 2007/08 (an increase of 6.7%). Again this increase was due to an increase in the number of slight injury collisions. The number of collisions resulting in a child being killed or seriously injured fell by 19.1% (115 in 2006/07, 93 in 2007/08).
- The most common causes of injury collisions in 2007/08 were 'inattention' (953 collisions), 'driving too close' (677 collisions) and 'emerging from a minor road/driveway without care' (616 collisions).

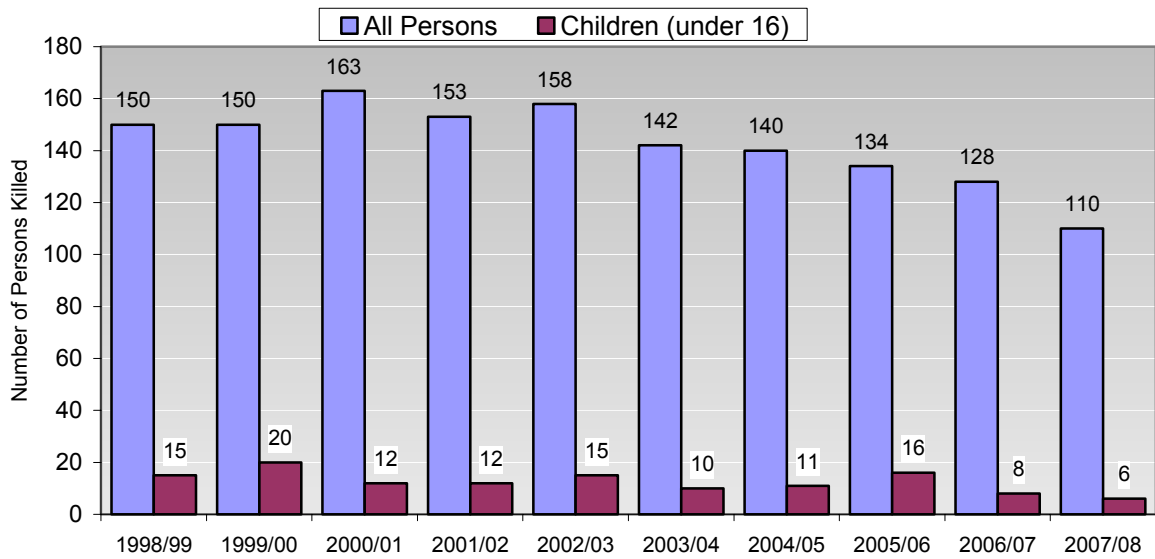
#### Casualties

- Overall there was a 5.6% increase in casualties resulting from injury road traffic collisions (from 9,232 in 2006/07 to 9,748 in 2007/08).
- This increase was due to an increase in the number of slight injury casualties. During the year there were 18 fewer fatalities (down 14.1%) and 118 fewer people seriously injured (down 9.9%).
- Drivers of motor vehicles were the single largest casualty class in 2007/08, accounting for just over half (51.2%) of all casualties, followed by passengers (32.4%), pedestrians (8.4%), motorcyclists (4.8%) and pedal cyclists (2.5%).
- Just over two thirds (70.0%) of all child casualties were passengers, 21.4% were pedestrians and a further 7.4% were pedal cyclists.

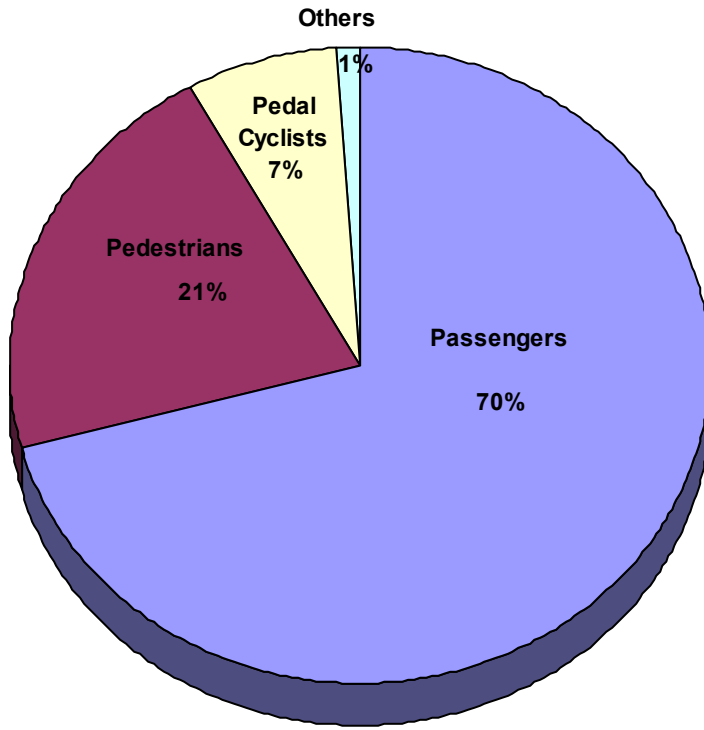
**Figure 6.1: Injury Road Traffic Collisions 1998/99 - 2007/08**



**Figure 6.2 Persons Killed in Injury Road Traffic Collisions 1998/99 - 2007/08**



**Figure 5.3: Child Casualties (under 16) by Type of Road User 2007/08**



**Table 6.4: Injury Road Traffic Collisions and Casualties 1998/99 – 2007/08**

	Number of Injury Collisions	Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
1998/99	7,460	150	1,462	11,682	13,294
1999/00	7,827	150	1,573	12,170	13,893
2000/01	8,361	163	1,801	12,620	14,584
2001/02	7,133	153	1,638	10,812	12,603
2002/03	6,569	158	1,487	9,901	11,546
2003/04	6,109	142	1,258	9,022	10,422
2004/05	5,240	140	1,128	7,478	8,746
2005/06	5,098	134	1,115	7,128	8,377
2006/07	5,615	128	1,194	7,910	9,232
2007/08	6,321	110	1,076	8,562	9,748

**Table 6.5: Injury Road Traffic Collisions Involving Child Casualties (under 16) 1998/99 – 2007/08**

	Number of Injury Collisions	Child Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
1998/99	1,472	15	218	1,641	1,874
1999/00	1,402	20	201	1,546	1,767
2000/01	1,376	12	226	1,566	1,804
2001/02	1,201	12	219	1,297	1,528
2002/03	1,039	15	173	1,248	1,436
2003/04	947	10	158	1,086	1,254
2004/05	790	11	124	873	1,008
2005/06	701	16	127	752	895
2006/07	762	8	128	847	983
2007/08	813	6	103	931	1,040

**Table 6.6: Most Common Principal Causation Factors in Injury Road Traffic Collisions - 2007/08**

Principal Factor	Number of Injury Collisions	Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
Inattention	953	8	76	1,421	1,505
Driving too close	677	0	16	1,025	1,041
Emerging from minor road/driveway without care	616	8	74	887	969
Excessive speed having regard to conditions	523	37	204	699	940
Alcohol or drugs (All road users)	431	18	143	500	661
Turning right w/o care	363	4	68	527	599
Crossing/entering road junction w/o care	262	5	42	354	401
Wrong course/position	255	12	74	343	429

**Table 6.7: Most Common Principal Causation Factors in Injury Road Traffic Collisions Involving Child Casualties (under 16) 2007/08**

Principal Factor	Number of Injury Collisions	Child Casualties			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total Casualties
Inattention	119	1	10	135	146
Emerging from minor road/driveway without care	90	0	5	118	123
Pedestrian heedless of traffic	79	1	11	67	79
Driving too close	64	0	0	89	89
Excessive speed having regard to conditions	55	3	19	65	87

**Table 6.8: Injury Road Traffic Collision Casualties by Severity of Injury and Type of Road User 2003/04 – 2007/08**

Type of Road User <sup>1</sup>	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
<b>Fatalities:</b>					
Pedestrians	29	24	25	23	18
Drivers of motor vehicles	54	62	63	47	43
Motorcyclists	17	24	12	18	19
Pedal cyclists	2	2	4	1	2
Passengers	37	26	30	38	25
Pillion passengers	1	1	0	0	2
Other road users	2	1	0	1	1
Totals	142	140	134	128	110
<b>Serious Injuries:</b>					
Pedestrians	205	180	198	190	163
Drivers of motor vehicles	522	479	467	519	469
Motorcyclists	145	151	126	135	135
Pedal cyclists	32	27	30	30	30
Passengers	334	275	283	300	268
Pillion passengers	8	9	6	8	4
Other road users	12	7	5	12	7
Totals	1,258	1,128	1,115	1,194	1,076
<b>Slight Injuries:</b>					
Pedestrians	569	474	484	567	637
Drivers of motor vehicles	4,580	3,905	3,754	4,115	4,475
Motorcyclists	305	292	257	259	316
Pedal cyclists	155	131	120	130	209
Passengers	3,378	2,633	2,473	2,787	2,863
Pillion passengers	12	10	12	21	17
Other road users	23	33	28	31	45
Totals	9,022	7,478	7,128	7,910	8,562
<b>All Casualties:</b>					
Pedestrians	803	678	707	780	818
Drivers of motor vehicles	5,156	4,446	4,284	4,681	4,987
Motorcyclists	467	467	395	412	470
Pedal cyclists	189	160	154	161	241
Passengers	3,749	2,934	2,786	3,125	3,156
Pillion passengers	21	20	18	29	23
Other road users	37	41	33	44	53
Totals	10,422	8,746	8,377	9,232	9,748

<sup>1</sup> '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 6.9: Child Casualties (under 16) in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, Type of Road User and Age Group 2006/07 and 2007/08**

Type of Road User <sup>1</sup>	2006/07				2007/08			
	Under 5	5 – 10	11 – 15	Totals	Under 5	5 – 10	11 – 15	Totals
<b>Fatalities</b>								
Pedestrians	1	1	2	4	0	0	2	2
Pedal cyclists	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Passengers	2	2	0	4	0	2	2	4
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Serious Injuries</b>								
Pedestrians	14	24	20	58	15	16	12	43
Pedal cyclists	0	6	6	12	0	6	4	10
Passengers	10	16	22	48	6	13	28	47
Others	0	0	10	10	0	0	3	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>103</b>
<b>Slight Injuries</b>								
Pedestrians	25	70	90	185	26	70	82	178
Pedal cyclists	1	21	19	41	2	27	38	67
Passengers	144	244	221	609	144	239	294	677
Others	0	3	9	12	0	1	8	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>931</b>
<b>All Child Casualties</b>								
Pedestrians	40	95	112	247	41	86	96	223
Pedal cyclists	1	27	25	53	2	33	42	77
Passengers	156	262	243	661	150	254	324	728
Others	0	3	19	22	0	1	11	12
<b>Totals</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>1,040</b>

<sup>1</sup> '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 6.10: Casualties in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, District and Area 2006/07 and 2007/08**

		2006/07				2007/08			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total
A District	North Belfast	2	51	493	546	1	31	584	616
	West Belfast	2	39	425	466	1	31	443	475
	<b>A District Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>1,091</b>
B District	East Belfast	1	30	408	439	1	28	376	405
	South Belfast	1	52	480	533	1	36	583	620
	<b>B District Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>1,025</b>
C District	Ards	4	50	345	399	6	46	348	400
	Castlereagh	5	21	268	294	0	22	254	276
	Down	7	46	204	257	5	45	282	332
	North Down	3	37	341	381	0	26	321	347
	<b>C District Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>1,158</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>1,205</b>	<b>1,355</b>
D District	Antrim	11	50	293	354	6	34	268	308
	Carrickfergus	1	27	148	176	0	7	114	121
	Lisburn	7	74	575	656	7	76	626	709
	Newtownabbey	3	66	452	521	0	31	433	464
	<b>D District Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1,468</b>	<b>1,707</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>1,441</b>	<b>1,602</b>
E District	Armagh	7	57	271	335	4	45	195	244
	Banbridge	3	34	184	221	2	37	208	247
	Craigavon	2	41	322	365	3	32	315	350
	Newry and Mourne	7	68	323	398	9	53	510	572
	<b>E District Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,319</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1,228</b>	<b>1,413</b>
F District	Cookstown	4	29	153	186	1	27	158	186
	Dungannon and South Tyrone	8	49	210	267	11	42	246	299
	Fermanagh	16	55	277	348	7	64	323	394
	Omagh	3	54	206	263	7	58	217	282
	<b>F District Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>1,064</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>1,161</b>
G District	Foyle	0	26	258	284	8	49	404	461
	Limavady	2	36	176	214	6	38	140	184
	Magherafelt	1	30	218	249	5	40	210	255
	Strabane	5	27	150	182	3	24	137	164
	<b>G District Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>1,064</b>
H District	Ballymena	4	49	271	324	5	48	333	386
	Ballymoney	1	27	121	149	3	34	129	166
	Coleraine	13	31	166	210	5	36	260	301
	Larne	2	26	120	148	0	24	92	116
	Moyle	3	12	52	67	3	12	53	68
	<b>H District Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>1,037</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>128</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>7,910</b>	<b>9,232</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>8,562</b>	<b>9,748</b>

**Table 6.11: Child Casualties in Injury Road Traffic Collisions by Severity of Injury, District and Area 2006/07 and 2007/08**

		2006/07				2007/08			
		Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total	Killed	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured	Total
A District	North Belfast	0	7	53	60	0	2	66	68
	West Belfast	0	8	37	45	0	4	38	42
	<b>A District Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>110</b>
B District	East Belfast	0	4	34	38	0	3	50	53
	South Belfast	0	7	36	43	1	4	36	41
	<b>B District Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>94</b>
C District	Ards	1	11	42	54	1	2	44	47
	Castlereagh	0	4	33	37	0	4	29	33
	Down	2	1	21	24	0	3	34	37
	North Down	0	4	31	35	0	2	30	32
	<b>C District Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>149</b>
D District	Antrim	1	4	29	34	0	1	20	21
	Carrickfergus	0	4	18	22	0	1	14	15
	Lisburn	0	5	42	47	0	8	65	73
	Newtownabbey	0	12	61	73	0	8	39	47
	<b>D District Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>156</b>
E District	Armagh	0	5	29	34	1	3	26	30
	Banbridge	0	1	31	32	0	1	24	25
	Craigavon	0	4	27	31	0	2	38	40
	Newry and Mourne	2	9	36	47	0	6	60	66
	<b>E District Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>161</b>
F District	Cookstown	0	3	21	24	0	1	22	23
	Dungannon and South Tyrone	0	7	18	25	0	4	24	28
	Fermanagh	0	3	29	32	0	6	46	52
	Omagh	0	7	25	32	0	8	24	32
	<b>F District Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>135</b>
G District	Foyle	0	3	31	34	0	7	45	52
	Limavady	0	2	20	22	0	4	25	29
	Magherafelt	0	1	17	18	0	0	19	19
	Strabane	1	2	21	24	2	1	17	20
	<b>G District Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>120</b>
H District	Ballymena	0	3	36	39	0	5	36	41
	Ballymoney	0	5	17	22	0	5	17	22
	Coleraine	0	1	31	32	0	6	30	36
	Larne	1	1	17	19	0	1	7	8
	Moyle	0	0	4	4	1	1	6	8
	<b>H District Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>1,040</b>	

## **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 pushing or pulling a vehicle;
- Persons other than cyclists holding on to the back of a moving vehicle.