

HIGHER SPEED, GREATER IMPACT

Towards Zero Action Plan 2020-2024

THE SITUATION

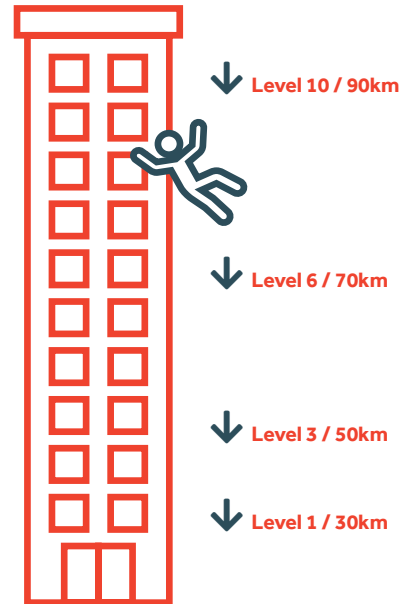


Speed is a factor in a third of serious casualty crashes on Tasmanian roads.

The relationship between speed and road crashes has been studied extensively. Research findings consistently show that the likelihood of a crash and the severity of an injury increase exponentially as speed increases.

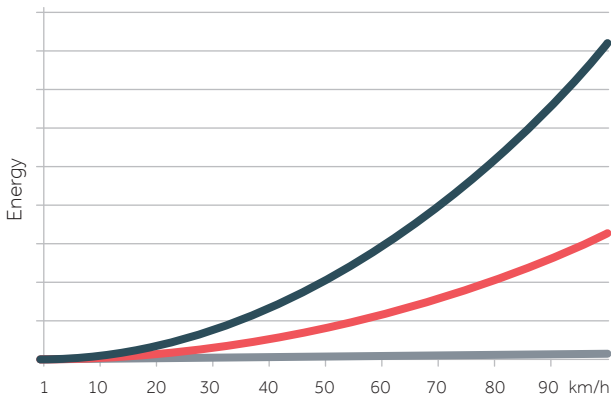
Speed is far and away the key determinant of the amount of force unleashed in a crash.

ENERGY FORCES IN A CAR CRASH



We have an immediate sense of danger about falling from height. In contrast, we find it difficult to comprehend the energy forces in a car crash and the consequent impacts on the human body.

VEHICLE SPEED AND KINETIC ENERGY



Small truck



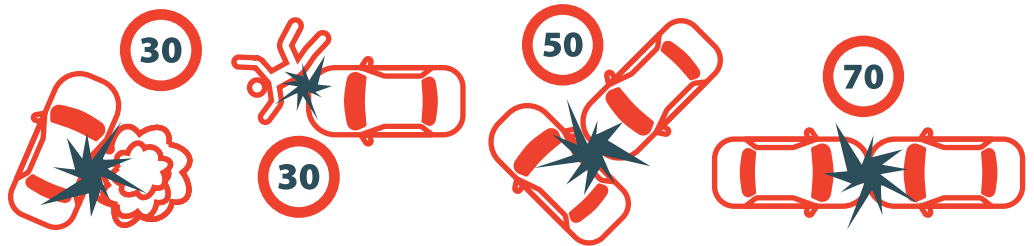
Passenger vehicles



Cyclists

HUMAN TOLERANCE IN CRASH SITUATIONS

Speed limits need to reflect the safety features of the road, taking into account that humans make mistakes and our bodies have a limited tolerance for energy released in a road crash.



Side impact with tree

Impact with pedestrian

Side impact

Head-on

SOLUTIONS FOR SAFER SPEEDS



Safe and credible speed limits



Road user education



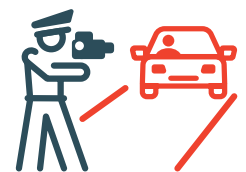
Vehicles that help drivers comply with speed limits



Self-explaining, self-enforcing roads



Stricter laws



Effective and frequent traffic law enforcement activities