

Wednesday 7 November 2018

NARRANDERA SHIRE 2017 CRASH STATISTICS RELEASED

The release of the verified 2017 crash data for local Government areas (LGA) by Transport for NSW (TfNSW) highlights the need for improved road safety in the Narrandera Shire.

‘When considering data for a local Council a five year period is usually used to determine trends as there is a lot of variability in the yearly data,’ stated Narrandera Shire’s Road Safety Officer Elizabeth Mudford.

‘Yearly data is always of interest to the local community. In 2017 there were 23 crashes in the Narrandera Shire resulting in three deaths and 23 people injured, with nearly half (43%) of these injuries requiring hospitalisation. This is the highest number of casualties since 2013 and the most fatalities since 2010.’

Two of the three fatal crashes involved the vehicle leaving the road and hitting an object. This reflects the high number of road crashes over the last five years where the vehicle ran off the road, with 52 per cent of crashes occurring when vehicles have left the road. In three of the last five years the most common crash type was running off a straight road and hitting an object.

Most crashes (57 per cent) in 2017 were on local roads, although the fatal crashes were all on either state highways or regional roads. Almost two thirds (65 per cent) of the crashes in 2017 occurred on roads with a speed limit of 100km/h.

Over the last five years the majority (76 per cent) of drivers involved in serious crashes were from Narrandera Shire or a neighbouring LGA. The largest proportion were from Narrandera Shire (45 per cent) followed by Wagga Wagga (11 per cent), Leeton (8 per cent) and Griffith (5 per cent). These figures reflect TfNSW research that there is a tendency for complacency, over-confidence and lower perception of risk when driving on familiar roads.

Most drivers in crashes over the last five years have been male (63 per cent) particularly in the 30-39 year age group (22 per cent). In 2017 only half the drivers in crashes were male, with one quarter of crash drivers being female in the 17-25 year age group. The over representation of provisional drivers in crashes continues to be a concern, with 29 per cent of drivers who crashed in 2017 being P plate drivers. This is higher than the previous four years.

From 2013-2017 at least one of speed, alcohol and fatigue were identified as a contributing factor in 43 per cent of casualty crashes. In 2017 this was lower with only 35 per cent of crashes having at least one of these factors as a contributing factor, with fatigue the main identified behavioural factor in crashes across the Narrandera Shire.

‘This highlights that a decision to drive too fast, drive while tired or to have one more drink can result in serious consequences for yourself and others. The everyday excuses that drivers use to justify risky behaviour have no place on the road,’ explained Ms Mudford.

‘We need to be aware of the risks on the road at all times and avoid them, even on familiar roads. We all have a part to play in keeping ourselves and our communities’ safe on the road.’

MEDIA RELEASE

Narrandera Shire Council is committed to improving road safety through public education, road improvements and other projects.'

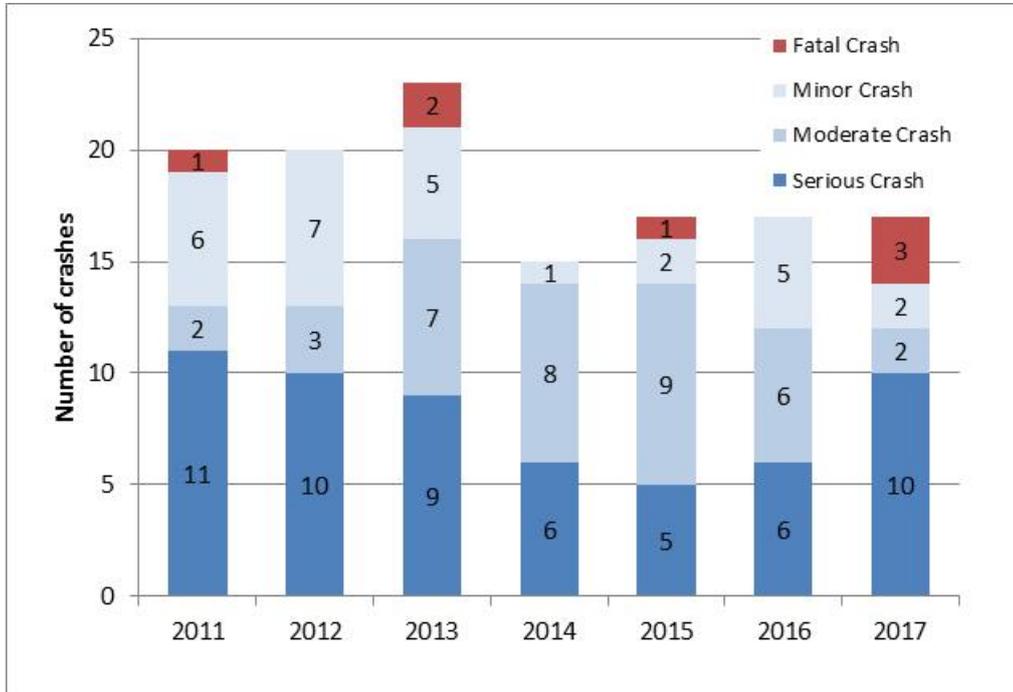


Figure 1: Number and severity of casualty crashes in Narrandera Shire 2011-2017

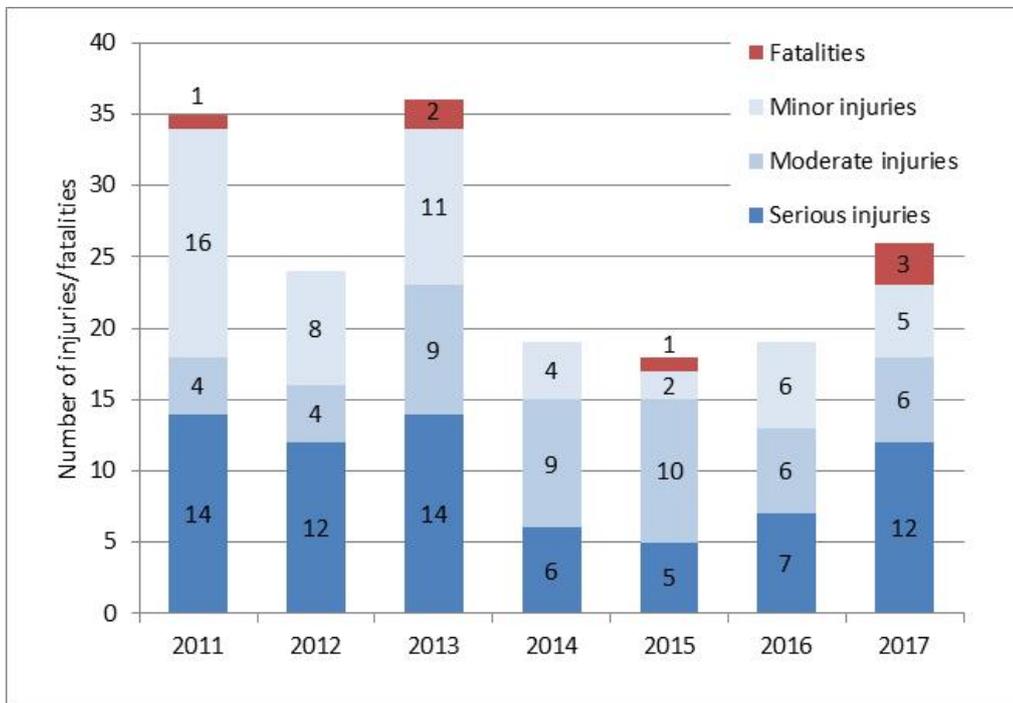


Figure 2: Number and severity of casualties in Narrandera Shire 2011-2017

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Precis or Summary: Narrandera Shire 2017 Crash Statistics Released		
Attachments	Nil	Embargoed: N/A

MEDIA RELEASE

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Distribution To: Council Website, Facebook, Media – Local		Number: 17/18-	32