



The BTRE is currently updating this information to 1996 data. For further information please contact: btre@dotars.gov.au

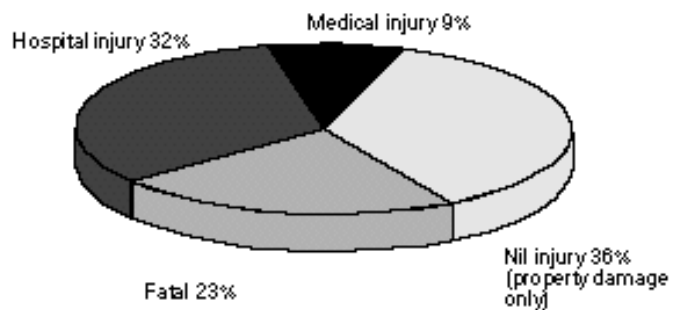
COSTS OF ROAD CRASHES IN AUSTRALIA – 1993

- ◆ ROAD CRASHES COST AUSTRALIA \$6.1 BILLION IN 1993
- ◆ ROAD CRASH COSTS ACCOUNT FOR OVER 90% OF THE TOTAL COST OF TRANSPORT-RELATED ACCIDENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

COSTS BY INJURY SEVERITY

The classification of crashes by injury severity indicates the most serious level of injury sustained in a crash. But this method of classification does not indicate what other less severe injuries may have been sustained. For example, a fatal crash is one in which at least one person dies. 'Hospital injury' refers to crashes in which at least one person is admitted to hospital and 'medical injury' refers to crashes in which at least one person receives medical treatment as an outpatient. A nil injury crash involves only property damage.

Over half a million road crashes are estimated to have occurred in Australia in 1993. Most of these crashes did not involve injury, but 1732 were fatal. It is estimated that over 17 000 crashes resulted in hospitalisation and about 47 000 crashes involved medical treatment of victims in 1993.

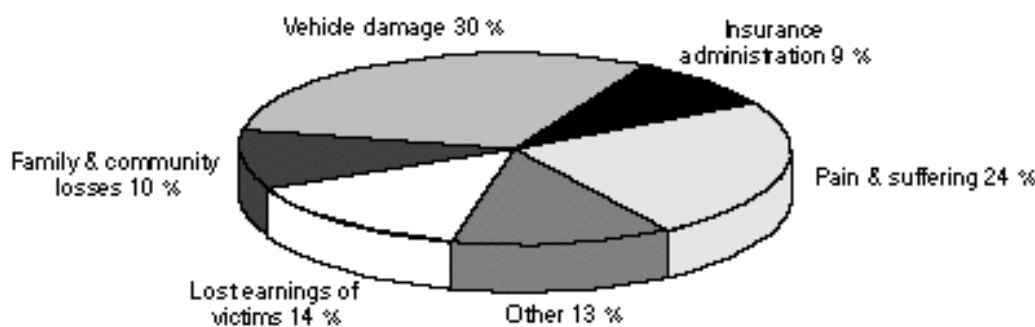


Crash Costs 1993 (\$6.1 billion) by injury severity

The average costs of crashes in 1993 classified by injury severity are:

CRASH CLASSIFICATION:	AVERAGE COST (\$)
Fatality	752 400
Hospital injury	113 100
Medical injury	11 900
Nil injury	5 000

COSTS BY CATEGORY



Total Crash Cost 1993 (\$6.1 billion) by cost category

Costs have been estimated for six broad categories:

- ◆ Lost earnings of victims \$829.1 million (14%)
- ◆ Family and community losses \$587.8 million (10%)
- ◆ Vehicle damage \$1868.2 million (30%)
- ◆ Pain and suffering \$1463.3 million (24%)
- ◆ Insurance administration \$571.1 million (9%)
- ◆ Other \$816.4 million (13%)

The ‘other’ category comprises costs relating to hospitalisation, medical treatment and rehabilitation; crash investigation; travel delay; losses to non-victims; and ambulance and legal services.

A detailed explanation of the methodology used to produce crash cost estimates is provided in BTCE (1992), Report 79, *Social cost of transport accidents in Australia*. The cost estimates in this information sheet are based on an update of the cost of road crashes in 1988 reported in that publication. The total cost of road crashes in 1993 is the same as in 1988 because the increases in the cost indexes used in updating the crash costs from 1988 to 1993 have been offset by changes in the mix and severity of fatalities and injuries during that period. The methodology used to produce the updated cost estimates in this information sheet is available from the BTCE.

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