

SAFETY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR 10

PERCENTAGE OF HIGH PEDESTRIAN CBD AREAS WITH SAFER SPEED LIMITS (≤ 40 KM/H)



Sep 2024

Safety Performance Indicator (SPI) 10 measures the per cent of Central Business District (CBD) areas in Tasmania that have safer speed limits of 40km/h or under.

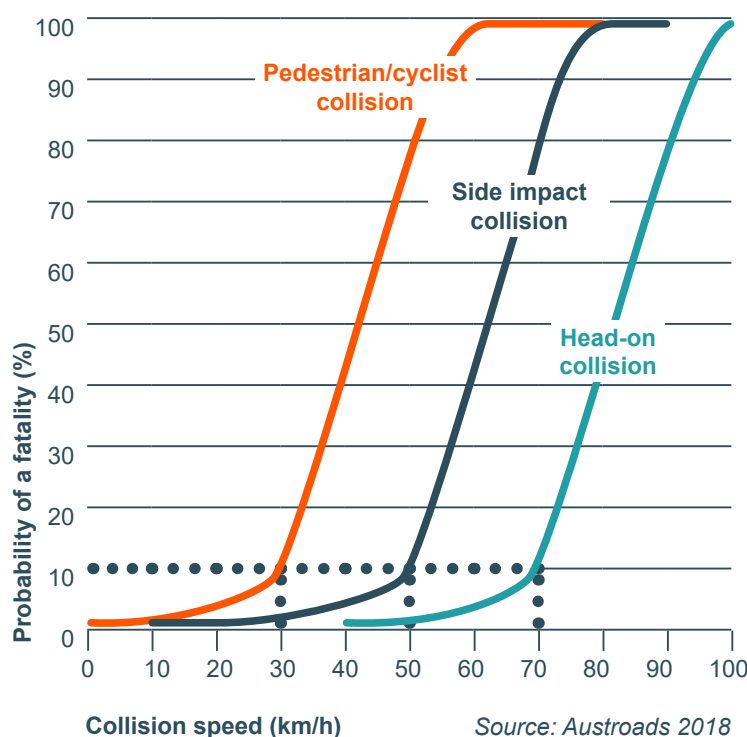
WHY ARE SAFER SPEED LIMITS IN CBD'S IMPORTANT?

In our major towns and cities, people who walk and people who bike represent one in four serious casualties in traffic crashes.

We know, based on crash forces, that the risk of vulnerable road users (e.g. people who walk and people who bike) being seriously injured or killed increases significantly at impact speeds of 30 km/h or more.

Our CBD areas are places with many vulnerable road users present, so it is important to have appropriate travel speeds for the environment. Doing so helps reduce the risk of fatal and serious injuries occurring in our CBD areas.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPEED AND THE PROBABILITY OF A FATALITY.



SPEED LIMITS IN MAJOR CBD AREAS IN TASMANIA

This SPI considers CBD speed limits in the four largest cities in Tasmania - Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, and Burnie. In the CBD areas of these cities speed limits generally range between 30km/h to 60km/h.

Maps over page illustrate how the speed limits on streets in major CBDs have changed, before and after changes to the speed limits in CBD areas of Hobart (in 2021) and Launceston (in 2023). As of October 2023, 40% of streets in Tasmania's four major CBD areas have safer speed limits at 40 km/h or under.

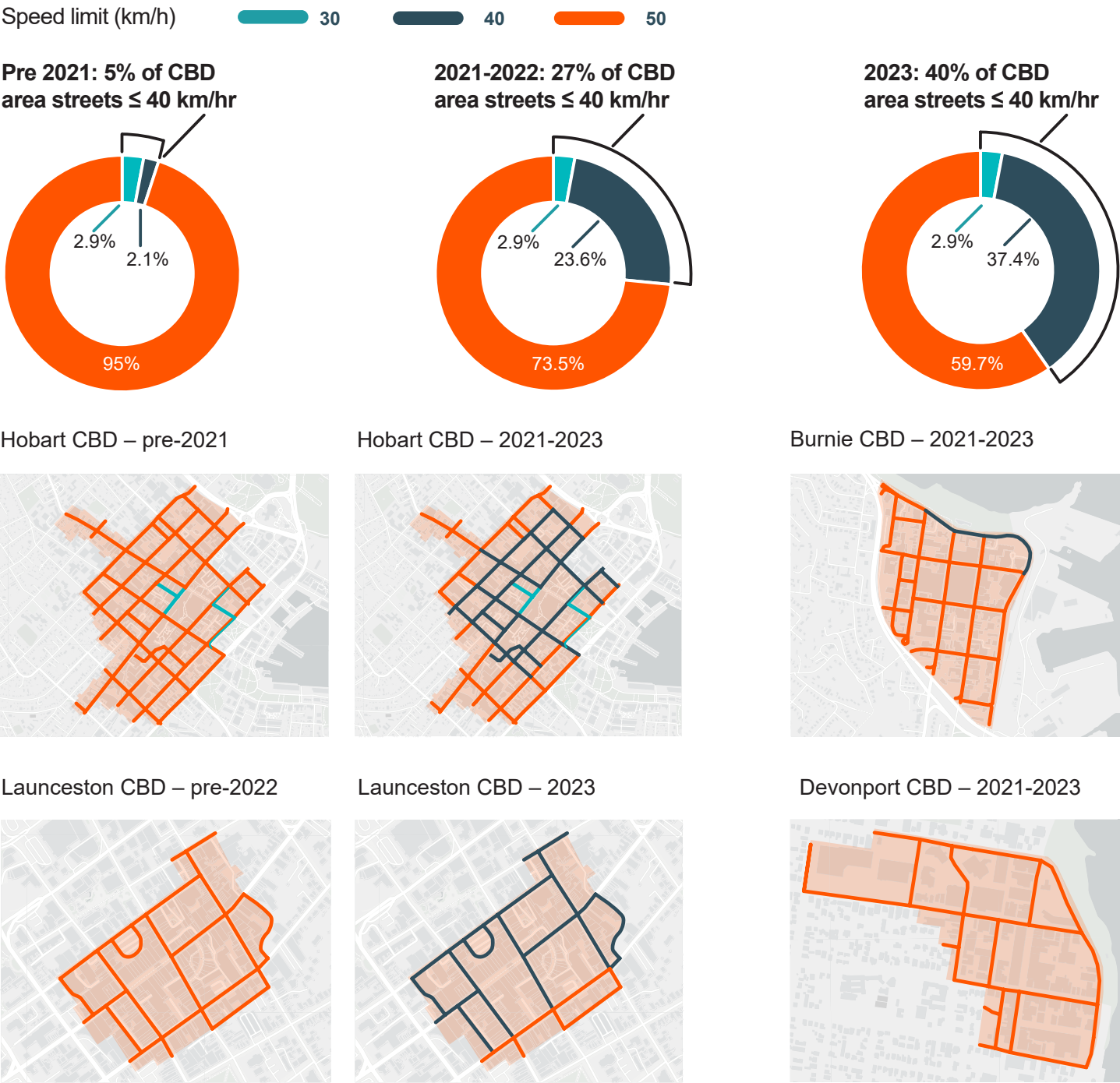
CASUALTY CRASH RATES IN MAJOR CBD AREAS

There has been an average of approximately 67 casualty crashes per year in our four major CBD areas (between 2000 – 2022). Appropriate speed limits are a factor in reducing crashes, reducing the severity of crashes when they do occur. But, a range of other factors also influence casualty rates. For instance, a drop in casualties in 2020 may be linked to changed travel patterns during COVID travel restrictions.

Rates of casualty crashes are higher in Hobart, but this is in part due to the greater length of roads in Hobart CBD (approximately 12 km) compared to approximately 4km - 5km in the other CBD areas. Whilst rates of casualty crashes have increased in recent years there are many influencing factors (including increasing population and vehicle registrations). It is important to continue to take a range of road safety actions, including speed management, to limit road casualties.

PER CENT OF HIGH PEDESTRIAN CBD AREAS WITH SAFER SPEED LIMITS (≤ 40KM/H)

SPEED LIMITS IN CBDs OF TASMANIA'S FOUR LARGEST CITIES



- The target direction is an increasing percentage of CBD areas with safer speed limits (≤ 40 km/h)
- SPI 10: 40 per cent of high pedestrian CBD areas have safer speed limits (≤ 40 km/h), 2023