

ROAD SAFETY IN THE EYRE AND WESTERN REGION

A report of road crashes in the Eyre and Western 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 Eyre and Western Region

Each year on average 4 people are killed and 18 are seriously injured on roads in the Eyre and Western region. Residents of the region represent 3% of the total population of South Australia and account for 4% of fatalities in South Australia and 3% of all serious injuries.

Table 1 shows the number and percentage of casualty crashes in 2015-2019 by district council.

Table 1 –Casualty crashes, Eyre and Western Councils, South Australia, 2015-2019

Local Government Areas	Fatal crashes (%)	Serious crashes (%)	Minor crashes (%)	Total
Ceduna (DC)	3 (15%)	9 (10%)	18 (6%)	30 (7%)
Streaky Bay (DC)	4 (20%)	5 (6%)	18 (6%)	27 (7%)
Port Lincoln (C)	1 (5%)	12 (13%)	71 (24%)	84 (21%)
Cleve (DC)	0 (0%)	7 (8%)	10 (3%)	17 (4%)
Elliston (DC)	0 (0%)	6 (7%)	6 (2%)	12 (3%)
Franklin Harbor (DC)	3 (15%)	5 (6%)	7 (2%)	15 (4%)
Kimba (DC)	0 (0%)	3 (3%)	8 (3%)	11 (3%)
Wudinna (DC)	0 (0%)	4 (4%)	8 (3%)	12 (3%)
Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	2 (10%)	11 (12%)	34 (11%)	47 (12%)
Tumby Bay (DC)	3 (15%)	4 (4%)	12 (4%)	19 (4%)
Whyalla (C)	5 (20%)	23 (26%)	104 (26%)	131 (32%)
TOTAL	20	89	296	405

There was a total of 405 casualty crashes recorded in the Eyre and Western region in the 5 years 2015 – 2019. As expected due to population in the area, Whyalla and Port Lincoln have the highest number of crashes recorded in the Eyre and Western region.

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

Figure 1 – Number of casualty crashes, 2015-2019

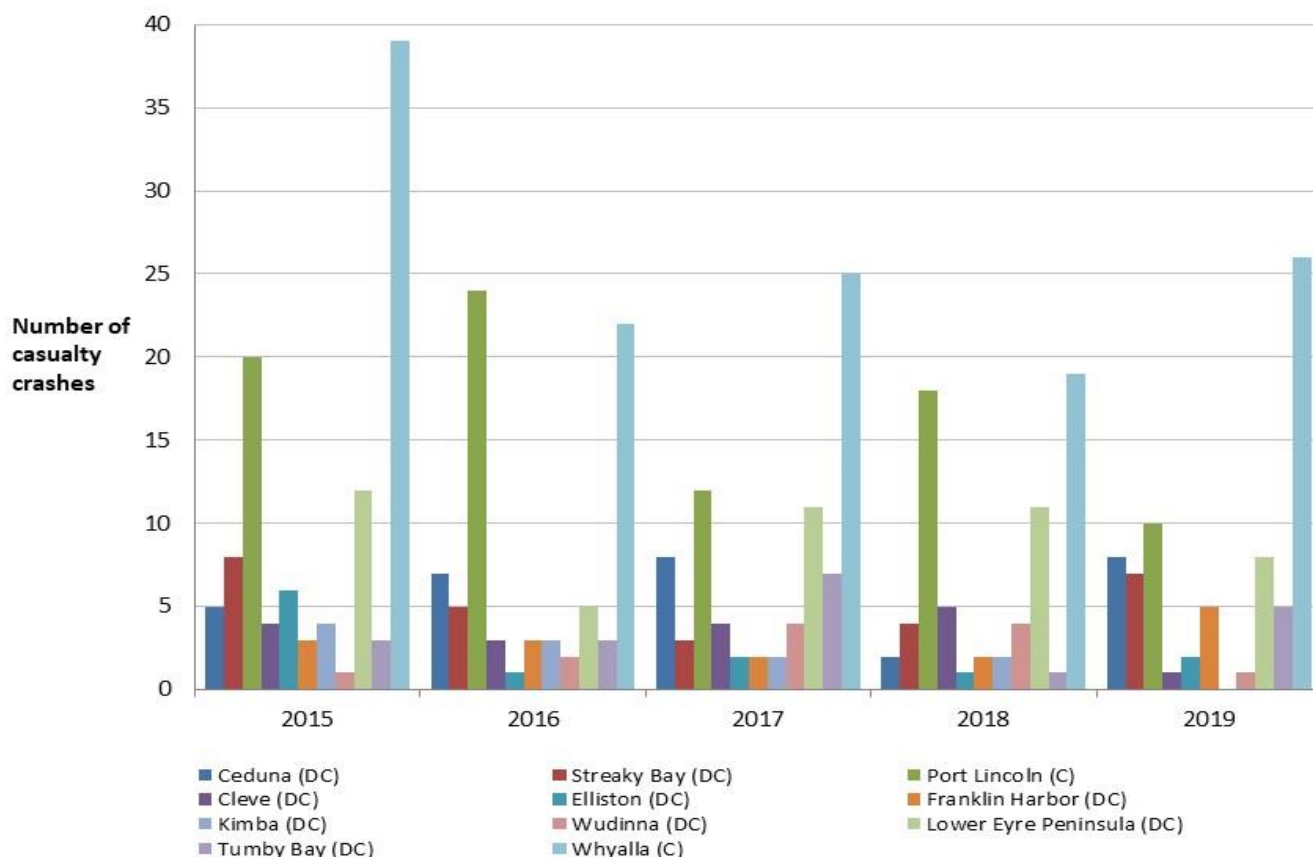


Table 2 – Number of casualty crashes, 2015-2019

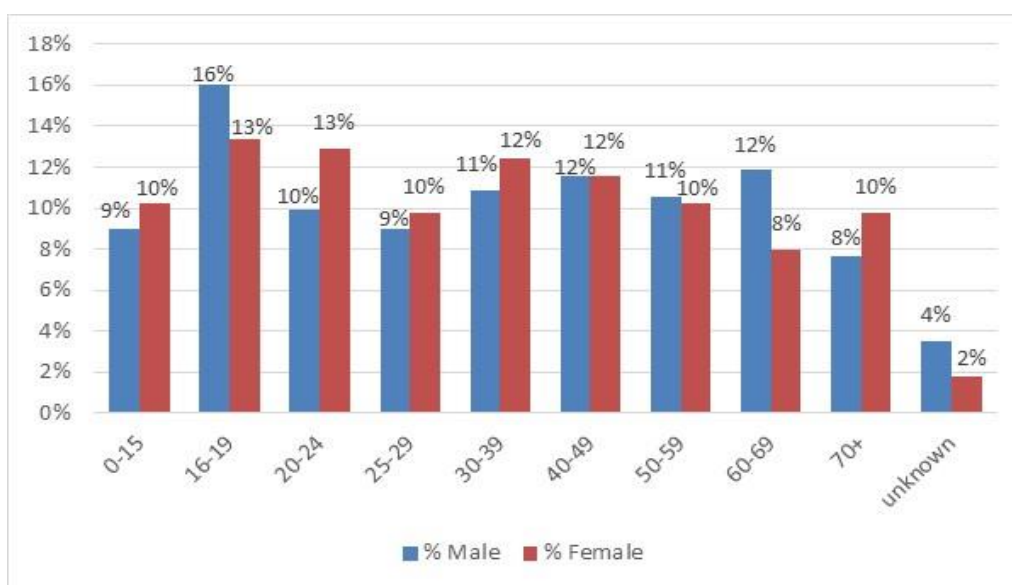
Local Government Areas	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Ceduna (DC)	5	7	8	2	8	30 (7%)
Streaky Bay (DC)	8	5	3	4	7	27 (7%)
Port Lincoln (C)	20	24	12	18	10	84 (21%)
Cleve (DC)	4	3	4	5	1	17 (4%)
Elliston (DC)	6	1	2	1	2	12 (3%)
Franklin Harbor (DC)	3	3	2	2	5	15 (4%)
Kimba (DC)	4	3	2	2	0	11 (3%)
Wudinna (DC)	1	2	4	4	1	12 (3%)
Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	12	5	11	11	8	47 (12%)
Tumby Bay (DC)	3	3	7	1	5	19 (4%)
Whyalla (C)	39	22	25	19	26	131 (32%)
TOTAL	105	78	80	69	73	405

Table 3 shows the contribution of each council to the overall number of casualties as opposed to crashes in the Eyre and Western Region. There were 533 casualties as a result of the 405 crashes in the Eyre and Western region.

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

Local Government Areas	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Ceduna (DC)	6	8	12	2	14	42 (8%)
Streaky Bay (DC)	11	6	5	4	11	37 (7%)
Port Lincoln (C)	26	28	13	25	10	102 (19%)
Cleve (DC)	5	6	4	5	1	21 (4%)
Elliston (DC)	8	1	3	1	7	20 (4%)
Franklin Harbor (DC)	4	7	3	2	6	22 (4%)
Kimba (DC)	6	5	2	2	0	15 (3%)
Wudinna (DC)	2	4	4	6	2	18 (3%)
Lower Eyre Peninsula (DC)	17	6	11	15	9	58 (11%)
Tumby Bay (DC)	3	3	9	1	6	22 (4%)
Whyalla (C)	53	36	30	21	36	176 (33%)
TOTAL	141	110	96	84	102	533

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



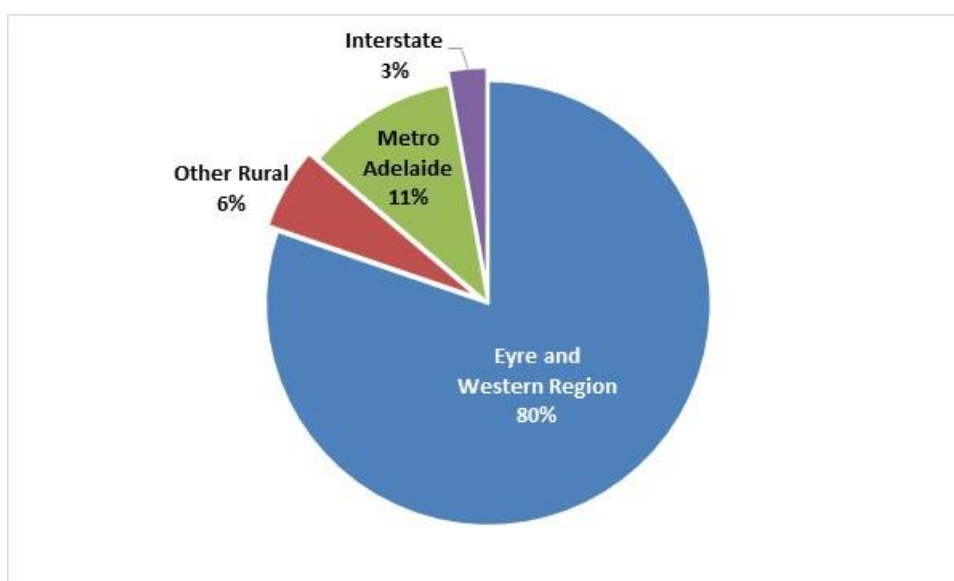
- There were a total of 533 casualties for the 5 year period 2015-2019.
- 58% were male and 42% were female.
- Casualty numbers were high in the younger age groups, with the 16-24 year olds representing the highest numbers.
- 26% of road user casualties in this region are 16-24 year olds.
- People aged 16 to 24 year old in this region make up 11% of the population, but accounted for 10% 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	42	37	31	40	38	30	33	26	6	284
Passenger	39	19	11	15	11	9	13	9	7	5	138
Motor cyclist (including pillion)	2	19	9	3	5	11	8	6	1	1	65
Cyclist	4	0	2	0	3	3	3	2	0	2	19
Pedestrian	4	0	1	1	3	2	2	5	8	1	27
Total	50	80	60	50	62	63	56	55	42	15	533

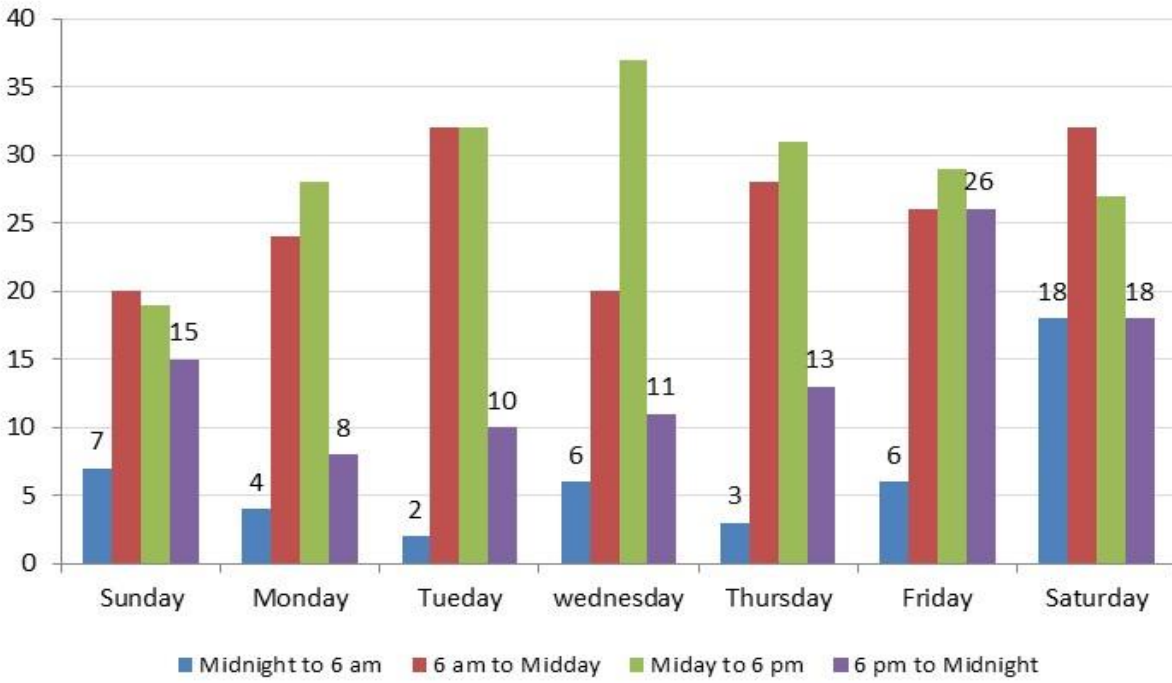
- Like most areas, drivers and passengers (vehicle occupants) make up the majority of road user casualties in the Eyre and Western region.
- 24 (6%) of the vehicle occupant casualties were not wearing a seatbelt at the time of the crash.

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



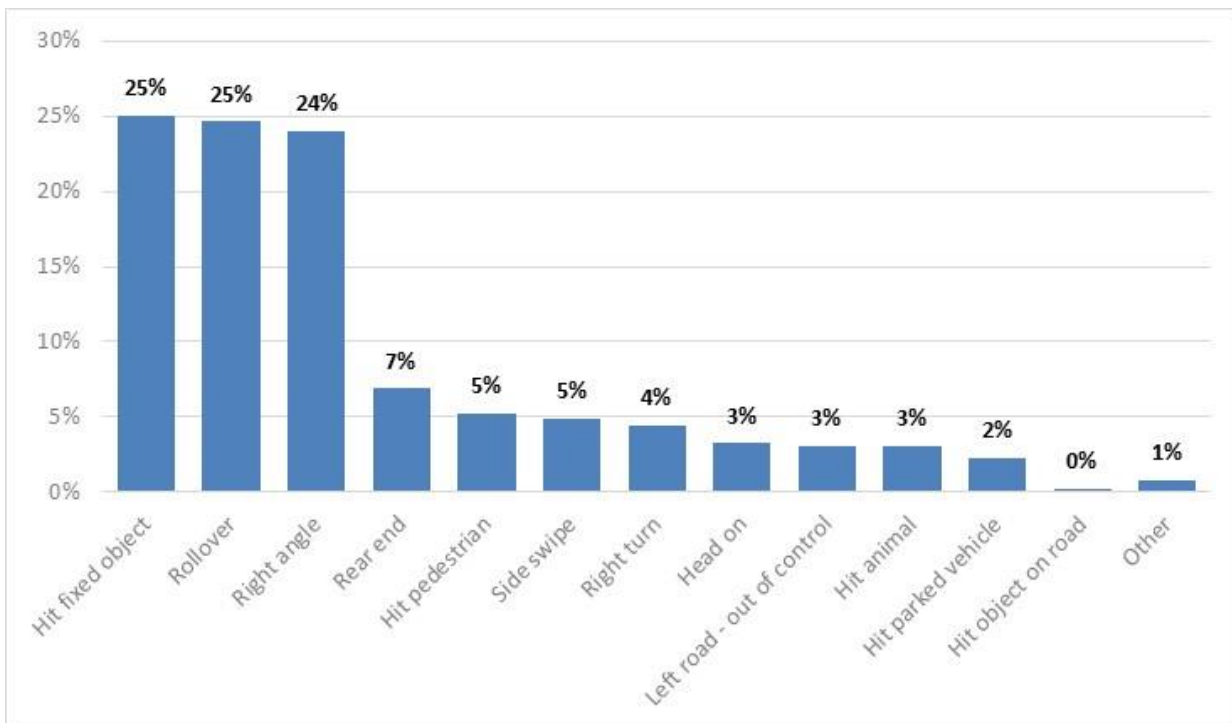
- 80% of driver and rider casualties that occur in the Eyre and Western region are residents of the region.
- 6% are from other rural areas in South Australia.
- 12% are residents in the Adelaide Metropolitan area.
- 3% are from interstate.

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



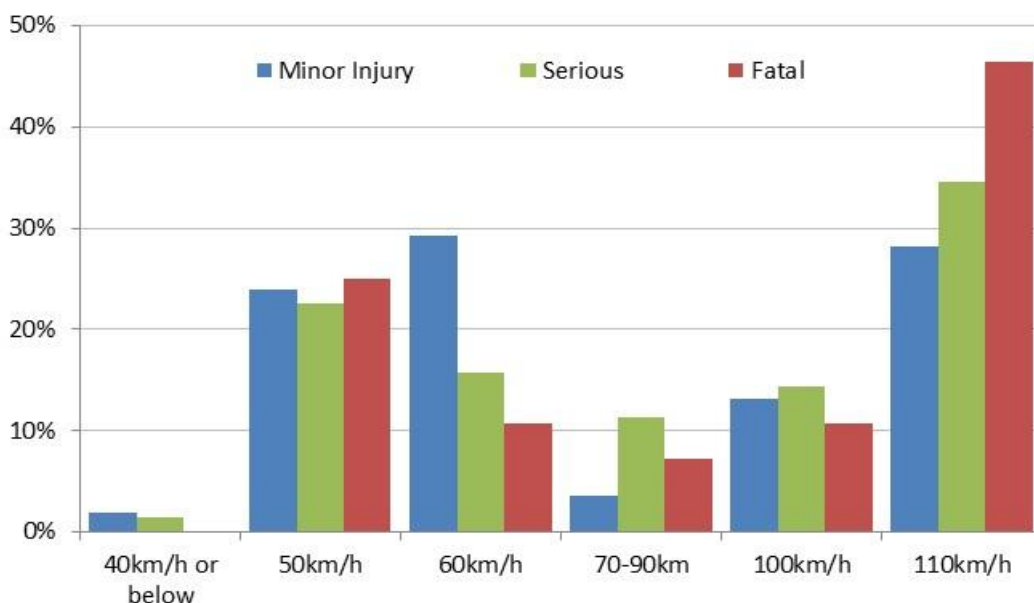
- While crashes can occur at any time, the most common time for a casualty crash to occur in the Eyre and Western Region is midday to 6 pm.

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



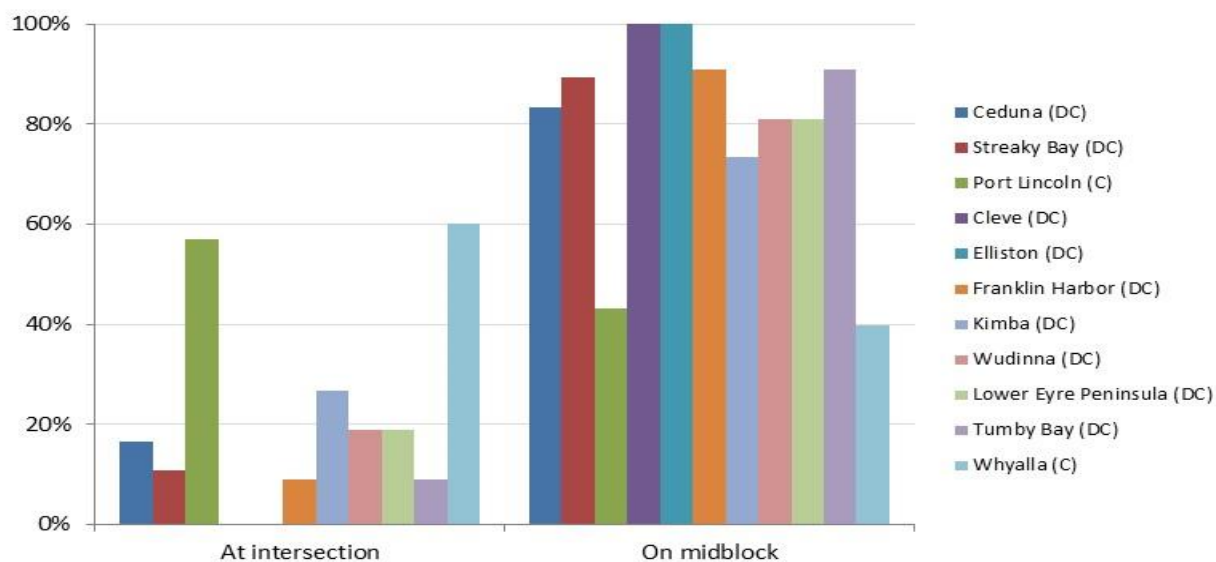
- The majority of casualty crashes are the result of hitting a fixed object, a vehicle rolling over, or a right angle crash.

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



- 48% of all casualty crashes in the Eyre and Western region occur on roads posted at 50-60 km/h.
- 44% of all casualty crashes in the Eyre and Western region occur on roads where the speed limit is ≥ 100 km/h.
- 25% occurred in a 50 km/h zone.

Figure 7 – Where the casualty crashes occurred within the councils of the Eyre and Western Region, 2014-2018



- 37% of all casualty crashes in the Eyre and Western region occur at intersections, while the remaining 63% occur at ‘midblock’ sections where there are no intersecting roads.
- The highest percentage of crashes occurring at intersections were 60% occurring in Whyalla, followed by 57% in Port Lincoln.

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.