

International Visitors admitted to RPH following road trauma 2013 to 2022

The Royal Perth Hospital Trauma Registry (RPH-TR) has collected and reported on injury data since August 1994. It contributes to a State Trauma Registry database, combining data from all Perth tertiary hospitals, SJoG Midland and Joondalup Health Campus.

Included on the RPH-TR are all trauma patients presenting to RPH for treatment within seven days of their injury and who were hospitalised for >24hrs, as well as all trauma-related deaths regardless of hospital length of stay.

Injuries are categorised into Minor (Injury Severity Score (ISS) <13); and Major (ISS >12)

In the ten year period from 2013 to 2022, there have been 243 international visitors to Western Australia who have sustained an injury resulting in admission to RPH following a road trauma event. This equates to an average of 14.3 patients per year, with a peak in 2015 of 40 admissions.

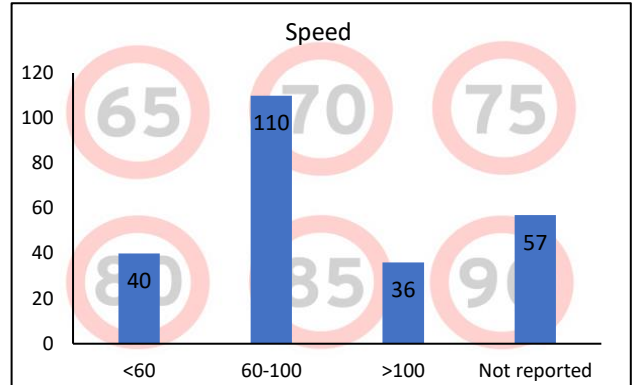
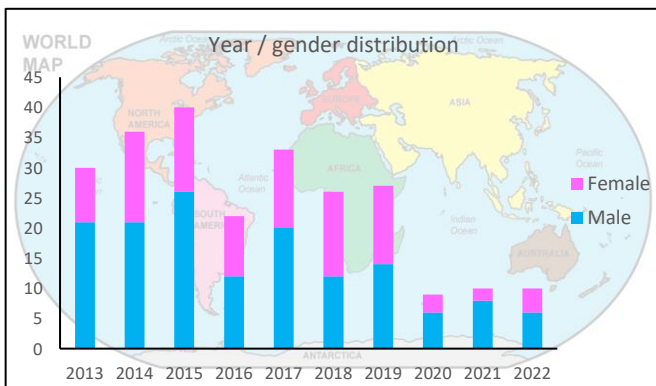
Of the 243 international visitors admitted to RPH 146 (60.1%) were males, and 97 (39.9%) were females.

- 100 (41.2%) occurred in the metro area
- 143 (58.8%) occurred in the country areas

Ages range from 16 – 78. The 16-30 age group were the largest to be admitted with 94 (59.5%) males and 64 (40.5%) females.

The majority of patients were either the driver (31.7%), front (17.3%), or rear passenger (23.5%) in a motor vehicle

- 28 (19.6%) patients had consumed alcohol or drugs within 12 hours of their road trauma and, of these,
- 16 (14%) were either the driver or motor bike rider in control of the vehicle



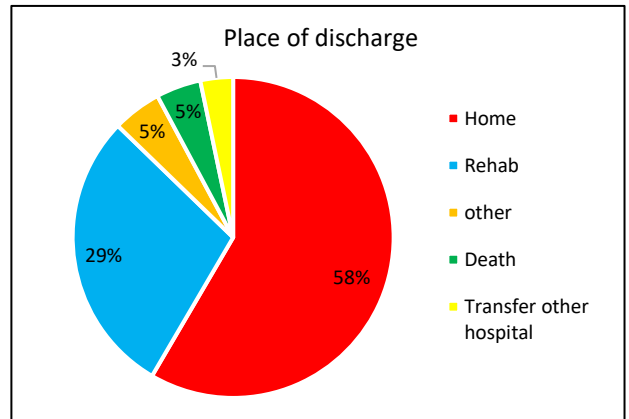
Of the 243 visitors to WA :

- 150 (61.8%) were travelling 100kmh or less
- 36 (14.8%) were travelling >100kmh

37 (25.9%) visitors were not compliant where safety device (i.e. seatbelts or helmets) was applicable

All 243 patients sustained major trauma with an injury severity score (ISS) of more than 12, and had an average length of stay of 13.6 days

142 (58.4%) of patients were discharged home. A further 70 (28.8%) required rehabilitation.



Western Australia (WA) covers a third of the continent of Australia and has a land mass of approximately 2.5 million square kilometres. Travelling on WA roads may present a challenge to visitors not familiar with the Australian road system. Different road rules, unsealed roads, vast distances and animals are a few of the challenges that visitors unfamiliar with WA roads face. Injury prevention programs should focus on these differences, and emphasise the need to wear safety devices, and adjust to the road conditions where appropriate.