

SOMERSET ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP  
**CASUALTY REVIEW 2006-2008**

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IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY

“WORKING TOGETHER TO  
**REDUCE CASUALTIES**”



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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**This Casualty Review consists of accident data covering the period 2006 to 2008, during which time a total of 5,152 collisions occurred with a total of 7,256 casualties.**

- In 2008 there were 1,560 accidents on Somerset roads, resulting in 2,228 casualties. Of these, 29 were fatal, 245 serious and 1954 were slight injuries.
- The KSI (killed or seriously injured) casualty figure for 2008 was 18 casualties below the target figure for that year.
- The number of fatalities as a result of road traffic accidents in Somerset in 2008 was 26% below the number of fatalities in 2007, and the lowest since records have been kept.
- The number of killed or seriously injured (KSI) child casualties in 2008 decreased by 71% compared with 2007. There were no child fatalities as a result of accidents on Somerset roads in 2007 or 2008.
- In 2008, child casualties represented 9% of all casualties in Somerset, compared with 7% in 2007.
- The number of children injured as car passengers rose by 20% in 2008.
- 25% less child pedal cyclists were injured in 2008 compared with 2007.
- In 2008 there was a decrease of 224 (10%) in the number of slight injuries on Somerset roads.
- The total number of slight casualties in 2008 was 236 casualties below the target for that year.
- Most injuries in Somerset in 2008 resulted from accidents that occurred on roads with speed limits of 60mph and 30mph.
- 51% of casualties in 2008 were the result of accidents on "A" class roads.
- In 2008 injuries to 16-24 year olds represented 28% of the total casualties in Somerset.
- The number of injuries to 16-24 year olds decreased by 12% in 2008 compared with 2007.
- In 2008, fatalities in the 16-24 year age group represented 28% of all fatalities in Somerset.

**All data contained within this document was correct at the time of publication.**

## 2. INTRODUCTION

**Somerset Road Safety Partnership** was formed in 2006 to bring together the extensive experience and expertise from a number of organisations to drive down casualty rates, create safer communities and improve the quality of life for all residents and visitors to Somerset.

The partners include Somerset County Council, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service, NHS Trusts, Highways Agency, Avon and Somerset Constabulary and Safecam (Safety Camera Partnership).

It is a key objective of the Partnership to reduce casualty rates in line with agreed targets.

After a review of the Government targets, the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 identified the following targets for Somerset:

- 1. a 35 per cent reduction by 2010 in the number of people killed and seriously injured (KSI) on the county's roads compared to the 1994-98 baseline**
- 2. a 50 per cent reduction by 2010 in child KSI casualties**
- 3. the maintenance of slight casualty figures at the 2001-2004 baseline average**

The acquisition and analysis of road casualty data is at the core of the Partnership's operations, highlighting "at risk" groups of road users, locations with high collision rates and monitoring the effectiveness of casualty reduction campaigns.



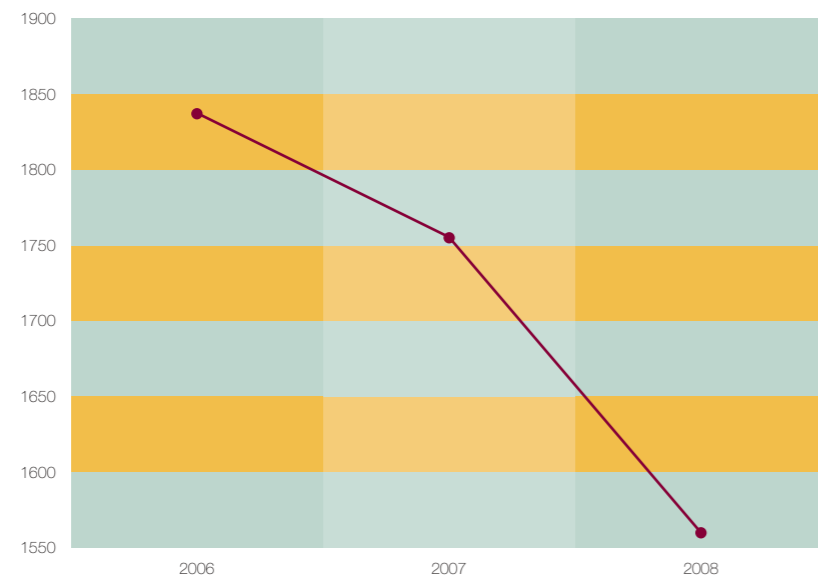
**This report provides an analysis of the casualty statistics for the period 2006 to 2008, with particular reference to the "target groups", and shows progress towards the key objectives set by the Partnership and in the Local Transport Plans.**

## 3. COLLISION AND CASUALTY TRENDS 2006-2008

### 3.1 COLLISIONS

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>FATAL</b>	36	37	28	-24
<b>SERIOUS</b>	236	219	212	-3
<b>SLIGHT</b>	1565	1499	1320	-12
<b>TOTAL</b>	1837	1755	1560	-11

**FIGURE 1: ALL COLLISIONS IN SOMERSET 2006-2008**

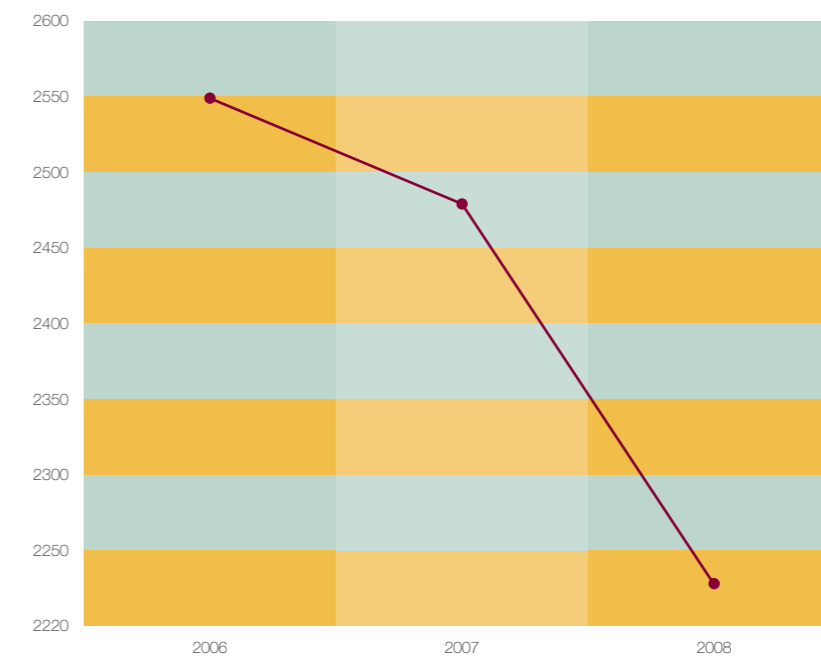


- During the three year period 2006 to 2008, the total number of collisions on Somerset roads fell by 4.5% from 2006 to 2007 and by 11% from 2007 to 2008.
- Fatal collisions decreased by 24% in 2008 compared with 2007.

### 3.2 CASUALTIES

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>FATAL</b>	37	39	29	-26
<b>SERIOUS</b>	288	262	245	-6
<b>SLIGHT</b>	2224	2178	1954	-10
<b>TOTAL</b>	2549	2479	2228	-10

**FIGURE 2: ALL CASUALTIES IN SOMERSET 2006-2008**



- In 2008 the total number of casualties was 2,228 which was a decrease of 10% from the 2007 figure of 2,479 casualties.
- The fatal casualty figure for 2008 was 26% below that for 2007.
- The 29 fatal casualties in 2008 represented a fall of 44% from the average of 52.2 fatalities in the 1994-98 baseline period.
- Serious casualties in 2008 also show a decrease of 6% from the previous year.



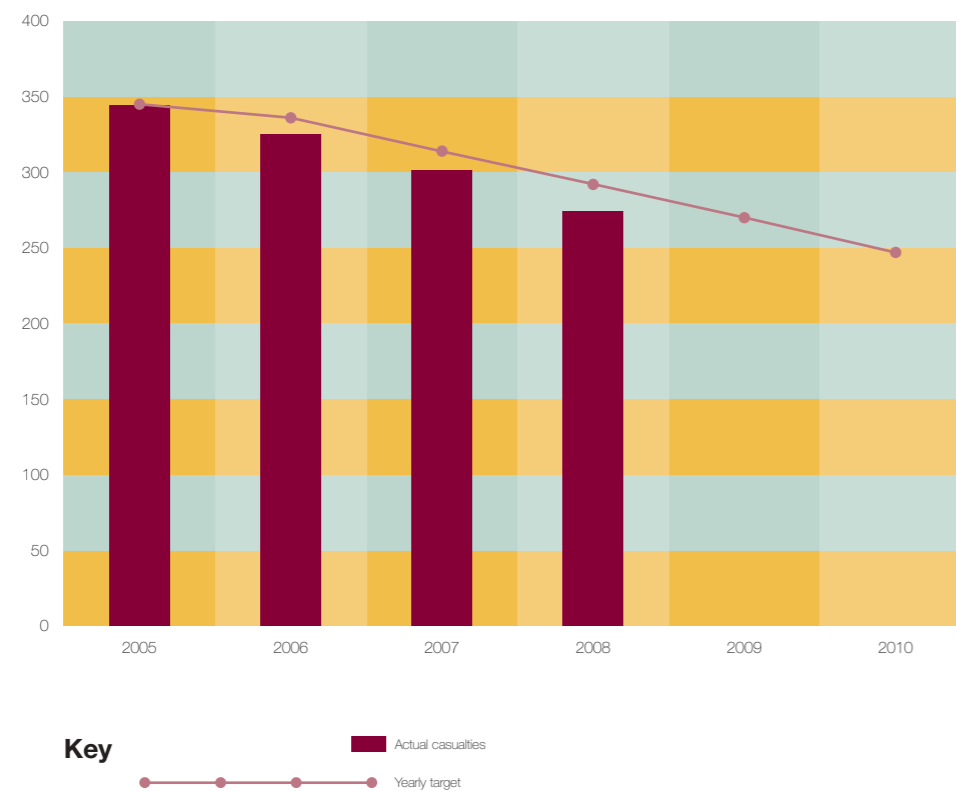
## 4. KILLED AND SERIOUSLY INJURED CASUALTY REDUCTION

It is the responsibility of the Highways Authority to reduce casualties on all Trunk roads in the country. In Somerset, the M5, A303 and A36 are Trunk roads and together accounted for 8.4% of the KSI casualties occurring within the county boundaries in 2008 and which are included in Somerset statistics.

### 4.1 KSI CASUALTY REDUCTION KSI CASUALTIES

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<b>ACTUAL</b>	344	325	301	274		
<b>YEARLY TARGET</b>	345	336	314	292	270	247

**FIGURE 3: KSI CASUALTY REDUCTION SHOWING ACTUAL FIGURES AND TARGETS**

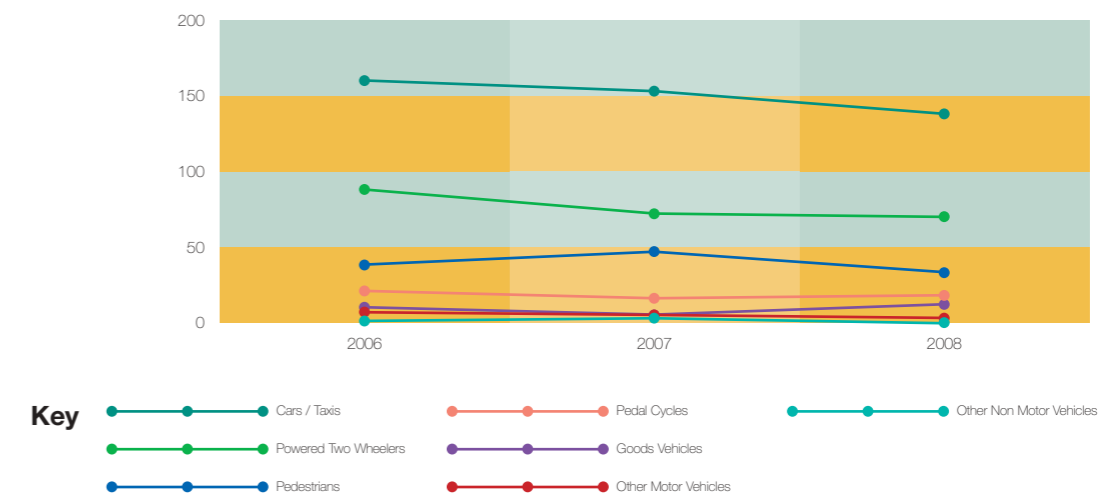


- KSI casualties in 2008 were 9% lower than in 2007 and 16% lower than in 2006.
- In 2008 the number of KSI casualties was 18 casualties (or 7%) below the target for that year.
- The trend for KSI casualty reduction suggests Somerset will achieve the 2010 target as long as reduction continues at the present rate.

### 4.2 KSI BY USER TYPE

	2006		2007		2008	
	FATAL	KSI	FATAL	KSI	FATAL	KSI
<b>PEDESTRIANS</b>	3	38	6	47	2	33
<b>PEDAL CYCLES</b>	2	21	1	16	1	18
<b>POWERED 2 WHEELERS</b>	9	88	10	72	12	70
<b>CARS / TAXIS</b>	22	160	18	153	14	138
<b>GOODS VEHICLES</b>	0	10	2	5	0	12
<b>OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	1	7	1	5	0	3
<b>OTHER NON-MOTOR VEHICLES</b>	0	1	1	3	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	37	325	39	301	29	274

**FIGURE 4: KSI CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE**



- In 2008 there were 2 (20%) more Powered Two Wheeler fatalities than in 2007, but the number of serious casualties fell by 4 in 2008 compared with 2007.
- In 2007, Pedestrian KSI casualties increased by 24% compared with 2006, but in 2008 this figure decreased by 30%.
- The number of KSI casualties involving cars and taxis continues to decrease with a reduction of 4% from 2006 to 2007 and a reduction of 10% from 2007 to 2008.
- Over the 3 year period 2006-2008, the average number of KSI casualties Involving goods vehicles was 9 per year. In 2007 the actual number of KSI casualties in this category was 4 below average, in 2008 it was 3 casualties above average.

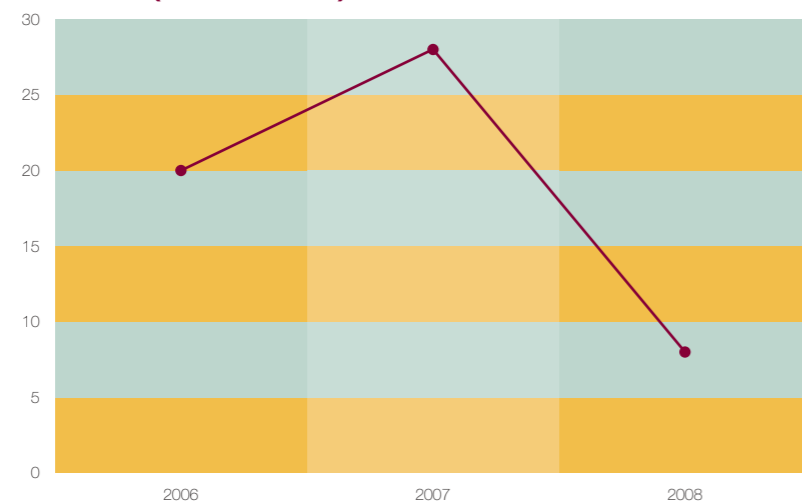
## 5. CHILD CASUALTY REDUCTION

In order to meet the target of 50% reduction, the number of children killed and seriously injured on Somerset's roads will have to come down from the baseline average of 34 to 17 or fewer by the year 2010. The low numbers of casualties in this category means that some fluctuation is inevitable.

### 5.1 KILLED AND SERIOUSLY INJURED (KSI) CHILD CASUALTIES

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>FATAL</b>	1	0	0	0
<b>SERIOUS</b>	19	28	8	-71
<b>TOTAL KSI</b>	20	28	8	-71

**FIGURE 5: FATAL AND SERIOUS (KSI) INJURIES TO CHILDREN (0-15 YEARS)**

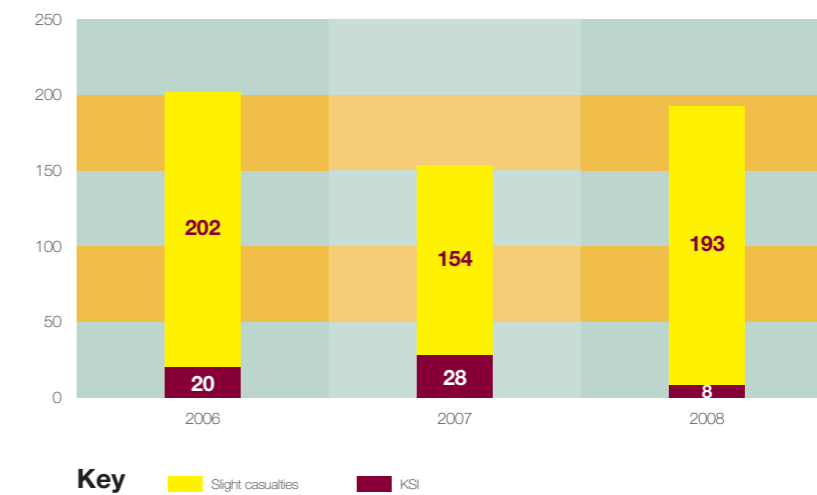


- In 2008 there were 8 Child KSI casualties compared with 28 in 2007, a decrease of 71%. There were no fatal casualties included in either of these figures.
- In 2007, Child KSI casualties represented 15% of the total child casualties for Somerset. In 2008 the percentage of child casualties that were KSI was 4%.

### 5.2 TOTAL CHILD CASUALTIES

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>KSI</b>	20	28	8	-71
<b>SLIGHT</b>	202	154	193	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	222	182	201	10

**FIGURE 6: ALL CHILD CASUALTIES IN SOMERSET 2006-2008**



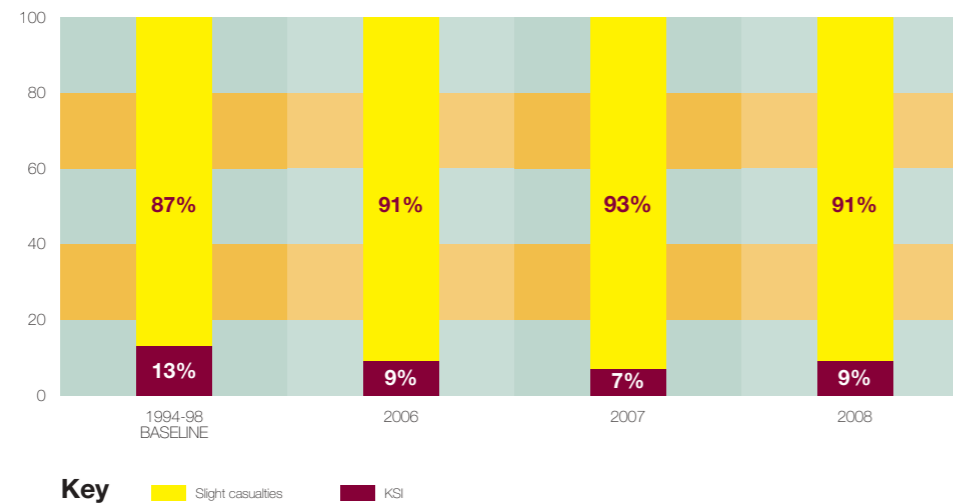
- Total Child casualties increased by 10% from 182 in 2007 to 201 in 2008.
- There was an increase of 25% in the Child slight casualty category.

## 5.3 CHILD CASUALTIES AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SOMERSET CASUALTIES

### 5.3 CHILD CASUALTIES AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SOMERSET CASUALTIES

	2006	2007	2008
<b>CHILD TOTAL</b>	222	182	201
<b>SOMERSET TOTAL</b>	2549	2479	2226
<b>CHILD CASUALTIES AS % OF SOMERSET TOTALS</b>	9	7	9

**FIGURE 7: CHILD CASUALTIES AS A PERCENTAGE OF ALL CASUALTIES IN SOMERSET**

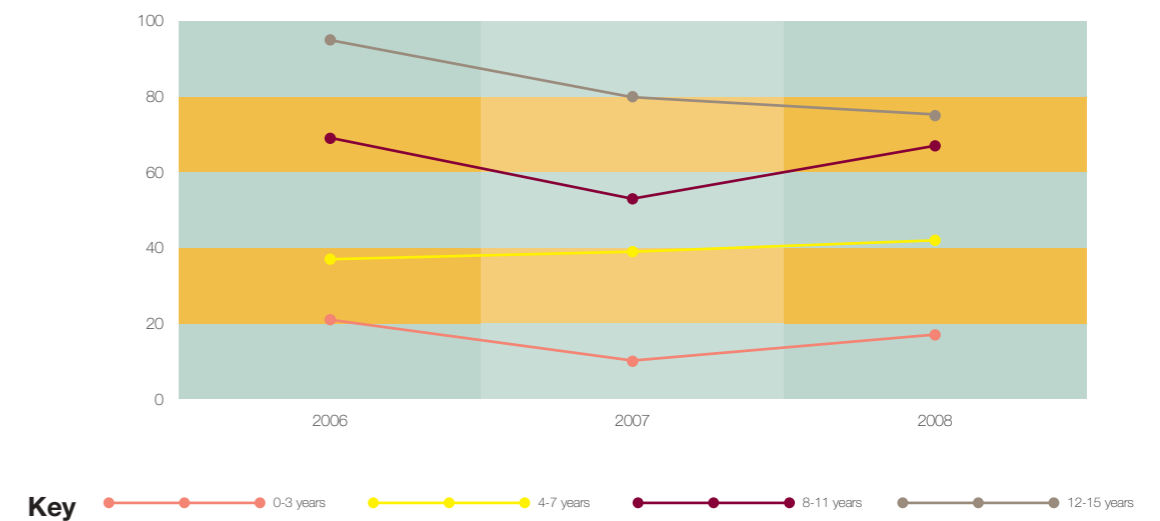


• In 2007 Child casualties made up 7% of the Somerset total, in 2008 this increased to 9%.

## 5.4 CHILD CASUALTIES BY AGE

	2006	2007	2008
<b>0-3 years</b>	21	10	17
<b>4-7 years</b>	37	39	42
<b>8-11 years</b>	69	53	67
<b>12-15 years</b>	95	80	75
<b>TOTAL</b>	222	182	201

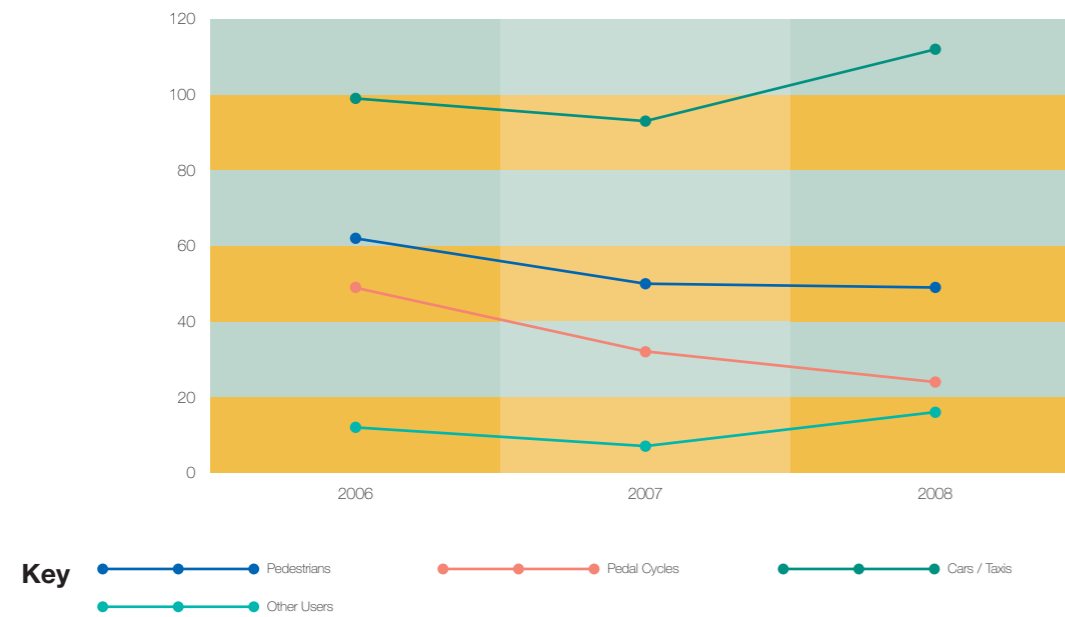
**FIGURE 8: CHILD CASUALTIES DIVIDED INTO AGE GROUPS**



## 5.5 CHILD CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE

	2006	2007	2008
<b>PEDESTRIANS</b>	62	50	49
<b>PEDAL CYCLISTS</b>	49	32	24
<b>CARS &amp; TAXIS</b>	99	93	112
<b>OTHER USERS</b>	12	7	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	222	182	201

**FIGURE 9: ALL CHILD CASUALTIES DIVIDED INTO INDIVIDUAL USER TYPES**



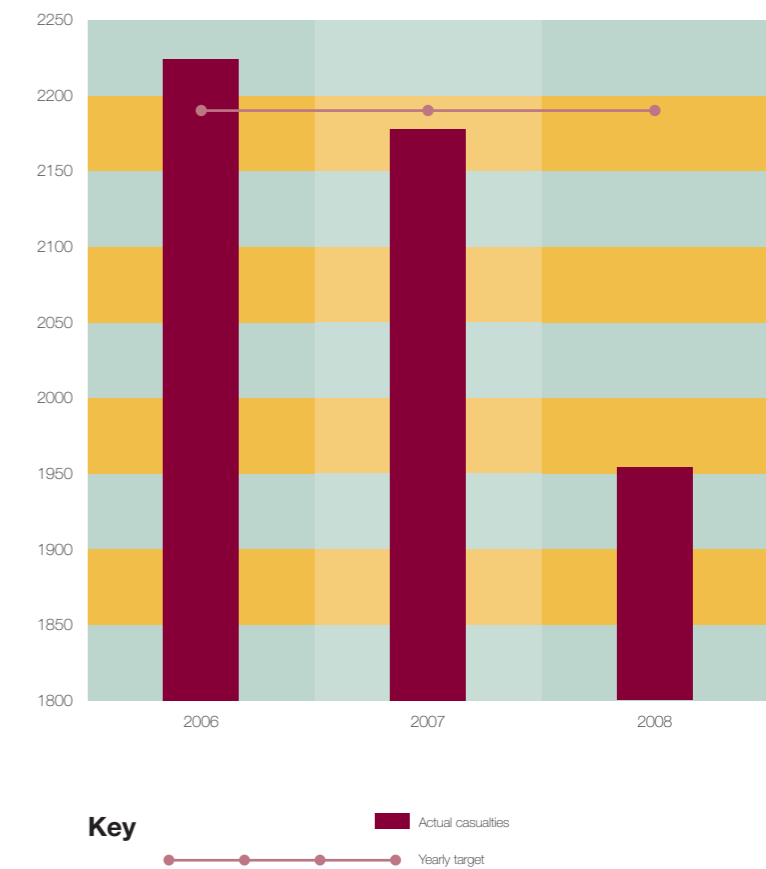
- From 2007 to 2008, the number of children injured as passengers in cars and taxis rose by 20% from 93 in 2007 to 112 in 2008.
- Child pedal cyclist injuries fell by 25% in 2008 compared with 2007.

## 6. SLIGHT CASUALTIES

### 6.1 SLIGHT CASUALTIES - TARGETS AND YEARLY FIGURES

	2001-04 BASELINE	2006	2007	2008
<b>ACTUAL</b>	2190	2224	2178	1954
<b>YEARLY TARGET</b>	2190	2190	2190	2190

**FIGURE 10: SLIGHT CASUALTIES SHOWING ACTUAL FIGURES AND TARGETS**



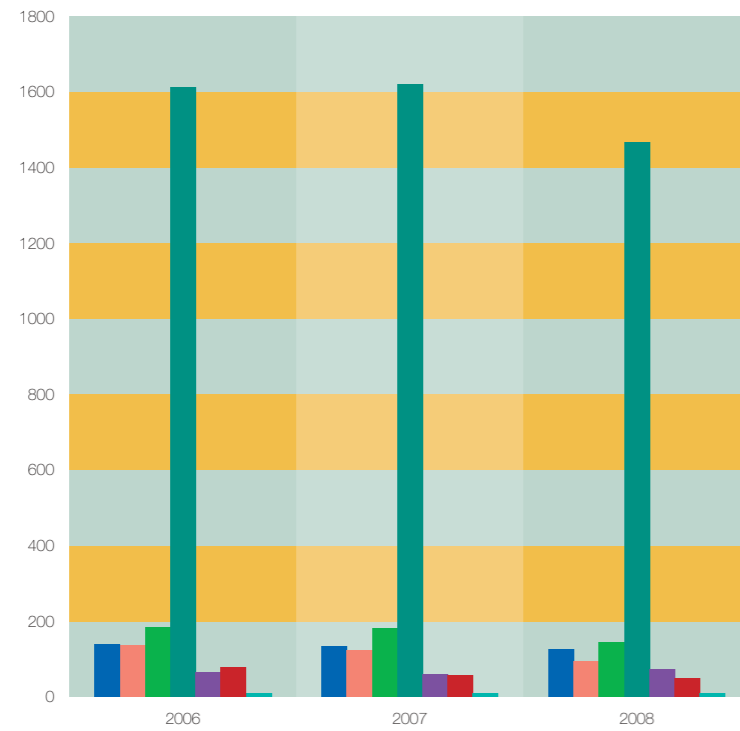
- In 2008 the figure for slight casualties was 11% (236 casualties) below the target for the year (2,190 casualties).



## 6.2 SLIGHT CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
PEDESTRIANS	140	134	125	-7
PEDAL CYCLISTS	137	122	95	-22
POWERED 2 WHEELERS	185	180	144	-20
CARS & TAXIS	1612	1621	1466	-10
GOODS VEHICLES	65	59	73	24
OTHER MOTOR VEHICLES	79	56	49	-13
OTHER NON-MOTOR VEHICLES	6	6	2	-67
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2224</b>	<b>2178</b>	<b>1954</b>	<b>-10</b>

**FIGURE 11: SLIGHT CASUALTIES DIVIDED INTO INDIVIDUAL USER TYPE**



**Key**

- Pedestrians
- Pedal Cycles
- Powered Two Wheelers
- Cars & Taxis
- Goods Vehicles
- Other Motor Vehicles
- Other Non-Motor Vehicles

- In the period 2006-2008, the number of pedestrian slight casualties fell by 4% from 2006 to 2007 and by 7% from 2007 to 2008.
- Pedal cyclists slight casualties fell by 22% in 2008 compared with 2007.
- In 2007 there were 180 slight casualties in the Powered Two Wheeler category. This decreased by 20% in 2008.
- There were 14 more goods vehicles slight casualties in 2008 than in 2007.
- 2008 saw a reduction of 10% in the slight casualties who were car or taxi drivers or passengers compared with 2007.

## 7. 16-24 YEAR OLD KSI CASUALTY REDUCTIONS

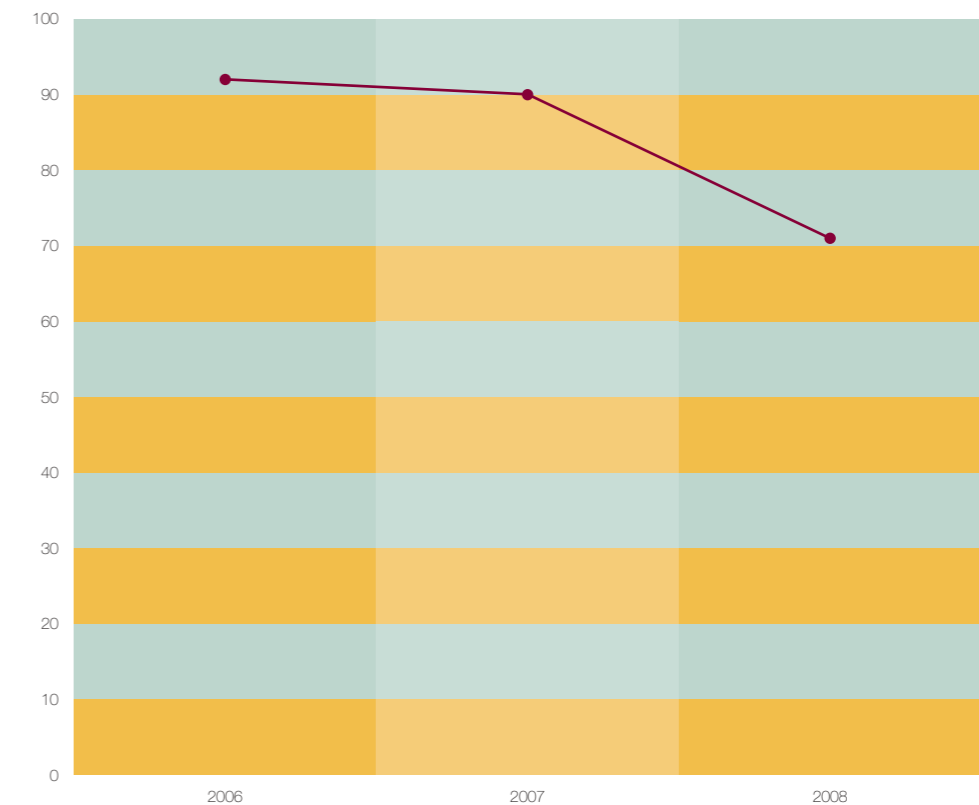
A local target has been adopted to reduce the number of casualties in this age group by 50 per cent (to less than 49 casualties) by the year 2010.

An interim milestone target of less than 69 killed or seriously injured 16-24 year olds on roads maintained by Somerset by 2005 was also identified.

### 7.1 YEARLY FIGURES

	2006	2007	2008
<b>CASUALTIES</b>	92	90	71

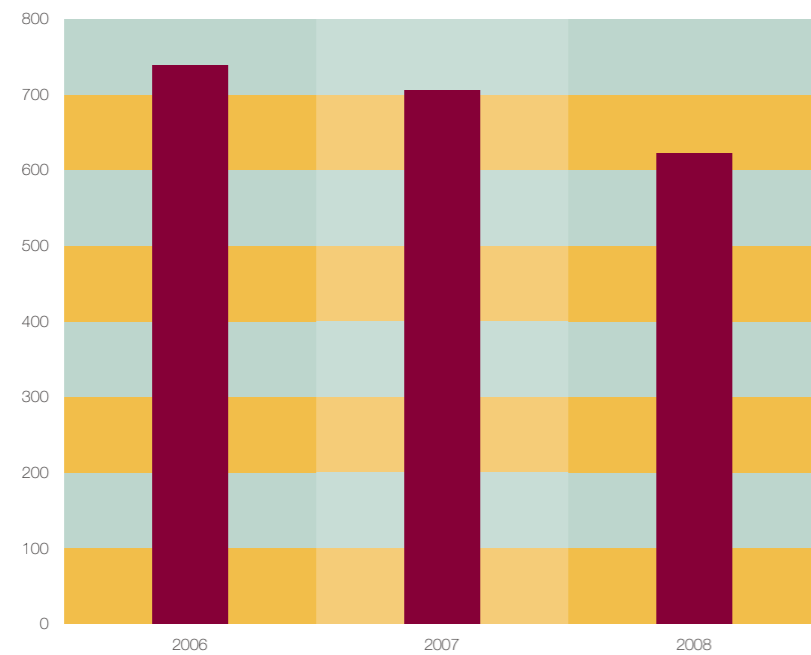
**FIGURE 12: FATAL OR SERIOUS 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES**



### 7.2 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES BY SEVERITY

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>FATAL</b>	8	11	8	-27
<b>SERIOUS</b>	84	79	63	-20
<b>TOTAL KSI</b>	92	90	71	-21
<b>SLIGHT</b>	647	616	551	-11
<b>TOTAL</b>	739	706	622	-12
<b>16-24 AS % OF SOMERSET TOTAL</b>	29	28	28	

FIGURE 13: ALL 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES 2006-2008



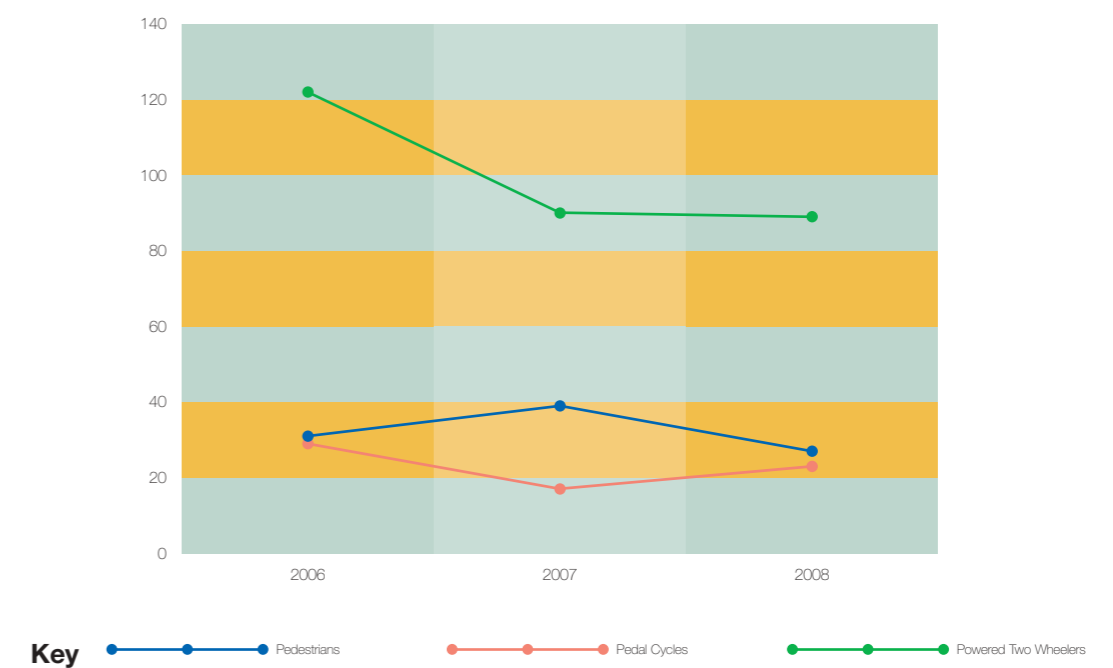
- In 2008 there were 27% fewer fatalities in this age group compared with 2007, and 20% reduction in the number of serious casualties.
- Slight casualties in this age group also fell by 11% in 2008 compared with 2007.

### 7.3 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE

#### 7.3 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE

	2006	2007	2008	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
<b>PEDESTRIANS</b>	31	39	27	-31
<b>PEDAL CYCLISTS</b>	29	17	23	35
<b>POWERED 2 WHEELERS</b>	122	90	89	-1
<b>CARS &amp; TAXIS</b>	533	538	466	-13
<b>OTHER USERS</b>	24	22	17	-23
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	739	706	622	-12

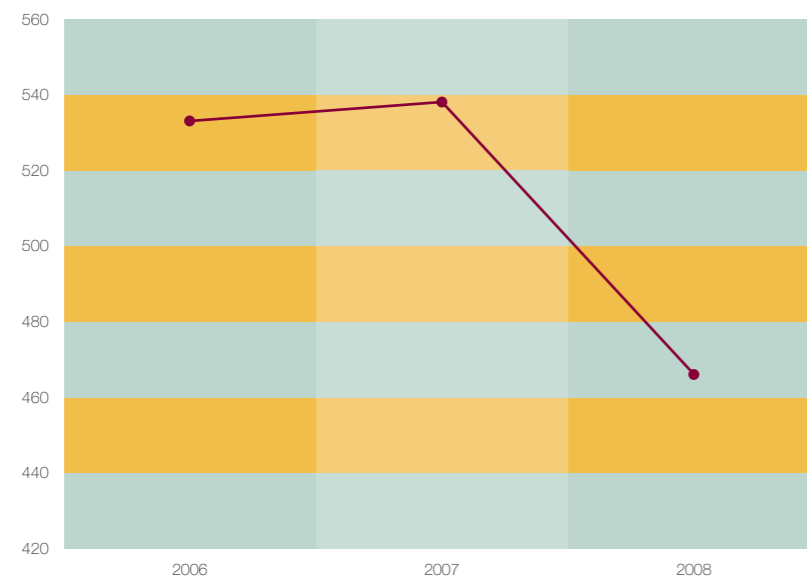
FIGURE 14: 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES BY USER TYPE



**Key** ● Pedestrians ● Pedal Cycles ● Powered Two Wheelers



**FIGURE 15: 16-24 YEAR OLD CASUALTIES WHO WERE CAR/TAXI DRIVERS OR PASSENGERS**



- The only category in the 16-24 year age group that saw an increase in casualties in 2008 was pedal cyclists which rose by 35%, from 17 to 23 casualties.
- Pedestrian casualties in this age group fell by 31% in 2008 compared with 2007.
- In 2006 the number of 16-24 year olds injured as Powered Two Wheeler riders or passengers was 122, this fell by 27% to 89 in 2008.

## 8. RURAL AND URBAN

For the purpose of this report, "urban" and "rural" are defined as follows:

**Rural:** Roads with speed limits over 40mph.

**Urban:** Roads with speed limits of 40mph or lower.

### 8.1 RURAL/URBAN BY SEVERITY

	2006		2007		2008	
	RURAL	URBAN	RURAL	URBAN	RURAL	URBAN
<b>KSI</b>	183	142	175	126	160	114
<b>SLIGHT</b>	1110	1114	1113	1065	1047	907
<b>TOTAL</b>	1293	1256	1288	1191	1207	1021

- In 2008, 58% of all KSI casualties occurred on rural roads, 42% on urban roads, compared with 52% rural and 48% urban in 2007.



## 8.2 RURAL/URBAN BY USER TYPE

### RURAL

	2006	2007	2008
PEDESTRIANS	21	23	13
PEDAL CYCLISTS	26	17	22
POWERED 2 WHEELERS	101	111	88
CARS & TAXIS	1050	1072	989
GOODS VEHICLES	51	43	70
OTHER USERS	44	22	25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1293</b>	<b>1288</b>	<b>1207</b>

### URBAN

	2006	2007	2008
PEDESTRIANS	157	158	145
PEDAL CYCLISTS	132	121	91
POWERED 2 WHEELERS	172	141	126
CARS & TAXIS	722	702	613
GOODS VEHICLES	24	21	15
OTHER USERS	49	48	29
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1256</b>	<b>1191</b>	<b>1019</b>

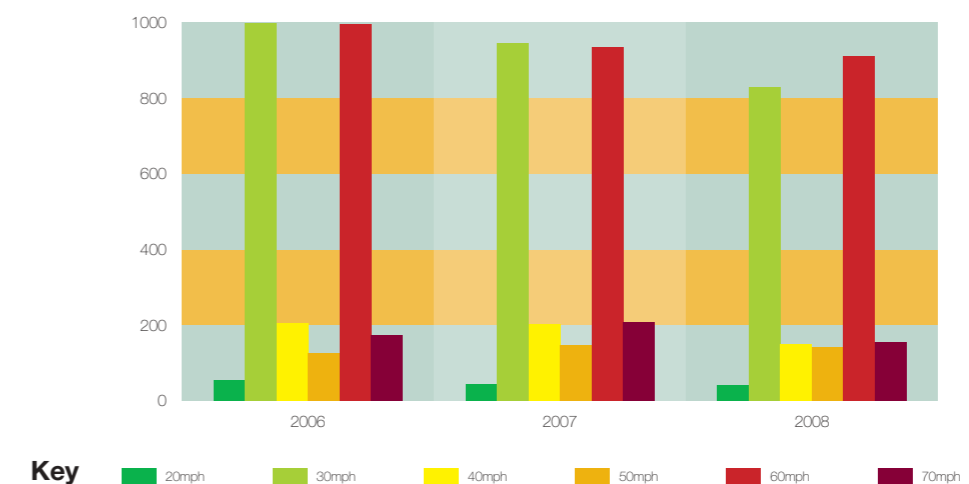
- In 2008 13 pedestrians were injured on rural roads compared with 145 on urban roads. On rural roads this was a reduction of 10 casualties and on urban roads a reduction of 13 casualties when compared with the figures in 2007.
- Injuries to car/taxi drivers and passengers on rural roads decreased by 8% compared with 2007 and decreased by 13% on urban roads.
- In 2008 injuries to Powered Two Wheeler riders and passengers represented 7% of all injuries on rural roads and 12% of all injuries on urban roads.

## 9. ALL CASUALTIES

### 9.1 ALL CASUALTIES BY SPEED LIMIT

SPEED	2006	% OF TOTAL	2007	% OF TOTAL	2008	% OF TOTAL	% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
20	54	2	44	2	42	2	-5
30	998	39	946	38	830	37	-12
40	204	8	201	8	149	7	-26
50	125	5	147	6	141	6	-4
60	995	39	934	38	911	41	-2
70	173	7	207	8	155	7	-25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2549</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2479</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-10</b>

FIGURE 16: SPEED LIMITS IN WHICH CASUALTIES OCCURRED



- Consistently with the years 2006 and 2007, in 2008 most casualties occurred within the 30 and 60mph speed limits.
- In 2008 there was a reduction of 17% in the number of casualties in the 30mph speed limit compared with the 2006 figure, and a reduction of 12% compared with the 2007 figure.
- During the three year period 2006-2008, roads with a 50mph speed limit saw an increase of 18% from 2006 to 2007, but this fell by 4% from 2007 to 2008.
- In 2008, casualties on roads with a 30mph speed limit represented 37% of all casualties in Somerset. Casualties on roads with a 60mph speed limit represented 41% of the total.
- In 2008 62% of all Somerset fatalities occurred on roads with a speed limit of 60mph. This percentage was consistent with the results in 2006 (57%) and 2007 (59%).



### 9.2 ALL CASUALTIES BY ROAD CLASS

ROAD CLASS	2006		2007		2008		% CHANGE FROM 2007 TO 2008
Motorways	121	5%	167	7%	105	5%	-37
A Roads	1240	49%	1265	51%	1146	51%	-9
B Roads	329	13%	269	11%	237	11%	-12
Unclassified	859	34%	778	31%	740	33%	-5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2549</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2479</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2228</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-10</b>

FIGURE 17: ALL CASUALTIES DIVIDED INTO ROAD CLASSES

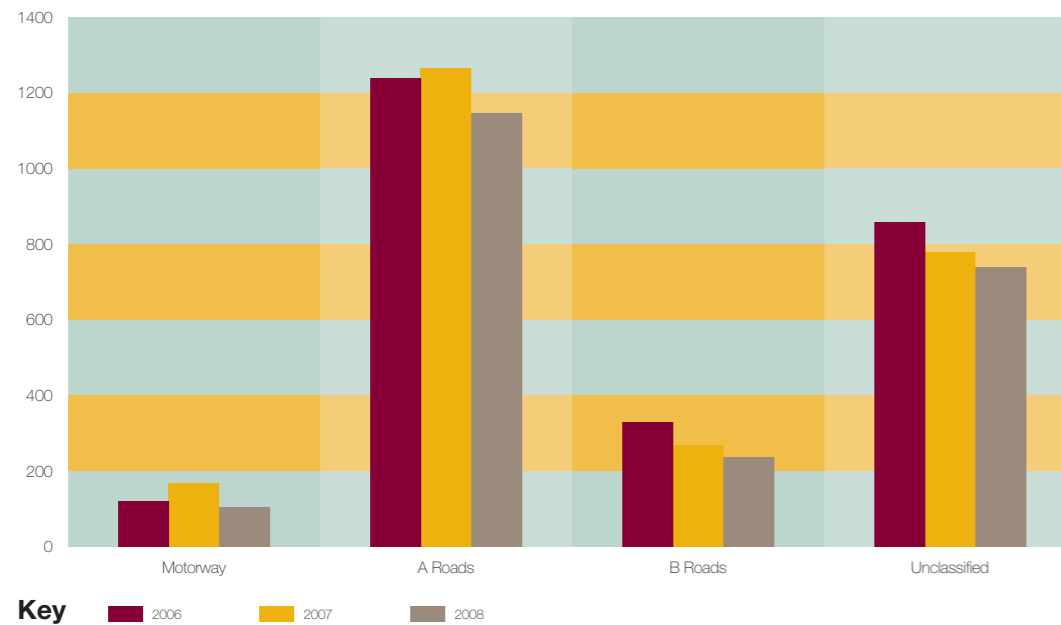
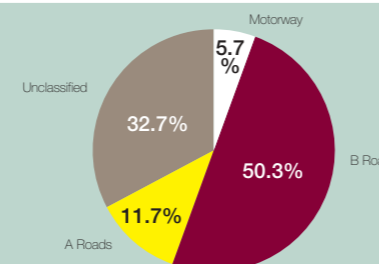


FIGURE 18: PERCENTAGE OF CASUALTIES ON INDIVIDUAL ROAD CLASSES SHOWING AVERAGE FOR PERIOD 2006-2008

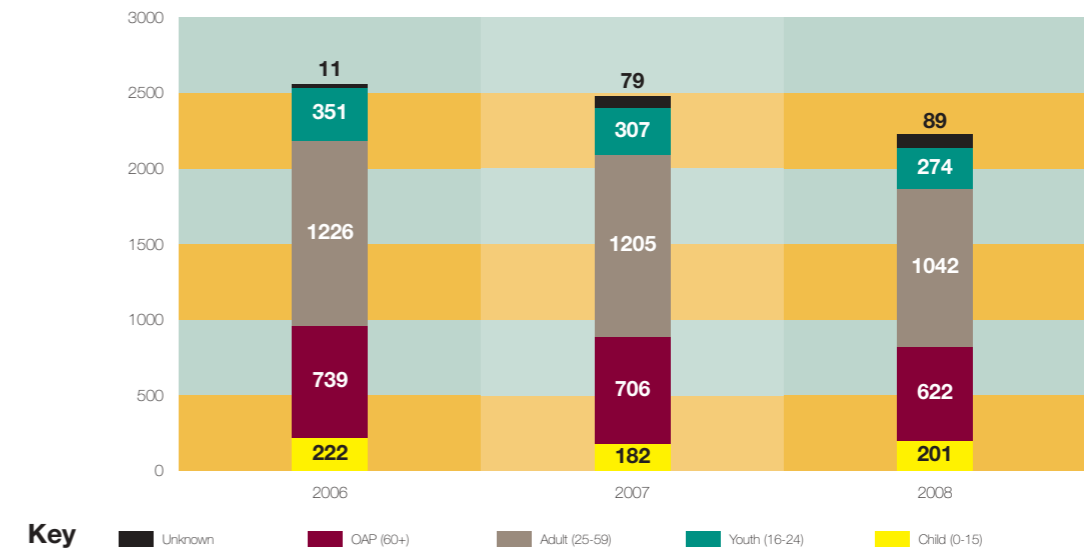


Over the 3 year period 2006 to 2008, an average of 50% of casualties in Somerset occurred on "A" class roads and an average of 37% on unclassified roads.

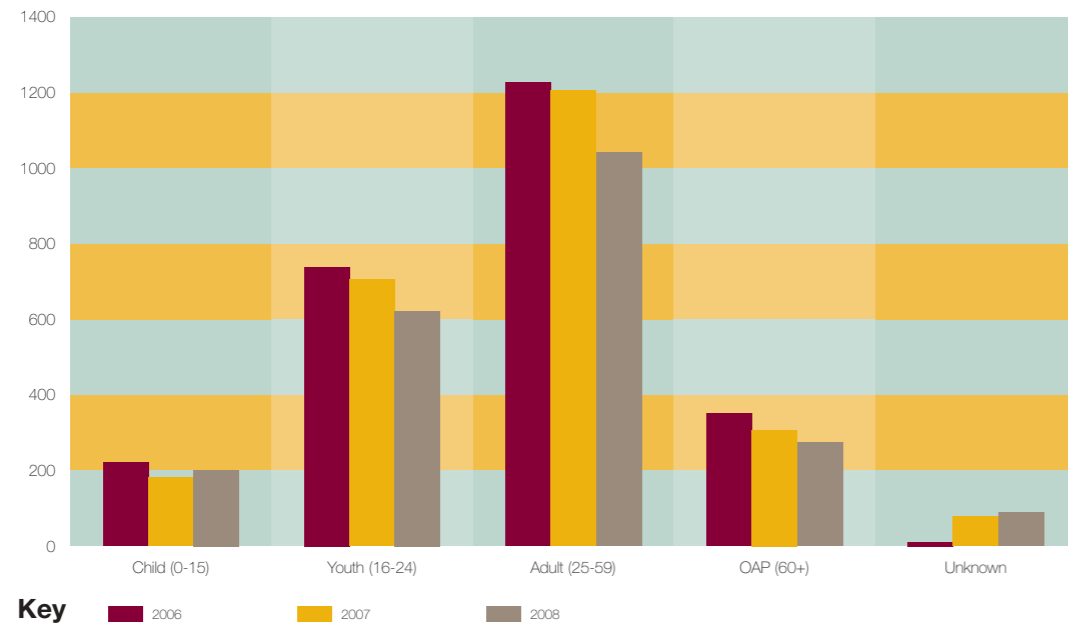
### 9.3 ALL CASUALTIES BY AGE GROUP

	2006	2007	2008
CHILD (0-15)	222	182	201
YOUTH (16-24)	739	706	622
ADULT (25-29)	1226	1205	1042
OAP (60+)	351	307	274
UNKNOWN	11	79	89
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2549</b>	<b>2479</b>	<b>2228</b>

FIGURE 19: ALL CASUALTIES (BY YEAR) DIVIDED INTO AGE GROUPS



**FIGURE 20: ALL SOMERSET CASUALTIES DIVIDED INTO AGE GROUPS**



- On average, over the three years 2006 to 2008, the casualties in Somerset are broken down into:
  - Child casualties 8%
  - Youth casualties 28%
  - Adult casualties 48%
  - OAP casualties 13%
  - Unknown age 3%
- In 2008 the number of casualties in the under 15 years age group increased by 10% and unknown age casualties increased by 13%, but in all other age groups there were reductions in the number of casualties: Youths decreased by 12%, Adults decreased by 14% and OAPs decreased by 13%.

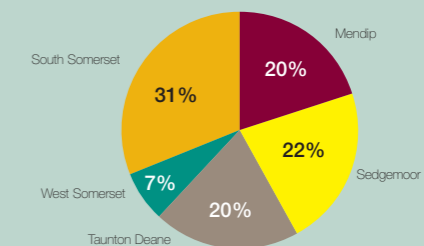
**9.4 ALL CASUALTIES BY DISTRICT**

	2006			2007			2008		
	KSI	SLIGHT	TOTAL	KSI	SLIGHT	TOTAL	KSI	SLIGHT	TOTAL
<b>MENDIP</b>	76	457	533	60	415	475	57	408	465
<b>SEDGEMOOR</b>	62	499	561	66	514	580	52	389	441
<b>TAUNTON DEANE</b>	61	454	515	52	439	491	51	408	459
<b>WEST SOMERSET</b>	19	173	192	36	151	187	21	144	165
<b>SOUTH SOMERSET</b>	107	641	748	87	659	746	93	605	698
<b>TOTAL</b>	325	2224	2549	301	2178	2479	274	1954	2228

**DISTRICT TOTAL AS PERCENTAGE OF SOMERSET TOTAL**

	2006	2007	2008	AVERAGE
<b>MENDIP</b>	21%	19%	21%	20%
<b>SEDGEMOOR</b>	22%	23%	20%	22%
<b>TAUNTON DEANE</b>	20%	20%	21%	20%
<b>WEST SOMERSET</b>	8%	8%	7%	7%
<b>SOUTH SOMERSET</b>	29%	30%	31%	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	100%	100%	100%	

**FIGURE 21: PERCENTAGE OF CASUALTIES IN EACH SOMERSET DISTRICT, AVERAGE OF PERIOD 2006-2008**





This document is also available in Braille, large print, on tape and on disc and we can translate it into different languages. We can provide a member of staff to discuss the detail.

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