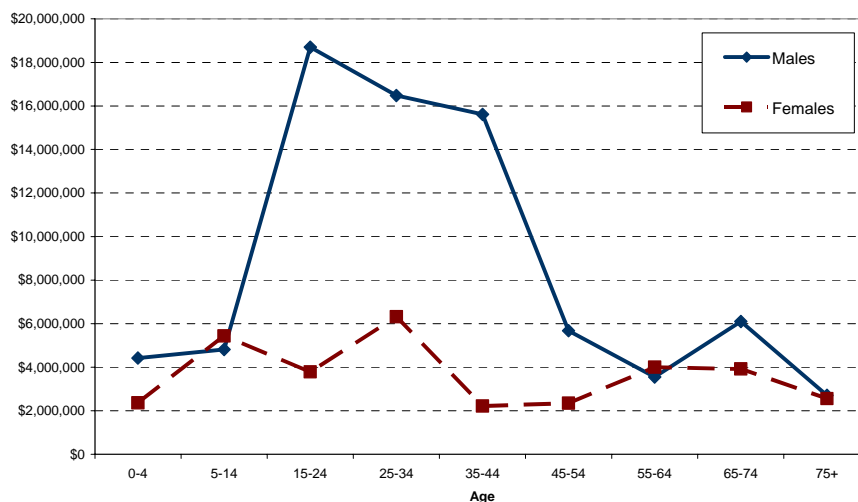




The Cost of Pedestrian Injuries

- Hospital separation records¹ indicate that 121 pedestrians were killed and 3,396 were injured as a result of traffic crashes in NSW in 1999/2000. This equates to 1.9 people killed and 52.5 injured per 100,000 NSW residents.
- The cost of pedestrian injuries to the NSW community² is \$111,020,428. This represents 18.5% of costs due to all casualties of traffic crashes and reflects:
 - \$13,681,103 (12.3% of total costs) in direct costs of treating and managing injuries, including \$11,790,785 in costs to the NSW hospital system.
 - \$97,339,325 (87.7% of total costs) in indirect costs associated with Years of Life Lost and Years of Life Lost to Disability, estimated at 2,950 Disability Adjusted Life Years.
 - an average cost of \$31,567 per casualty.
- 58.2% of pedestrians who were injured or killed in traffic crashes were male, but males accounted for 70.3% of the costs of pedestrian traffic casualties, at \$38,130 per casualty (20% more than the overall cost per casualty). This reflects the overrepresentation of *young* males and the severity of their injuries.

Total costs of pedestrian casualties resulting from traffic crashes in NSW in 1999/2000, by age, for males and females.



- Children (aged 0-14) represent 15% of pedestrian casualties of traffic crashes, and 15.3% of costs (9.9% of these direct), at an average of \$32,259 per casualty.
- People aged over 65 represent 8.8% of pedestrians injured in traffic crashes, but 30.6% of pedestrians killed, and 13.8% of costs (22.4% of these direct), at an average of \$45,525 per casualty.
- Young males (aged 15-24) and older persons should be the prime target of injury prevention initiatives aimed at pedestrian safety.

¹ NSW Department of Health Inpatient Statistics Collection (HOIST). Centre for Epidemiology and Research, NSW Department of Health.

² For methodology refer to Potter Forbes M and Aisbett C (2003). *Injury costs! A valuation of the burden of injury in New South Wales 1998-1998*. NSW Injury Risk Management Research Centre, June, 2003.

