

ROAD SAFETY IN THE MURRAY MALLEE REGION

A report of road crashes in the Murray Mallee Region 2010-2014

Road Trauma in South Australia

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

There were 108 fatalities recorded on South Australian roads in 2014 this is 11 more than the 97 recorded in 2013, and two more than the previous 5 year average (2009 – 2013) of 106 fatalities. Serious injuries have seen a decrease from 790 in 2013 to 711 in 2014. The previous 5 year average (2009 – 2013) is 928 serious injuries per year.

Road Trauma in the Murray Mallee Region

As expected due to population in the area, Murray Bridge recorded the highest number of crashes over the past five years.

South Mallee District council did not record any fatal crashes in the past 5 years.

Murray Bridge and The Coorong both recorded the most fatal crashes (11) in the last 5 years. Mid Murray recorded the most serious injury crashes (67).

Table 1 –Casualty crashes, Murray Mallee Councils, South Australia, 2010-2014

LGA	Fatal Crashes	Serious crashes	Minor crashes	Total
Renmark Paringa (DC)	4	21	65	90
Berri and Barmera (DC)	7	32	90	129
Loxton Waikerie (DC)	4	53	92	149
Mid Murray (DC)	6	67	131	204
The Coorong (DC)	11	57	88	156
Karoonda East Murray (DC)	1	15	25	41
Southern Mallee (DC)	0	12	20	32
Murray Bridge (RC)	11	56	205	272
Total	44	313	716	1073

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

The Murray Mallee Region has seen an annual average percentage drop in casualty crashes of 3% per year for the last five years.

Figure 1 – Number of casualty crashes, 2010-2014

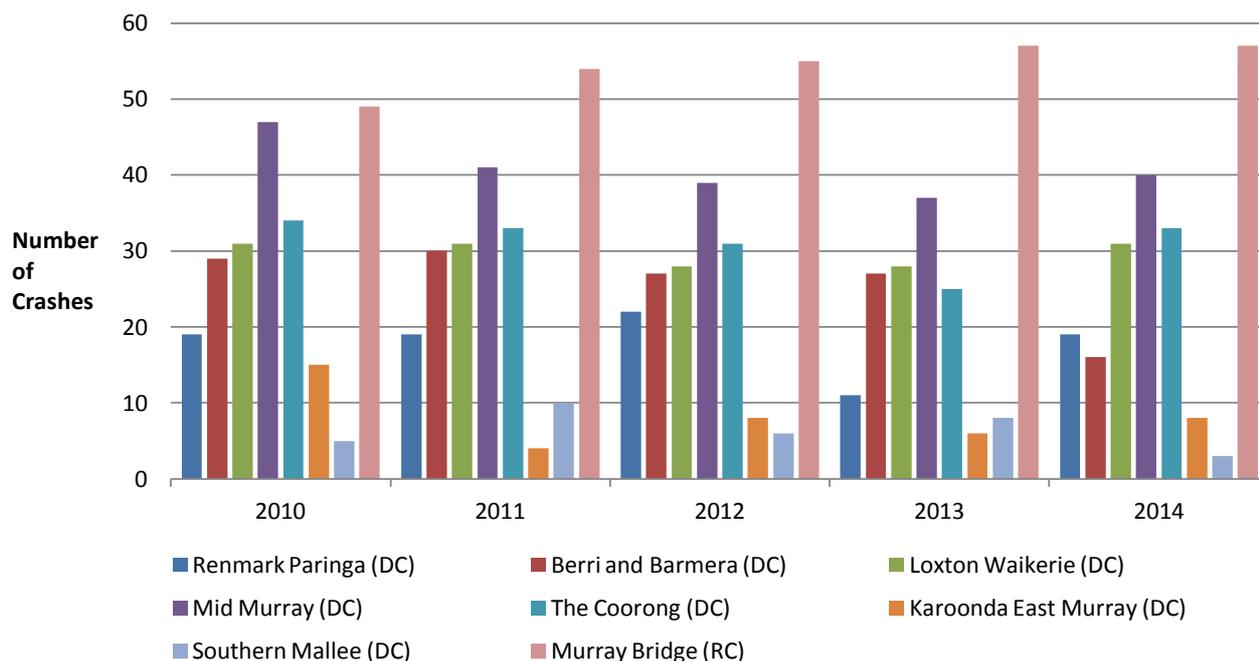


Table 2 – Number of casualty crashes, 2010-2014

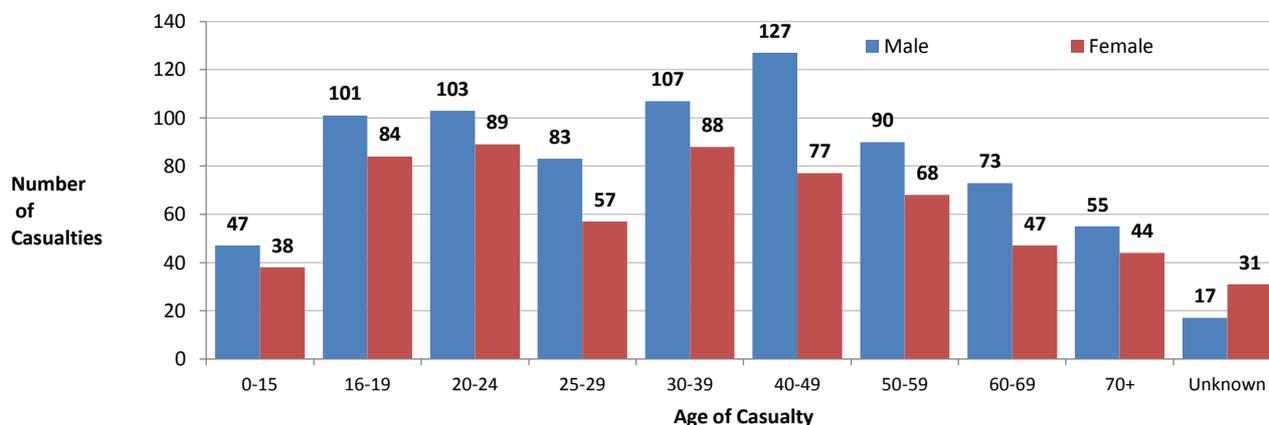
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Renmark Paringa (DC)	19	19	22	11	19	90
Berri and Barmera (DC)	29	30	27	27	16	129
Loxton Waikerie (DC)	31	31	28	28	31	149
Mid Murray (DC)	47	41	39	37	40	204
The Coorong (DC)	34	33	31	25	33	156
Karoonda East Murray (DC)	15	4	8	6	8	41
Southern Mallee (DC)	5	10	6	8	3	32
Murray Bridge (RC)	49	54	55	57	57	272
Total	229	222	216	199	207	1073

Table 3 shows the contribution of each council to the overall number of casualties as opposed to crashes in the Murray Mallee Region. As expected the majority of casualties were in the Regional Council of Murray Bridge.

Table 3 - Number of casualties (fatalities, serious and minor injuries), 2010-2014

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total
Renmark Paringa (DC)	23	25	27	14	28	117
Berri and Barmera (DC)	42	38	33	41	21	175
Loxton Waikerie (DC)	42	40	37	40	34	193
Mid Murray (DC)	61	55	52	40	51	259
The Coorong (DC)	50	42	49	38	48	227
Karoonda East Murray (DC)	16	4	9	10	10	49
Southern Mallee (DC)	7	13	9	11	3	43
Murray Bridge (RC)	64	71	74	84	71	364
Total	305	288	290	278	266	1427

Figure 2 – Number of casualties by age and gender, 2010-2014



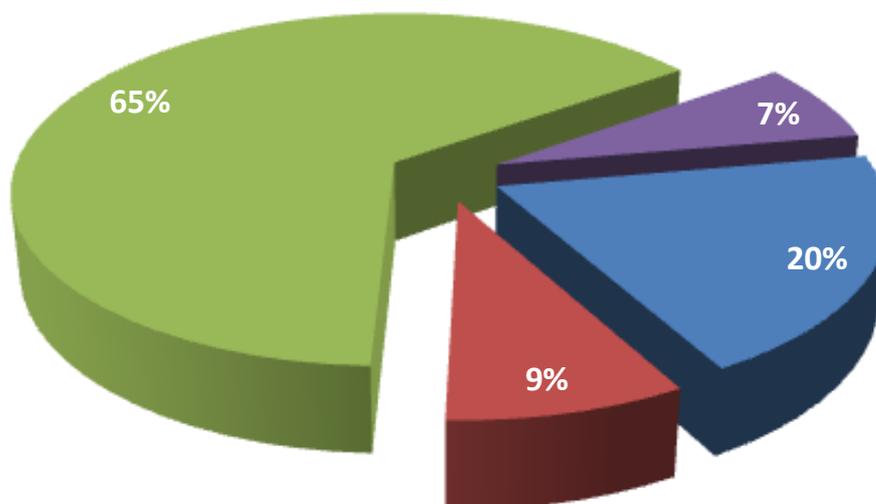
- There were a total of 1427 casualties for the 5 year period 2010-2014.
- Casualty numbers were high in the younger age groups for males 16-24 years, representing the highest numbers.
- 56% of casualties were male

Table 4 – Casualties by age and type of casualty, 2010-2014

	0-15	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70+	Unknown	Total
Driver	0	116	123	87	143	145	112	80	68	4	878
Passenger	71	55	52	34	30	27	19	27	23	42	380
Motor cyclist (including pillion)	4	10	13	9	16	23	22	9	0	1	107
Cyclist	6	3	3	4	4	3	3	0	2	1	29
Pedestrian	4	1	1	6	2	6	2	4	6	1	33
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	85	185	192	140	195	204	158	120	99	49	1427

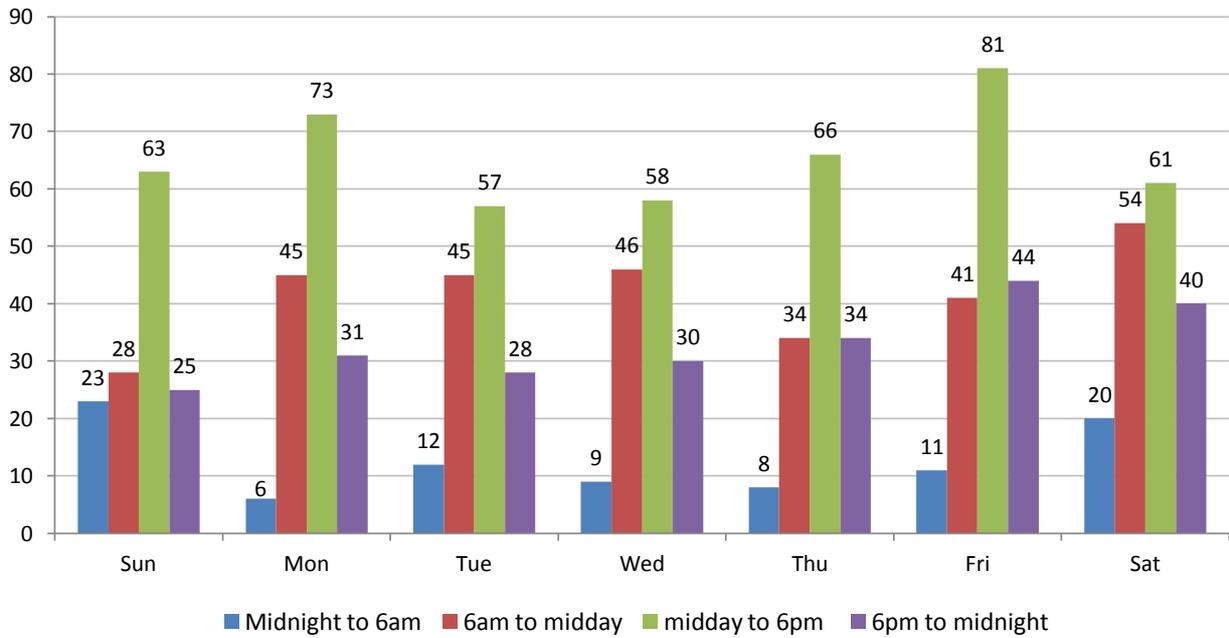
- Like most areas, drivers and passengers (vehicle occupants) make up the majority of road user casualties in the Murray Mallee Region.
- 47 (5%) of the vehicle occupant casualties were not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

Figure 3 – Residence of driver and rider casualties, 2010-2014



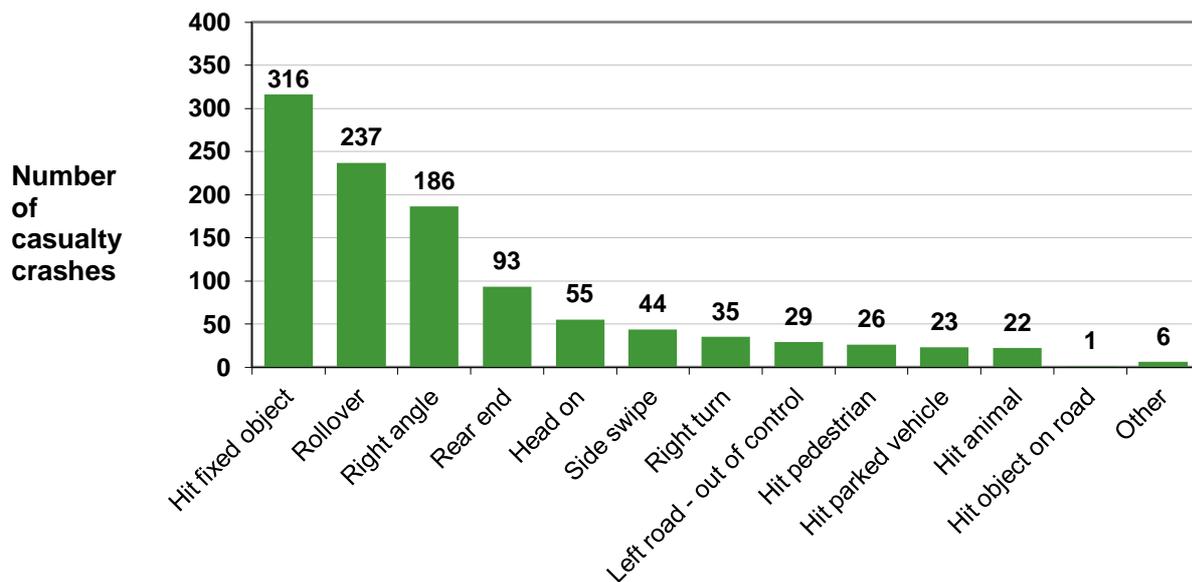
- 65 percent of driver and rider casualties that occur in the Murray Mallee Region are residents of the area.
- 9% are from other rural areas in South Australia, not in the Murray Mallee area.
- 20% are residents in the Adelaide Metropolitan area.
- 7% are from interstate.

Figure 4 – Casualty crashes by time of day/day of week, 2010-2014



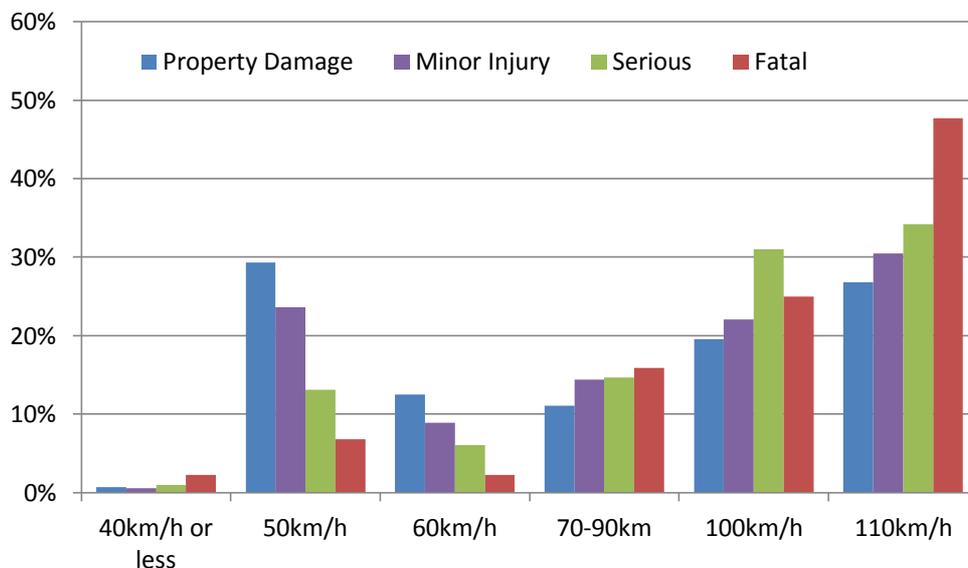
- While crashes can occur at any time, the most common time for a casualty crash to occur in the Murray Mallee Region is midday to 6 pm on a Friday.

Figure 5 – Casualty crashes by crash type, 2010-2014



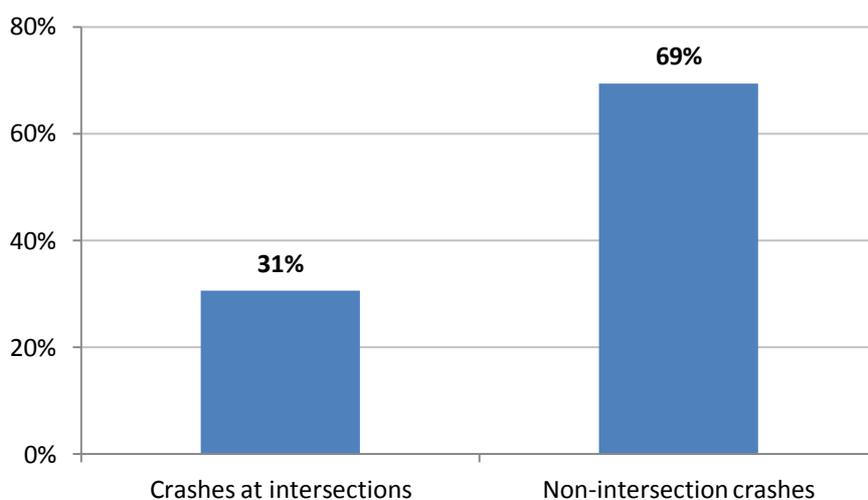
- The majority of casualty crashes are the result of a vehicle hitting a fixed object or a rollover.

Figure 6 – Casualty crashes by speed limit of road and severity, 2010-2014



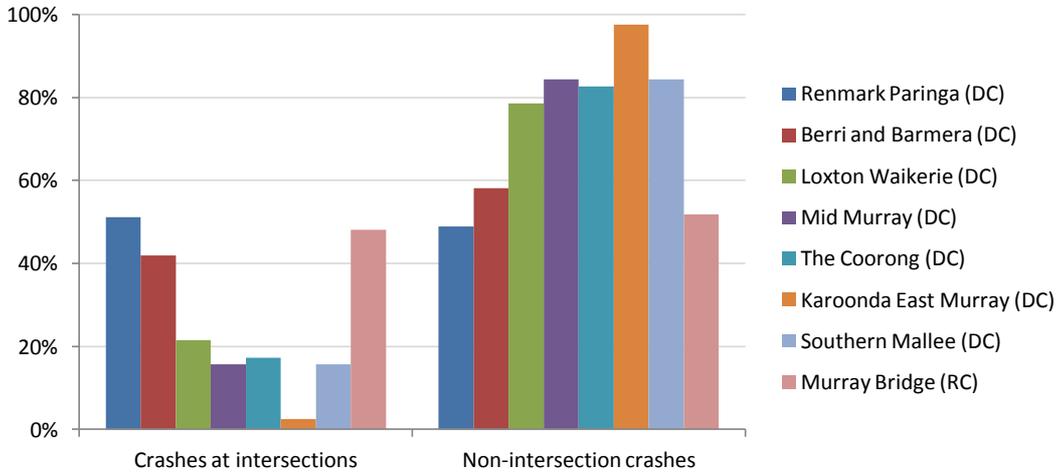
- The majority of crashes in the Murray Mallee Region occur on roads with 110km/h speed limit. In the case of fatal crashes, 48% occurred on roads with a speed limit of 110 km/h.

Figure 7 – Where the casualty crashes occurred, 2010-2014



- 31% of all casualty crashes in the Murray Mallee LGA occur at intersections, while the remaining 69% occur at 'midblock' sections where there are no intersecting roads.

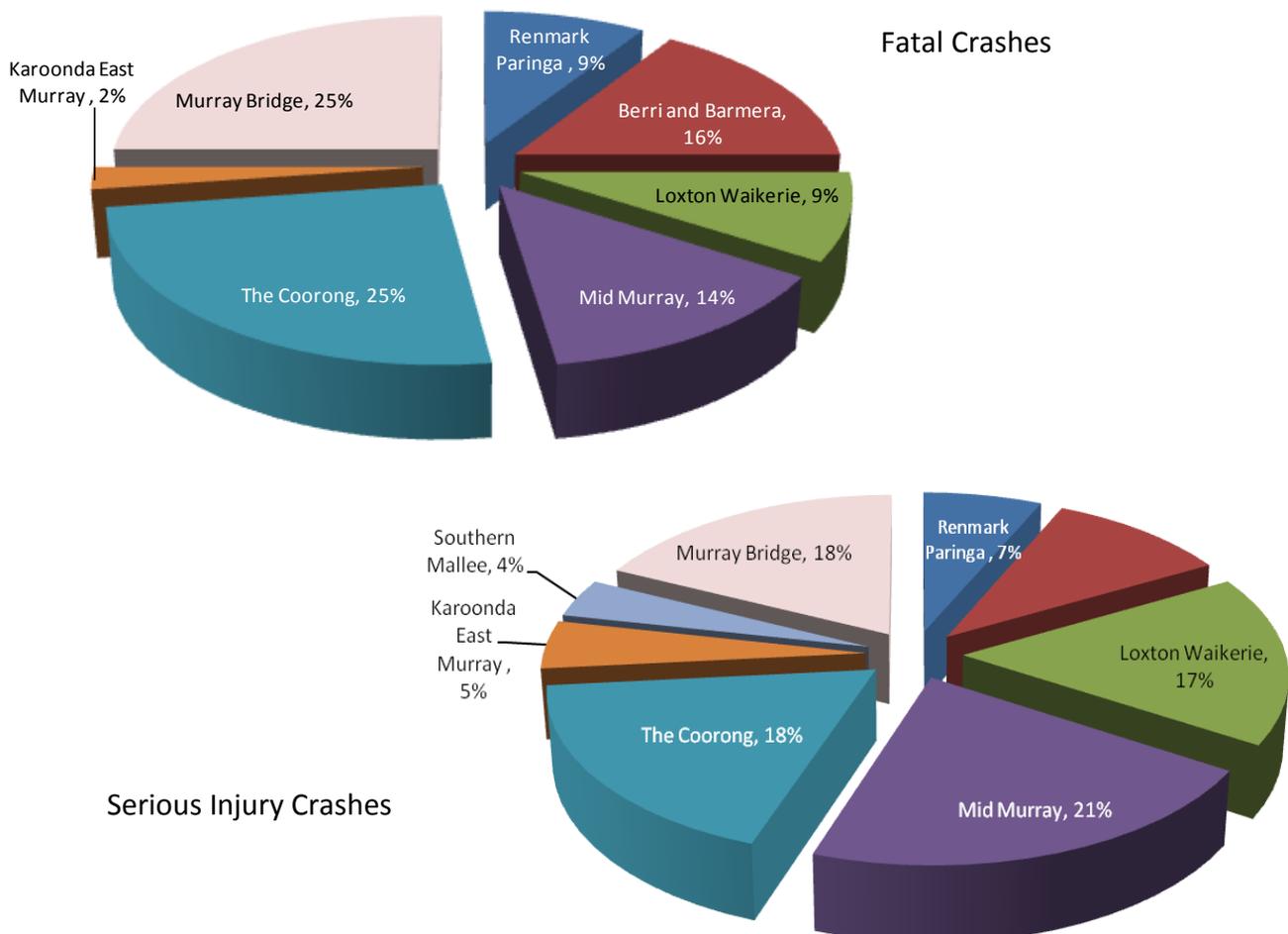
Figure 8 – Where the casualty crashes occurred within the councils of the Murray Mallee LGA



The highest percentage of crashes occurring at ‘midblock’ sections, 98% occurred in Karoonda East Murray. The highest percentage of crashes occurring at intersections, 51% occurred at Renmark Paringa and 48% occurred at Murray Bridge.

Distribution of crashes

Figure 9 – Distribution of fatal and serious injury road crashes by council, 2010-2014



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 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.