

## Trends in Pedestrian Injury

There is increasing interest in pedestrian safety in New Zealand. This fact sheet presents an overview of pedestrian injury in New Zealand.

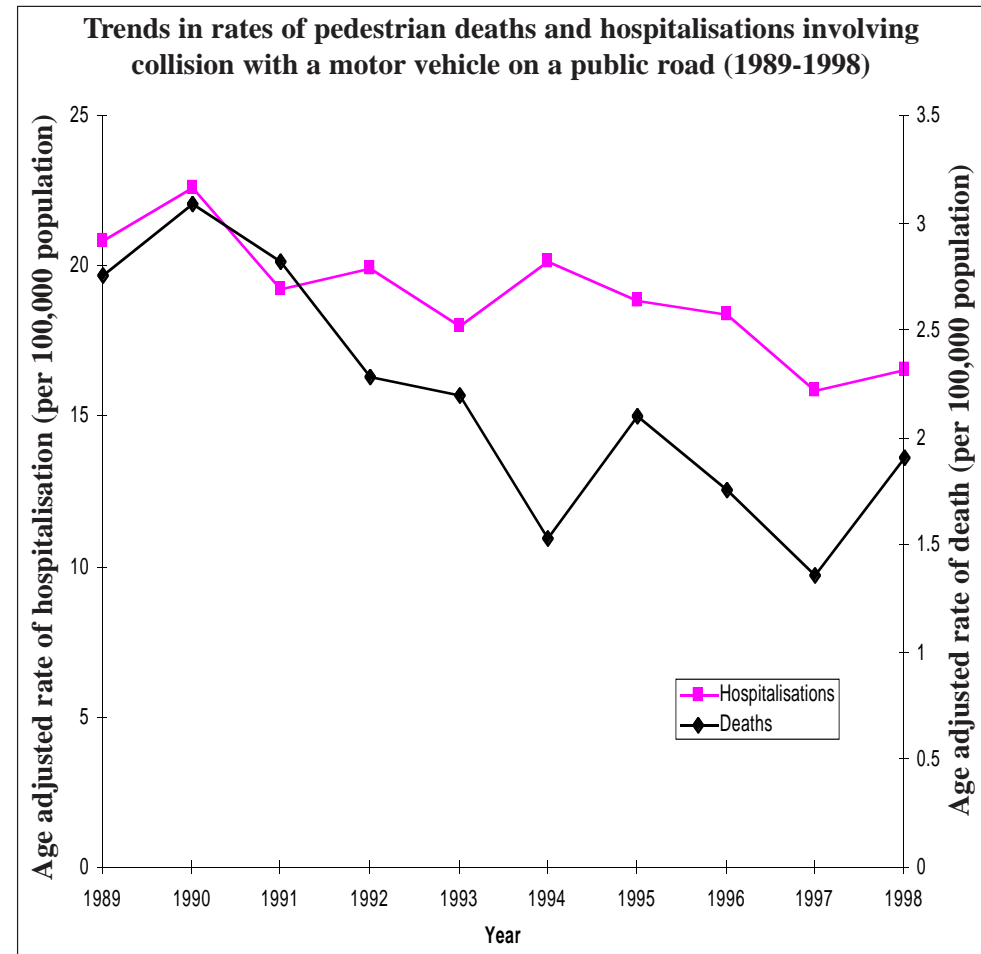
- Between 1989 and 1998 there were 823 pedestrian deaths<sup>1</sup>, an average of 82 per year.
- The vast majority (92%, n=754) of these deaths involved a collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.
- Between 1989 and 1998, 8091 people were hospitalised<sup>1,2</sup> as a result of a pedestrian injury (an average of 809 per year).
- 82% (n=6608) of these injuries involved collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.

**The remainder of this fact sheet deals only with pedestrian injuries and deaths involving collision with a motor vehicle on a public road.**

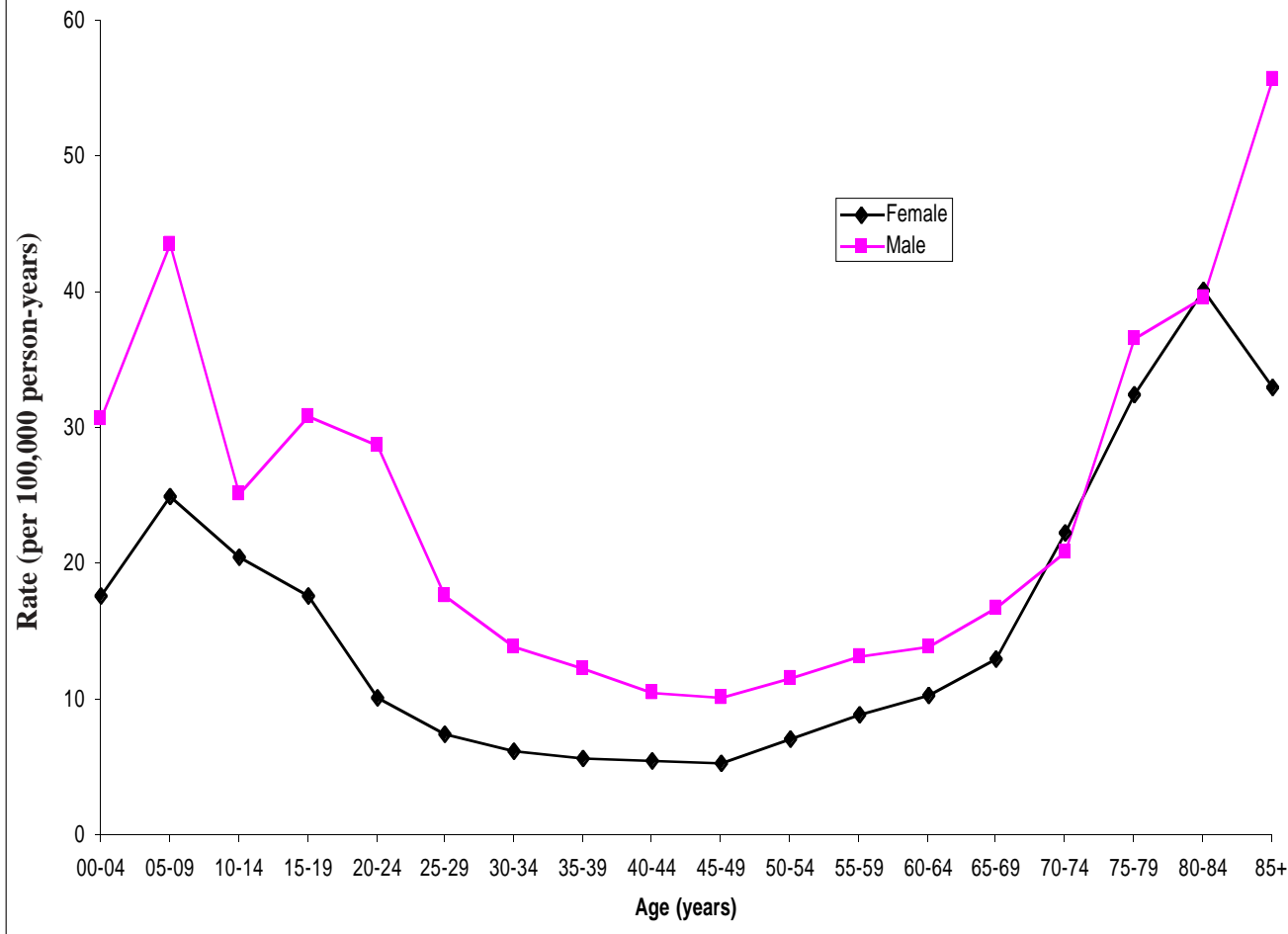
- Over the 5 years from 1989-1993 the rate of hospitalisations was 20.1/100,000 population. Between 1994-1998, the rate of hospitalisations was 17.9/100,000 population.
- Over the 5 years from 1989-1993 rate of deaths was 2.6/100,000 population. Between 1994-1998, the rate of deaths was 1.7/100,000 population.
- 65% of the deaths and 61% of the hospitalisations were male.

1: Includes motor vehicle traffic (ICD Ecodes 810-819), non-traffic crashes (ICD Ecodes 820-825) and other road vehicle accidents (ICD Ecodes 826-829) where the injured person was a pedestrian.

2: Includes all discharges from public hospitals with a primary diagnosis of injury, and excludes the following: readmissions for prior injury, stays of less than 1 day, and those discharged dead.



**Age and gender specific rates of serious injury to pedestrians involving collision with a motor vehicle (1989-1998)**



**Age and gender specific rates of serious injury<sup>3</sup>**

- The rate of serious injury for males was 21.9 per 100,000 person-years and for females was 13.5 per 100,000 person-years.
- Males had the highest rates of serious injury for those under 70 years of age.
- The highest rates occurred among children and the elderly (35.1% of hospitalisations and deaths were 0-14 years olds, 13.8% were over 70 years of age).
- 5 to 9 year olds had the highest rate of serious injury per million hours spent as a pedestrian<sup>4</sup> (7.7 serious injuries per million hours).
- The rates for those 10 years and over was between 1.7 and 3.3 serious injuries per million hours spent as a pedestrian.

<sup>3</sup>: Includes hospitalisations and deaths combined

<sup>4</sup>: Based on the 1997-1998 Travel Survey Report, LTSA

Data Source: Morbidity and Mortality Data, 1989-1998, New Zealand Health Information Service, Ministry of Health, Wellington.

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