

ROAD SAFETY IN THE ADELAIDE HILLS REGION

A report of road crashes in the Adelaide Hills Region 2015-2019

Road Trauma in South Australia

The annual number of lives lost on road and serious injuries is traditionally used as an indicator of road safety in South Australia. The South Australian Road Safety Strategy 2020 – *Towards Zero Together* has a target to reduce lives lost and serious injuries by at least 30% by 2020.

There were 114 lives lost recorded on South Australian roads in 2019. This is 34 more than the 80 lives lost recorded in 2018 and is 19 more than the previous 5 year average (2014 – 2018) of 95 lives lost.

Serious injuries have increased from 576 in 2018 to 833 in 2019, the highest recorded total of serious injuries in a given year. The number is also 24% higher than the previous 5 year average (2014 – 2018) of 672 serious injuries per year.

Road Trauma in the Adelaide Hills Region

Each year on average 5 people are killed and 48 are seriously injured on roads in the Adelaide Hills region. Residents of the region represent 4% of the total population of South Australia and account for 5% of fatalities in South Australia and 7% of all serious injuries.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage of casualty crashes in 2015-2019 by district council. There was a total of 1,353 casualty crashes recorded in the Adelaide Hills region in the 5 years 2015 – 2019. Between the two district councils in this region, the Adelaide Hills had the higher number of crashes in all severities over the last 5 years.

Table 1 –Casualty crashes, Adelaide Hills Councils, South Australia, 2015-2019

Local Government Areas	Fatal Crashes (%) ¹	Serious crashes (%) ¹	Minor crashes (%) ¹	Total
Adelaide Hills (DC)	19 (76%)	170 (70%)	703 (65%)	892 (66%)
Mount Barker (DC)	6 (24%)	72 (30%)	383 (35%)	461 (34%)
TOTAL	25	242	1086	1,353

Figure 1 and Table 2 shows the contribution of each council to the overall number of casualty crashes by year in the Adelaide Hills Region for the last 5 years.

¹ Percentages are rounded and made up to a total of 100%

Figure 1 – Number of casualty crashes, 2015-2019

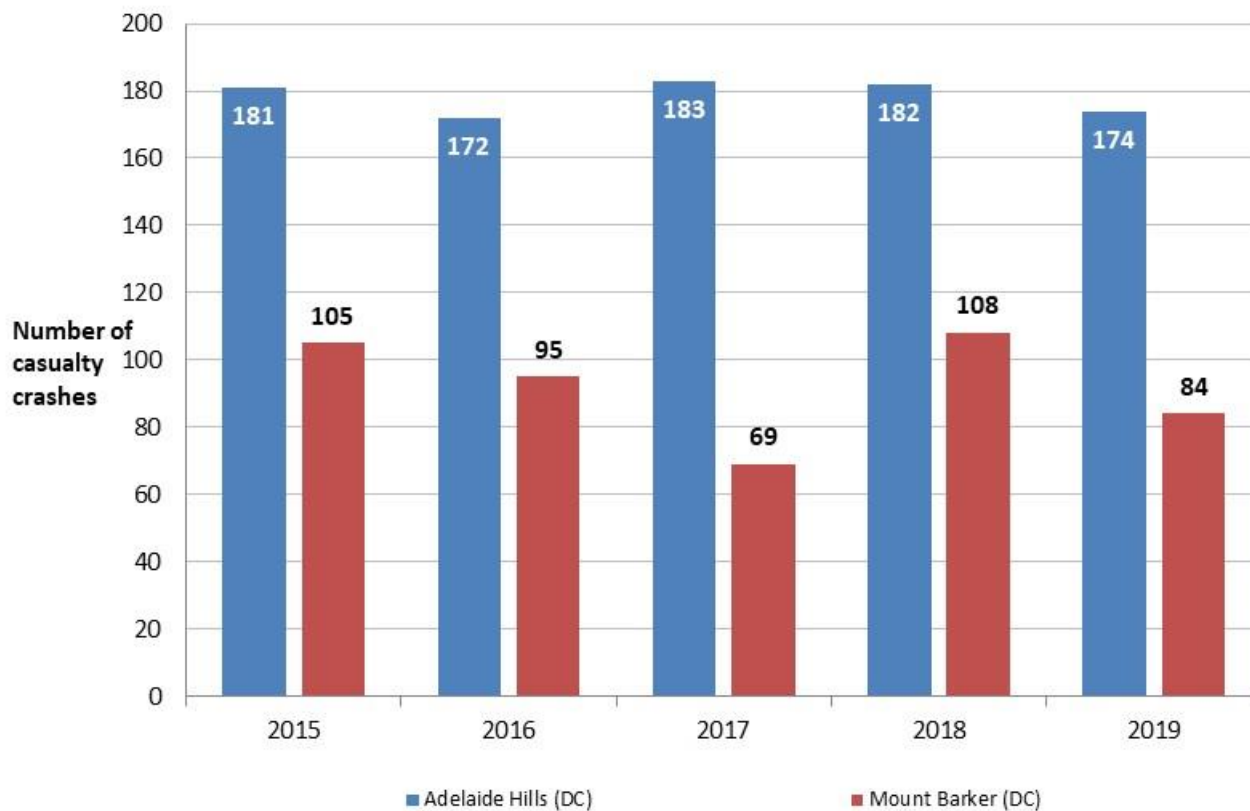


Table 2 – Number of casualty crashes, 2015-2019

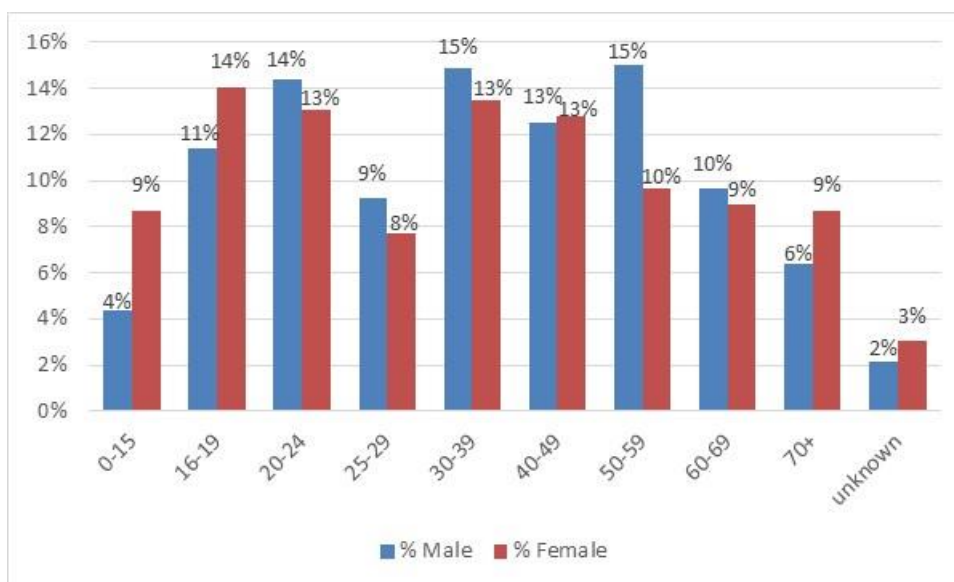
Local Government Areas	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Adelaide Hills (DC)	181	172	183	182	174	892 (66%)
Mount Barker (DC)	105	95	69	108	84	461 (34%)
TOTAL	286	267	252	290	258	1,353

Table 3 shows the contribution of each council to the overall number of casualties as opposed to crashes in the Adelaide Hills Region. There were 1,694 casualties as a result of the 1,353 crashes in the Adelaide Hills region.

Table 3 - Number of casualties (fatalities, serious and minor injuries), 2015-2019

Local Government Areas	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Adelaide Hills (DC)	222	218	222	222	220	1104 (65%)
Mount Barker (DC)	132	113	92	135	118	590 (35%)
TOTAL	354	331	314	357	338	1,694

Figure 2 – Percentage of casualties by age and gender, 2015-2019



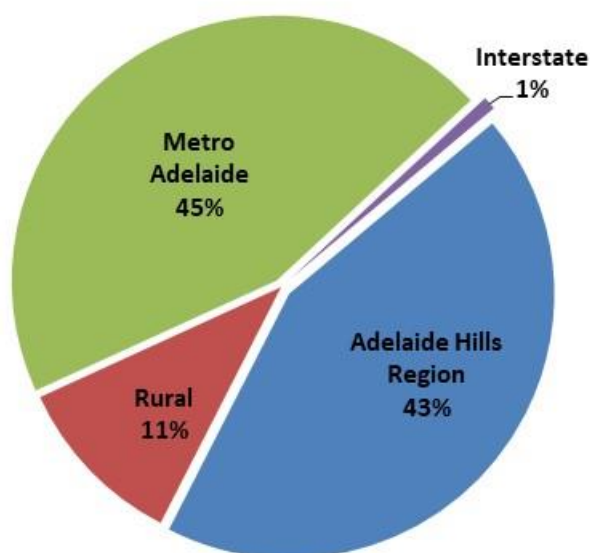
- There were a total of 1,693 casualties for the 5 year period 2015-2019.
- 57% were male and 43% were female.
- Casualty numbers were high in the younger age groups, with 16-24 year olds representing the highest numbers.
- 26% of road user casualties in this region are 16-24 year olds.
- People aged 16 to 24 year old in this region make up 15% of the population, but accounted for 40% of all fatalities and 22% of all serious injuries for the years 2014-2018.

Table 4 – Casualties by age and type of casualty, 2015-2019

Road User	0-15	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Unknown	Total
Driver	1	115	139	93	146	124	103	92	87	10	910
Passenger	83	55	32	22	32	13	23	22	24	27	333
Motor cyclist (including pillion)	0	36	51	25	43	46	58	30	11	1	301
Cyclist	9	6	8	4	20	29	30	9	0	5	120
Pedestrian	12	0	4	1	1	2	1	5	3	1	30
Total	105	212	234	145	242	214	215	158	125	44	1694

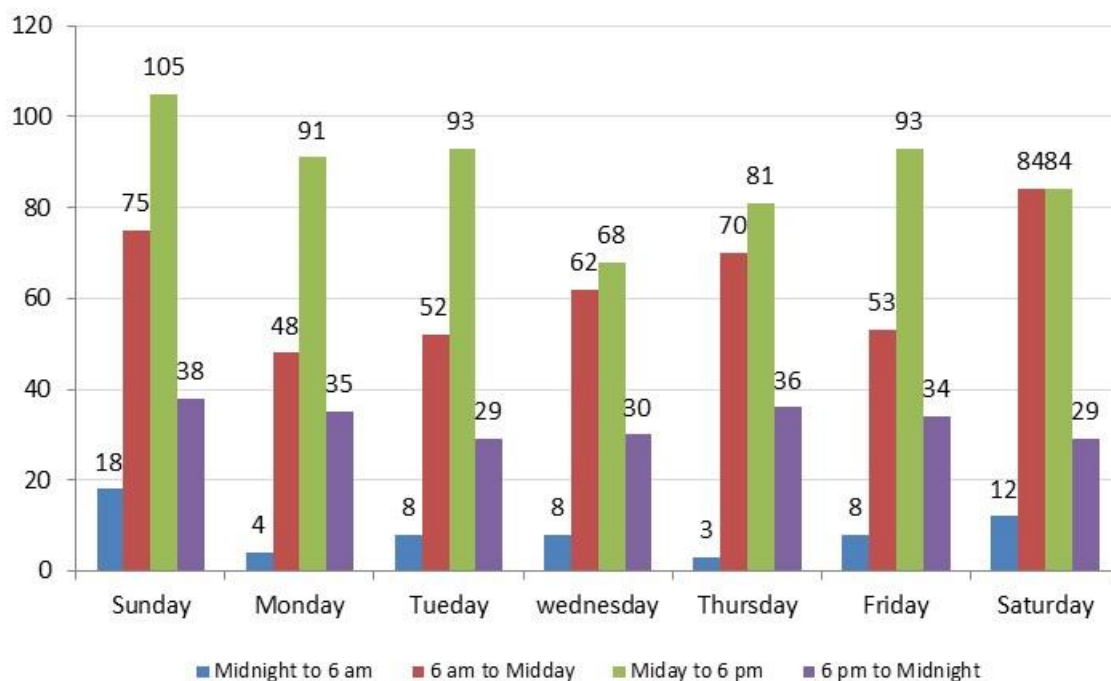
- Like most areas, drivers and passengers (vehicle occupants) make up the majority of road user casualties in the Adelaide Hills region.
- 17 (2%) of the vehicle occupant casualties were not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

Figure 3 – Residence of driver and rider casualties, 2015-2019



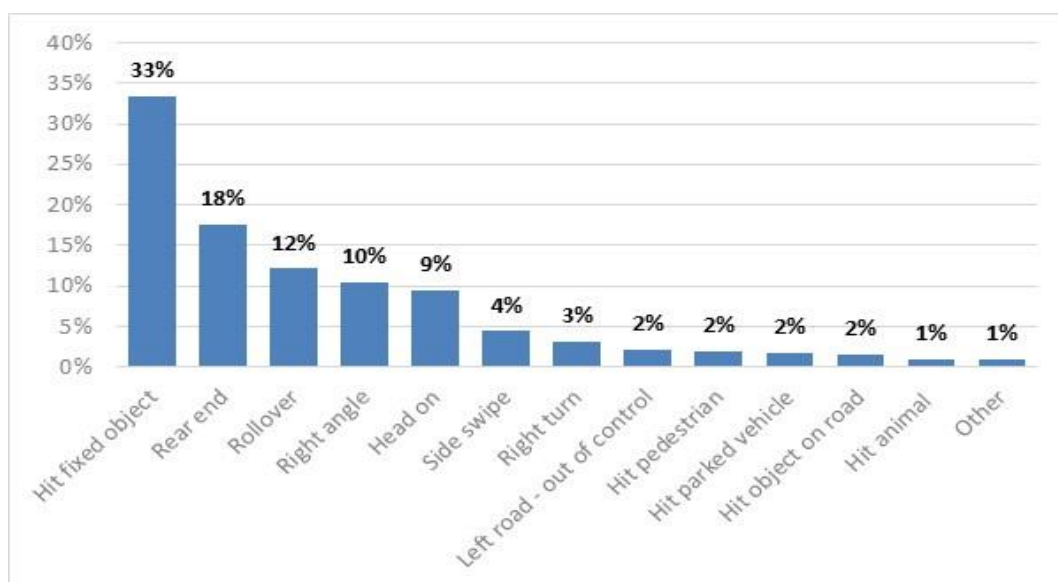
- 43% of driver and rider casualties that occur in the Adelaide Hills region are residents of the region.
- 45% are residents in the Adelaide Metropolitan area, other than the Adelaide Hills region.
- 11% are from other rural areas in South Australia.
- 1% are from interstate.

Figure 4 – Casualty crashes by time of day/day of week, 2015-2019



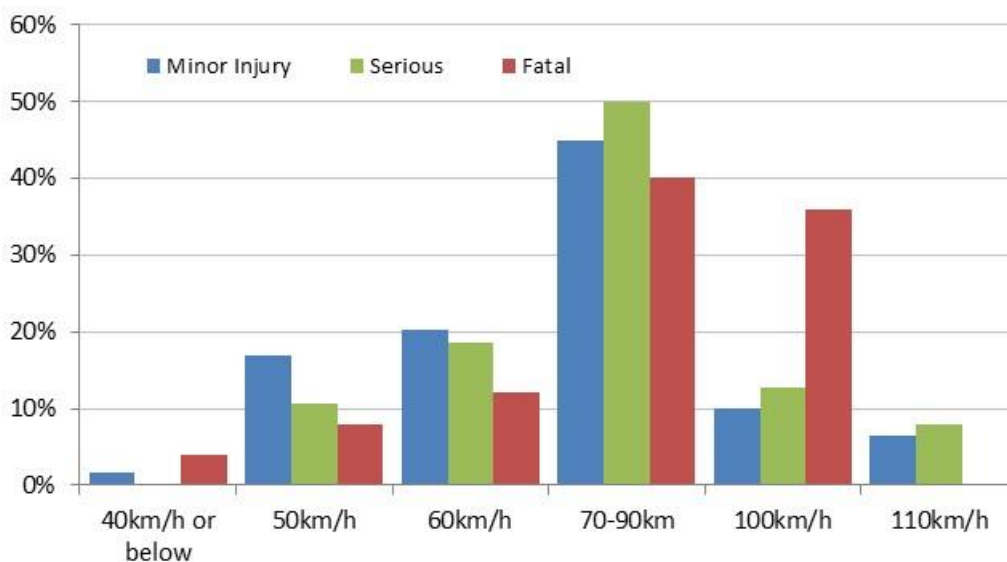
- While crashes can occur at any time, the most common time for a casualty crash to occur in the Adelaide Hills Region is midday to 6 pm.

Figure 5 – Casualty crashes by crash type, 2015-2019



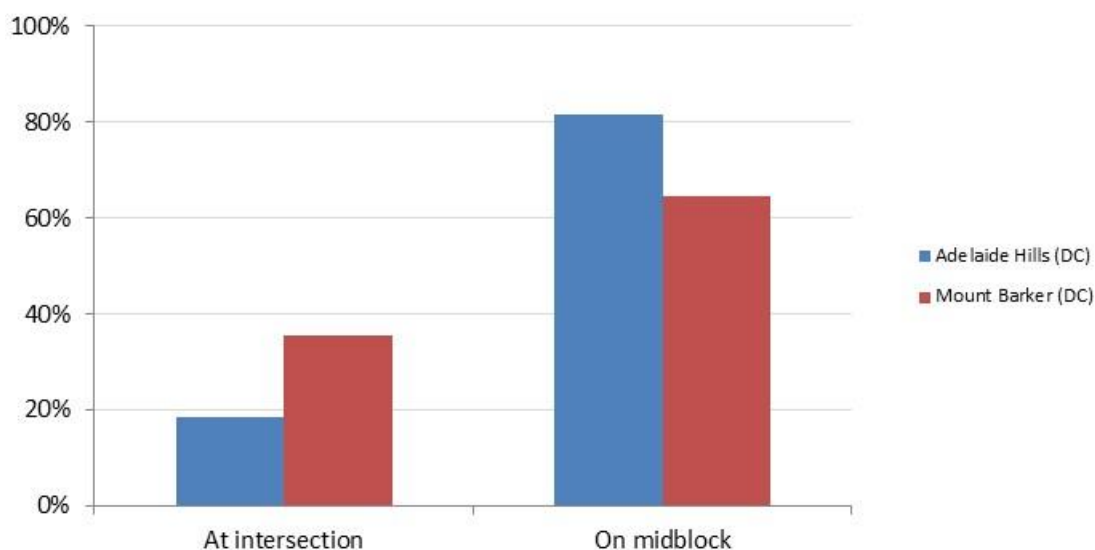
- The majority of casualty crashes are the result of a vehicle hitting a fixed object.

Figure 6 – Casualty crashes by speed limit of road, 2015-2019



- 46% of all casualty crashes in the Adelaide Hills region occur on roads posted at 70-90 km/h.
- 36% of all casualty crashes in the Adelaide Hills region occur on roads where the speed limit is ≥ 100 km/h.
- 40% of the fatal crashes occurred on roads posted at 70-90 km/h and 20% occurred in a 50-60 km/h zone.

Figure 7 – Where the casualty crashes occurred within the councils of the Adelaide Hills Region, 2015-2019



- 18% of all casualty crashes in the Adelaide Hills region occur at intersections, while the remaining 82% occur at 'midblock' sections where there are no intersecting roads.
- The majority of crashes in both Local Government Areas within the region occur on midblock sections.

Definitions for crash and casualty types:

Casualty Crash - A crash where at least one fatality, serious injury or minor injury occurs.

Casualty – A fatality, serious injury or minor injury.

Fatal Crash - A crash for which there is at least one fatality.

Fatality - A person who dies within 30 days of a crash as a result of injuries sustained in that crash.

Serious Injury Crash - A non-fatal crash in which at least one person is seriously injured.

Serious Injury - A person who sustains injuries and is admitted to hospital for a duration of at least 24 hours as a result of a road crash and who does not die as a result of those injuries within 30 days of the crash.

Minor Injury Crash - A crash for at least one person sustains injury but no person is admitted to hospital or dies within 30 days of the crash.

Minor Injury – A person who sustains injuries requiring medical treatment, either by a doctor or in a hospital, as a result of a road crash and who does not die as a result of those injuries with 30 days of the crash.