



BUILT FOR WALKING: SAFE ENVIRONMENTS FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Ontario Road Safety Forum March 6, 2018

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Instituts de recherche en santé du Canada

OVERVIEW

- **Introduction**
- **Background**
- **Methodological Overview**
 - Cross Sectional Studies
 - Case Control Studies
 - Quasi – Experimental Studies (Natural Experiments)
- **Further School-Based Studies**
 - Parent Perceptions
 - Driver Behaviour
 - Vision Zero Intervention Project
- **Further City Wide Studies**
 - Social inequities and the BE
 - Child Active Transportation Safety and the Environment (CHASE)
- **Conclusions and Discussion**

WHO WE ARE



- Dr. Andrew Howard- *Senior Scientist, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON*
- Dr. Linda Rothman – *Senior Research Associate, Epidemiologist, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON*
- Dr. Colin Macarthur-*Senior Scientist, Clinical Research, Epidemiologist, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON*
- Dr. Alison Macpherson- *Professor, Epidemiologist, York University, Toronto, ON*
- Dr. Ron Buliung- *Professor, Geographer, University of Toronto, Mississauga, ON*
- Dr. Marie Soleil Cloutier – *Professor, Geographer, Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), Montreal, QC*

WHAT WE DO

- Children's injury prevention research since the late 1990s
 - Playground
 - Hockey
 - Orthopaedic injuries
 - Motor vehicle occupants
 - Vulnerable road users and active transportation
- Data
 - Trauma, emergency room surveillance, hospital discharge, coroner's, police data, municipal, school board, census, surveys, City of Toronto



COLLABORATORS, PARTNERS, KNOWLEDGE USERS, STAKEHOLDERS

- Universities
- Hospitals
- Municipalities (Public Health, Policy, Transportation)
- Provincial government (Transportation, Metrolinx),
- School boards
- Coroners
- Parachute
- Green Communities Canada
- Toronto Police Services
- CAA





Influence of social and built environment features on children walking to school: An observational study[☆]

Linda Rothman^{a,b,*}, Teresa To^a, Ron Buliung^c, Colin Macarthur^a, Andrew Howard^a



Exploring the impact of a dedicated streetcar right-of-way on pedestrian motor vehicle collisions: A quasi experimental design

Sarah A. Richmond^{a,*}, Linda Rothman^{a,c,1}, Ron Buliung^d, Naomi Schwartz^{a,b,2}, Kristian Larsen^d, Andrew Howard^{a,e,f,g,3}



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Do school crossing guards make crossing roads safer? A quasi-experimental study of pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions in Toronto, Canada

Linda Rothman^{1,3*}, Daniel Perry^{2,4}, Ron Buliung⁵, Colin Macarthur^{1,6,8}, Teresa To^{1,6,9}, Alison Macpherson^{1,5} and Andrew Howard^{1,2,7,8}



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Traffic Injury Prevention

ISSN: 1538-9588 (Print) 1538-957X (Online) journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/gcpi20>

Dangerous student car drop-off behaviours and child pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions: an observational study

Linda Rothman MHSChD, Andrew Howard MSCFRCS, Ron Buliung PhD, Colin Macarthur MBChBPhD & Alison Macpherson PhD



Travel Behaviour and Society

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/tbs



The school environment and student car drop-off at elementary schools

Linda Rothman^{a,b,*}, Ron Buliung^c, Andrew Howard^{b,d}, Colin Macarthur^b, Alison Macpherson^a

Motor Vehicle-Pedestrian Collisions and Walking to School: The Role of the Built Environment

PEDIATRICS Volume 133, Number 5, May 2014

AUTHORS: Linda Rothman, BScOT, MHSC, PhD,^{a,b} Colin Macarthur, MBChB, PhD,^{a,c,d} Teresa To, PhD,^{a,b,d,e} Ron Buliung, PhD,^f and Andrew Howard, MD, MSC, FRCSO^{a,d,g,h}



Open Access



Rothman et al. BMC Public Health (2015) 15:774
DOI 10.1186/s12889-015-2116-4

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Installation of speed humps and pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions in Toronto, Canada: a quasi-experimental study

Linda Rothman^{1,2*}, Alison Macpherson², Ron Buliung³, Colin Macarthur⁴, Teresa To¹, Kristian Larsen^{1,3} and Andrew Howard⁵



Journal of Transport & Health

Volume 3, Issue 4, December 2016, Pages 523-528



Examining the impact of cycle lanes on cyclist-motor vehicle collisions in the city of Toronto

Deepit Bhatia^{a,c}, Sarah A. Richmond^{a,d,e}, C.K. Jennifer Loo^c, Linda Rothman^b, Colin Macarthur^d, Andrew Howard^a

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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Accident Analysis and Prevention

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aap



School environments and social risk factors for child pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions: A case-control study

Linda Rothman (BScOT MHSC PhD)^{a,b,*}, Andrew Howard (MSC MD FRCSO)^b, Ron Buliung (PhD)^c, Colin Macarthur (MBChB PhD)^b, Sarah A. Richmond (PhD)^{a,b}, Alison Macpherson (PhD)^a

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Direct observations of active school transportation and stroller use in kindergarten children

Linda Rothman^{a,d,*}, Alison K Macpherson^d, Andrew Howard^{a,b}, Patricia C Parkin^{a,c}, Sarah A Richmond^{a,d}, Catherine S Birken^{a,c}

Injury Prevention

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Home > Volume 20, Issue 3 > Article

Inj Prev 2014;20:155-158 doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040717

Original article

The impact of pedestrian countdown signals on pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions: a reanalysis of data from a quasi-experimental study

OPEN ACCESS

Sarah A Richmond¹, Andrew R Willan^{1,2}, Linda Rothman¹, Andi Camden¹, Ron Buliung³, Colin Macarthur^{1,4}, Andrew Howard^{1,5,6,7}

Kids' rates of walking to school not linked to crashes: study

The proportion of kids who walk to school is not linked to the number of crashes in neighbourhood. Instead the "built environment" is responsible, a new study shows.



Walking the walk: How cities can make it safe for kids en route to school

ADRIANA BARTON

The Globe and Mail

Published Tuesday, Apr. 08 2014, 3:10 PM EDT

Last updated Tuesday, Apr. 08 2014, 11:57 PM EDT

Toronto countdown crosswalks have led to increase in pedestrian collisions, study finds

A fresh look at old data finds a 26 per cent rise in people being struck in intersections. But timing tweaks could change that.

As more cities embrace countdown signals at intersections, Toronto study casts doubt on their safety

TOM BLACKWELL | October 3, 2013 | Last Updated: Oct 3 8:40 PM ET
More from Tom Blackwell | @tomblackwellRP



Pedestrian countdown signals, like this one, seem to have actually increased crashes between people and cars in Toronto.

Driving your kids to school puts other children at risk, new study finds

Dangerous driving a problem at over 100 Toronto-area elementary schools

CBC News | Posted: Jan 21, 2016 4:54 PM ET | Last Updated: Jan 21, 2016 4:54 PM ET



Using police data, researchers at the University of Toronto, York University and Sick Kids Hospital found that 411 children were involved in vehicle collisions near 119 elementary schools over a 12-year period from 2000-2011. (iStock)

Safety of walking to school for children related to features of the environment

April 7, 2014 / Author: Tara Haele / Reviewed by: Robert Carlson, M.D Beth Bolt, RPh

St. Clair streetcar line has made pedestrians safer: study

Hospital for Sick Children research concludes that pedestrian-vehicle collisions were reduced by half after the separated streetcar line was built.



Study recommends kids walk to school

News Staff Apr 7, 2014 06:47:09 AM



School drop-offs more dangerous than parents think: study

BY NEWS STAFF
POSTED JAN 21, 2016 10:31 AM EST

LIVE



Video: School drop-off tips for parents and students

Parents' dangerous driving at drop-off areas puts students at risk, study finds

Study finds increased chance of injury in and around schools in the morning rush as drivers break all the rules.

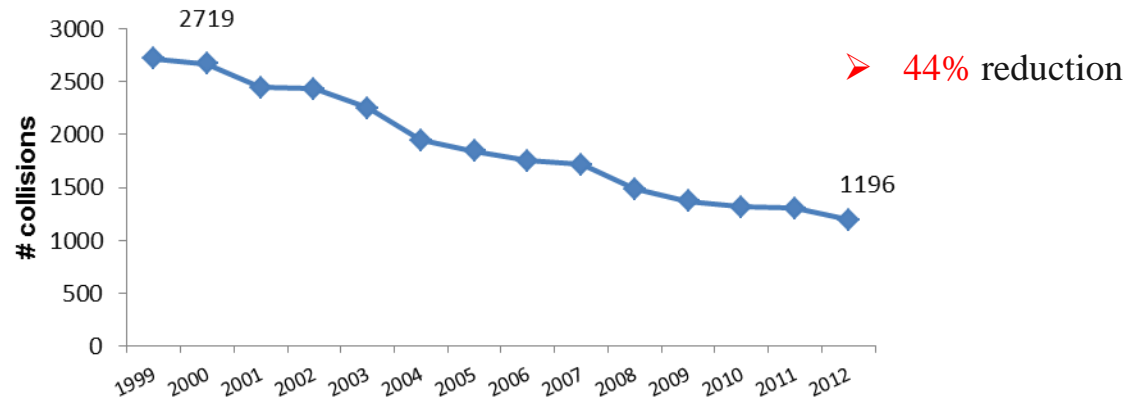


A child crossing the street at a crosswalk

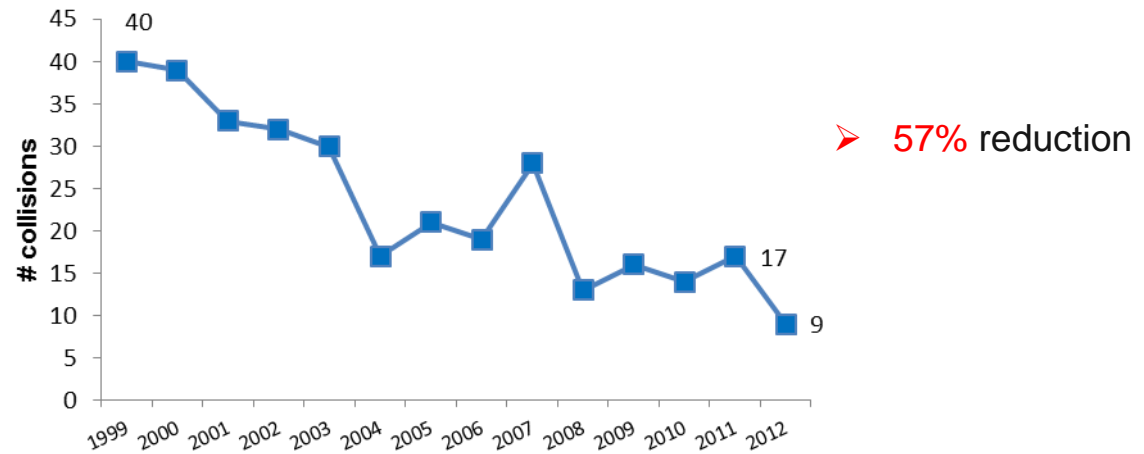
THINKSTOCK PHOTO

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National Pedestrian Collisions Resulting In Any Injury (0-14)¹

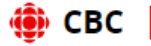


National Pedestrian Fatalities (0-14)¹



¹Transport Canada, Canadian Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision Statistics: 2013

New numbers reveal 2016 was Toronto's deadliest year for pedestrians in at least a decade



Pedestrian deaths prompt councillor's motion to speed up street safety plan

Coun. Kristyn Wong-Tam wants to fast-track Vision Zero, a plan to prevent pedestrian deaths



Pedestrian deaths plague Toronto

Mayor Tory joins cities across North America and in Europe in adopting Vision Zero

Annex Post 1 Nov 2017 KAREN STINTZ

Four pedestrians die in Scarborough within 24 hours

Safety advocate says speed limits over 50 km/h contributed to the deaths.



1,600 collisions involved pedestrians in Toronto this year, police say

36 collisions resulted in fatal injuries with many involving jay-walkers or seniors

CBC News Posted: Dec 22, 2017 2:28 PM ET | Last Updated: Dec 22, 2017 3:32 PM ET



FATAL CROSSINGS

The number of pedestrian deaths in Toronto has leapt 15 per cent over past five years – and yet public attention and political reaction continue to fall short. **Oliver Moore** and **Michael Pereira** analyzed five years of data and found an increasingly urgent public safety matter

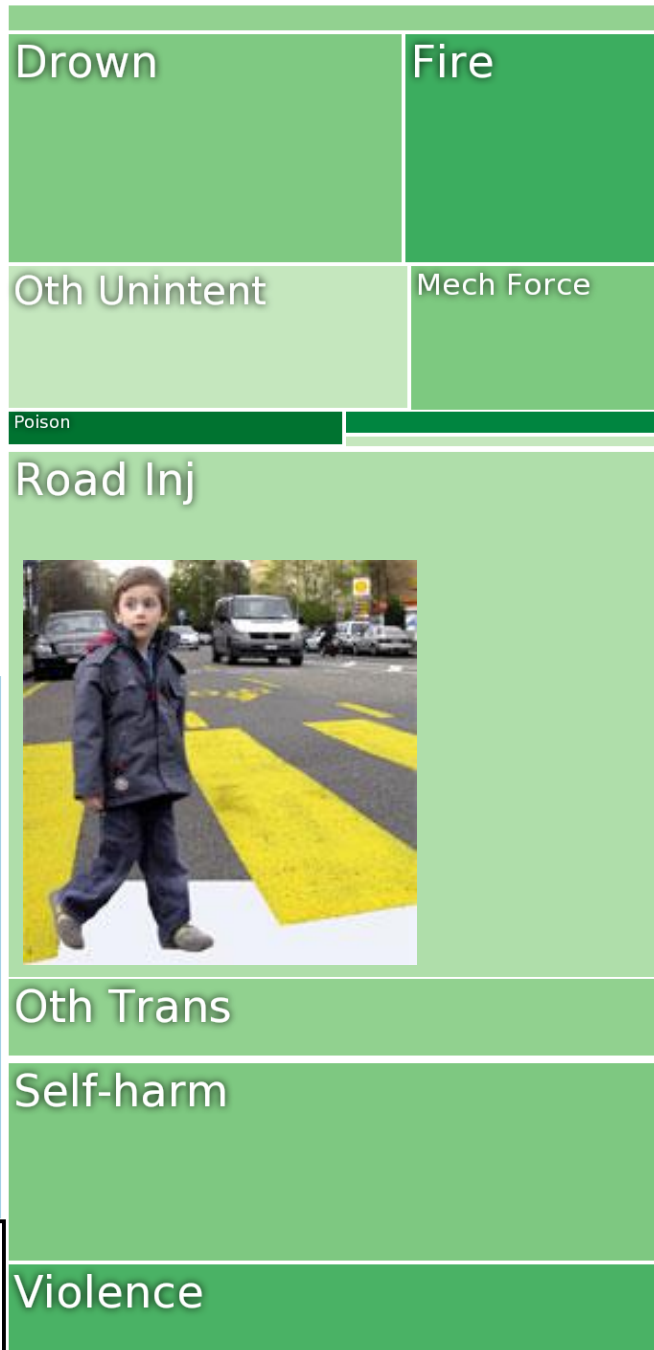
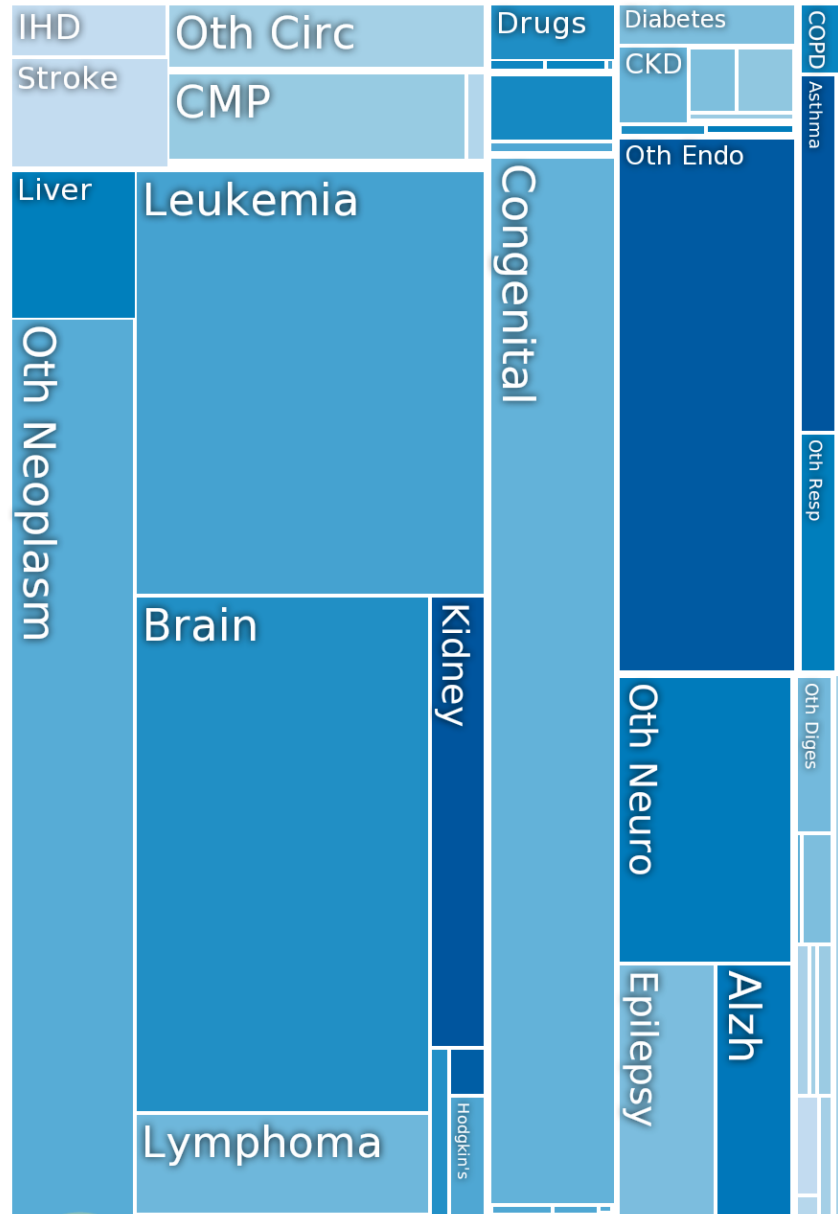
WHAT IS TRANSPORTATION HEALTH?

- Road Traffic Injury Prevention
- Health promotion through active transportation (walking, cycling, public transit)
- Same population, built environment, same denominators
- Need to be considered together

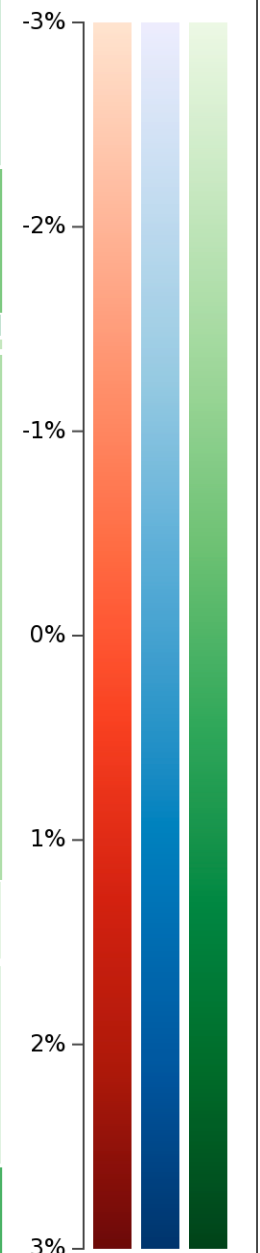
TORONTO TRAUMA PATIENTS, 2015

| | All | ISS12+ |
|------------|-----|--------|
| Occupant | 42 | 14 |
| Pedestrian | 30 | 10 |
| Cyclist | 15 | 7 |

Canada, YLLs
Both sexes, 5-14 years, 2010



Annual % change
2005 to 2010
YLLs/100,000





Walking to School



Built Environment Design (BE)



Potential Health Benefits



Potential Risk of Pedestrian-Motor Vehicle Collisions (PMVCs)



BALANCE

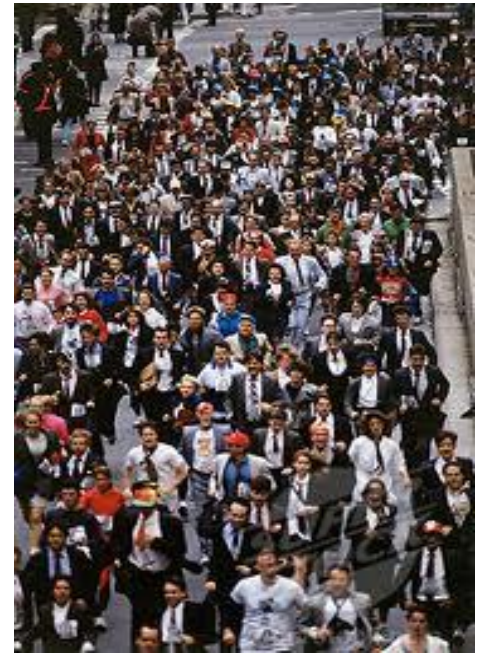
Haddon's Matrix - Pedestrian Injury

| | <u>Person</u> | <u>Equipment</u> | <u>Environment</u> |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Pre Event</u> | Driver Training, Distraction, pedestrian visibility | Pedestrian warning systems | Road design, raised crosswalks, speed camera, crossing guards, signals, lighting, etc..... |
| <u>Event</u> | | Bumper, hood, windshield design | |
| <u>Post Event</u> | Access to health care | Collision Notification | ATLS system |

Safety in numbers?¹

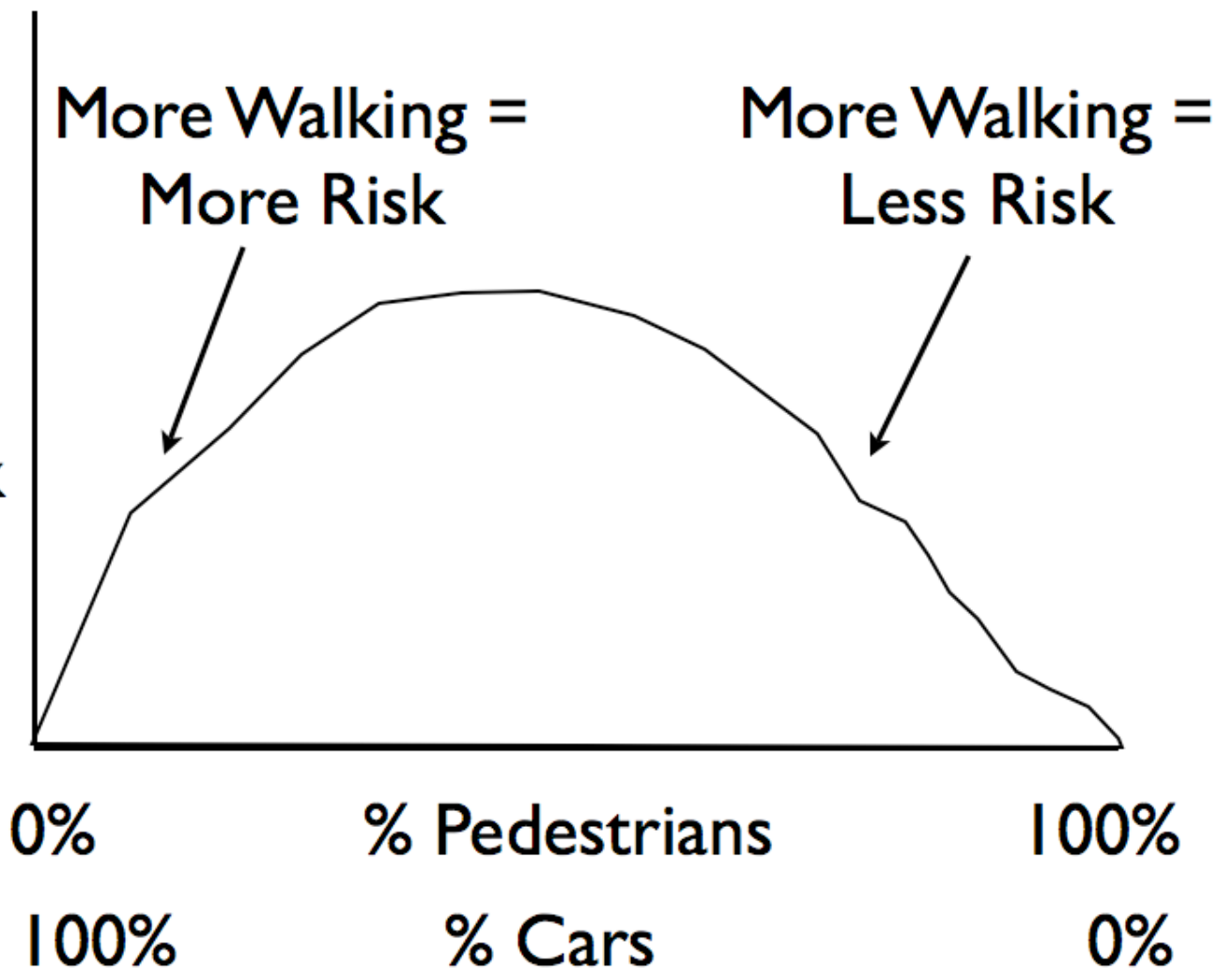
OR

Increased walking exposure = increased risk?^{2,3,4}



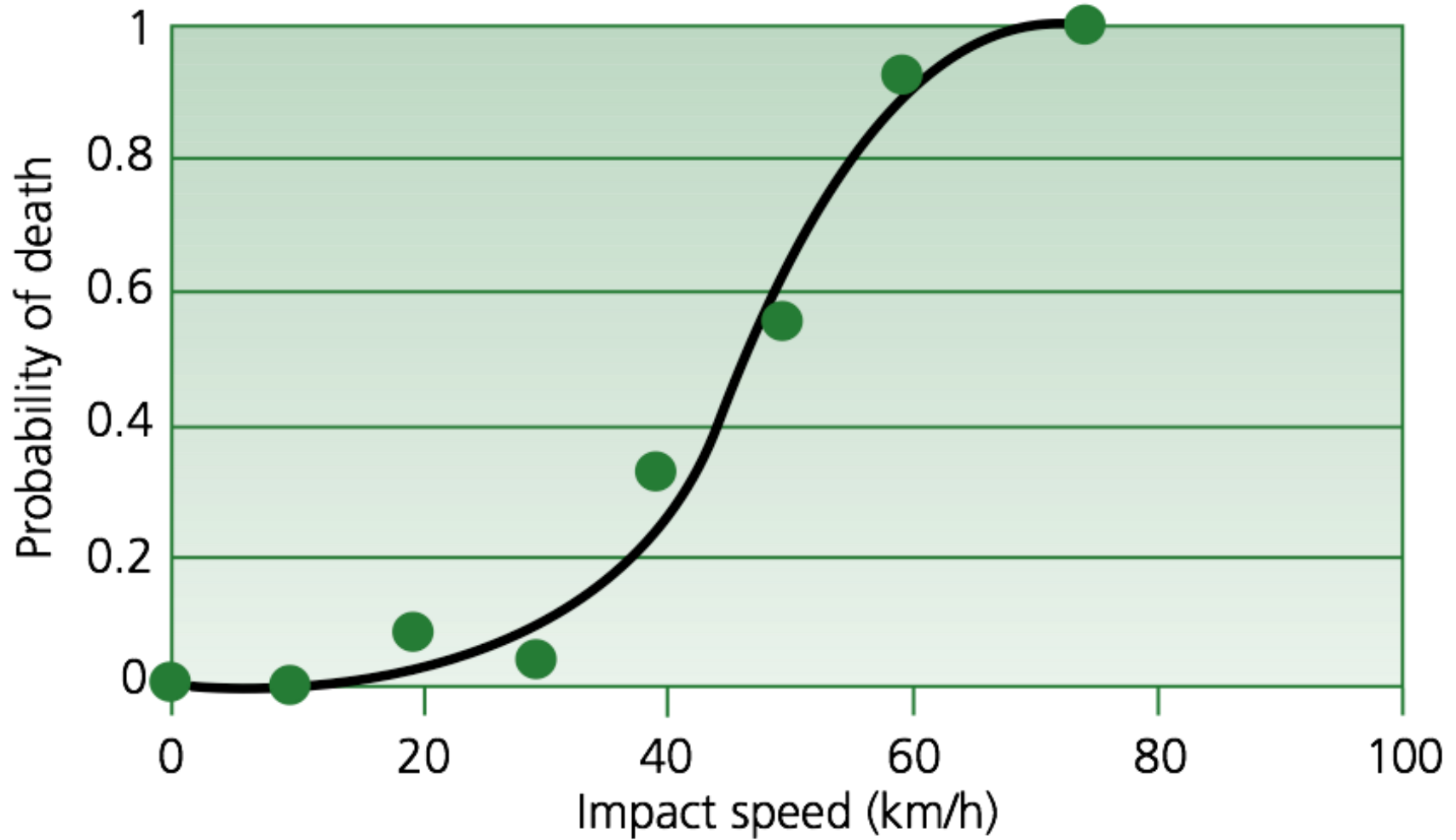
- 1 Jacobsen PL, *Inj Prev.* 2003;**9**:205-209.
- 2 Macpherson, A. *Am J Public Health.* 1998;**88**:1840-1843.
- 3 Rao, *Bull N.Y. Acad Med.* 1997;**74**:65-80.
- 4 Gropp *Inj Prev.* 2013;**19**:64-67

Pedestrian Injury Risk



Risk of Pedestrian Injury Varies by Transport Mix

Pedestrian fatality risk as a function of the impact speed of a car



WALKING, SAFETY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

- Systematic review of built environment correlates of both walking and child pedestrian injury¹
- Ten electronic databases, 1980-Feb, 2012, urban, ages 4-12, highly motorized countries
- Associations between BE and walking or injury
- 35 child pedestrian injury, 50 walking papers

Downloaded from injuryprevention.bmj.com on January 17, 2014 - Published by group.bmj.com

Systematic review

Walking and child pedestrian injury: a systematic review of built environment correlates of safe walking

Linda Rothman,^{1,2} Ron Buliung,³ Colin Macarthur,^{1,4,5} Teresa To,^{1,2,5,6}
Andrew Howard^{1,5,7,8}

METHODOLOGIC OVERVIEW

- Cross Sectional Studies
- Case Control Studies
- Quasi – Experimental Studies (Natural Experiments)



Influence of social and built environment features on children walking to school: An observational study[☆]

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Direct observations of active school transportation and stroller use in kindergarten children

Linda Rothman^{ada}, Alison K Macpherson^d, Andrew Howard^{ab}, Patricia C Parkin^{ac}, Sarah A Richmond^{ad}, Catherine S Birken^{ac}

Motor Vehicle-Pedestrian Collisions and Walking to School: The Role of the Built Environment

PEDIATRICS Volume 133, Number 5, May 2014

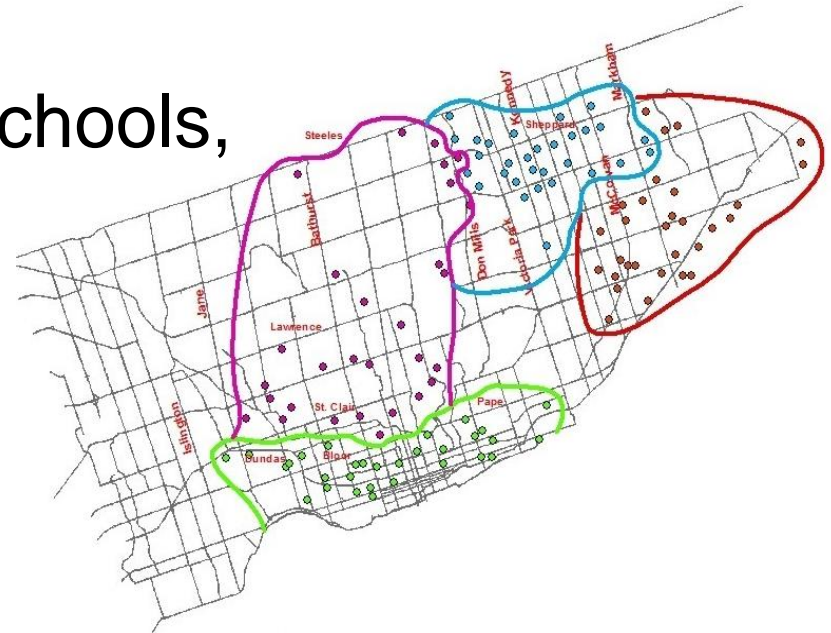
AUTHORS: Linda Rothman, BScOT, MHSC, PhD,^{ab} Colin Macarthur, MBChB, PhD,^{a,c,d} Teresa To, PhD,^{a,b,d,e} Ron Buliung, PhD,^f and Andrew Howard, MD, MSC, FRCSC^{a,d,g,h}

OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

- What is the relationship between increased walking to school and child PMVC?
- Can walking/injury relationship be modified through the built environment?

METHODS

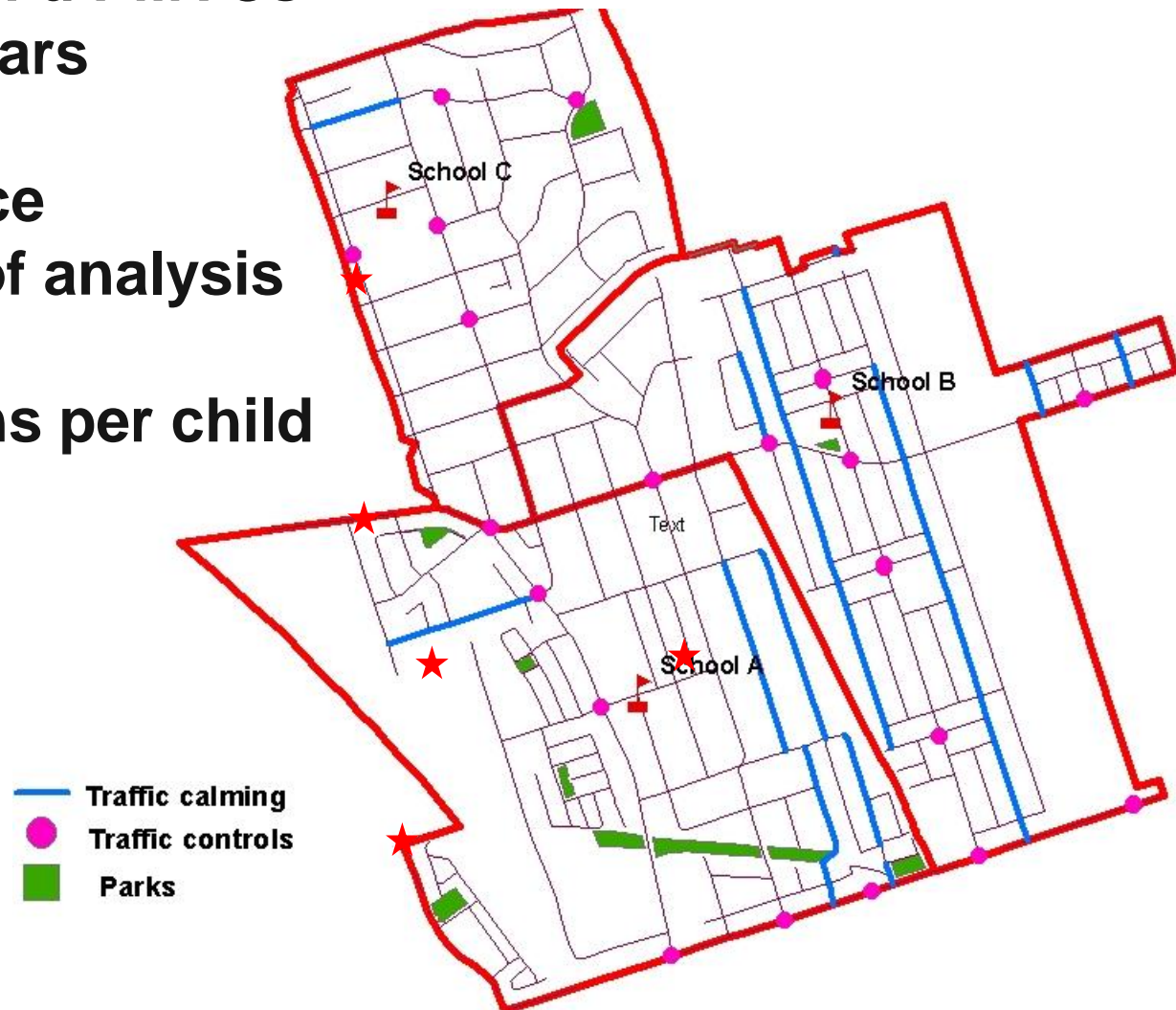
- Observational counts, Toronto
- Spring 2011, Grades JK – 6 elementary schools
- Proportion of children living within walking distance
- Total number of children counted: **23,157**
- 12 observers, 4 teams sent to different areas of the city
- Parent questionnaire in 20 schools, grades 4-6



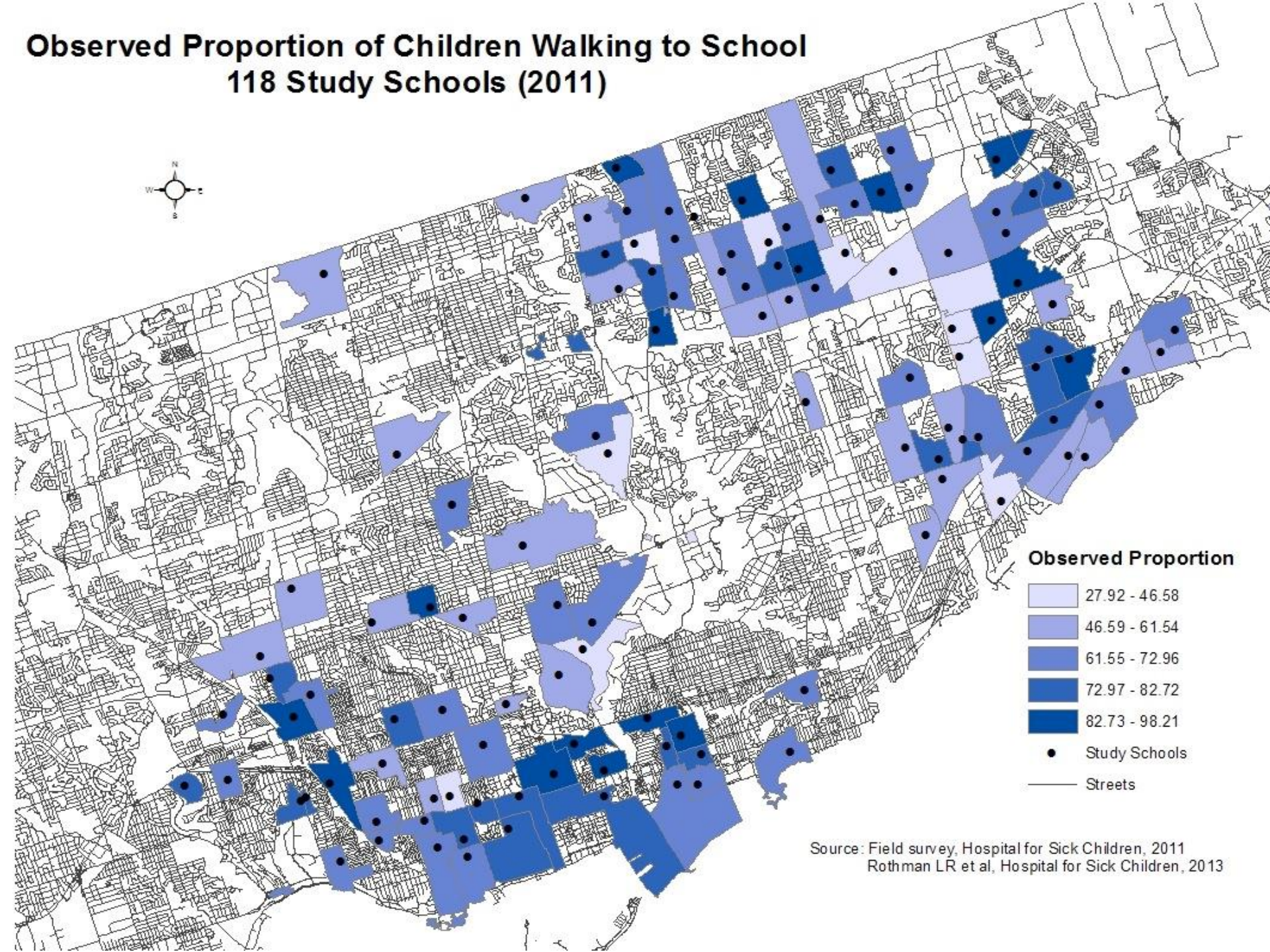
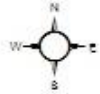
MAPPING

★ Police-reported child PMVCs 2002-2011, 4-12 years

- School attendance boundaries: Unit of analysis
- Rates of collisions per child population



Observed Proportion of Children Walking to School 118 Study Schools (2011)



Observed Proportion

27.92 - 46.58

46.59 - 61.54

61.55 - 72.96

72.97 - 82.72

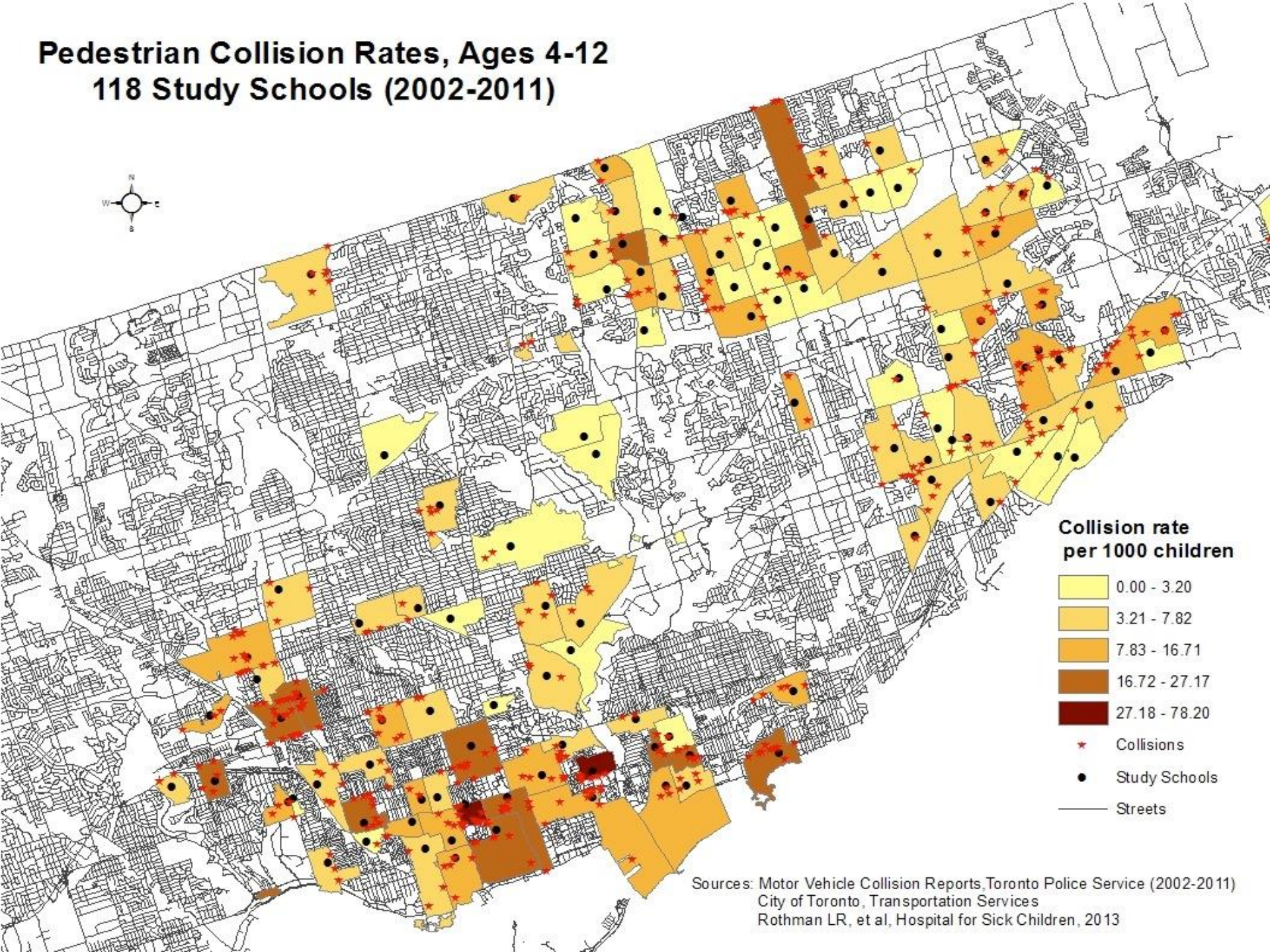
82.73 - 98.21

● Study Schools

— Streets

Source: Field survey, Hospital for Sick Children, 2011
Rothman LR et al, Hospital for Sick Children, 2013

Pedestrian Collision Rates, Ages 4-12 118 Study Schools (2002-2011)



Sources: Motor Vehicle Collision Reports, Toronto Police Service (2002-2011)
City of Toronto, Transportation Services
Rothman LR, et al, Hospital for Sick Children, 2013

CHILD PMVC, 2002-2011 (10 years)

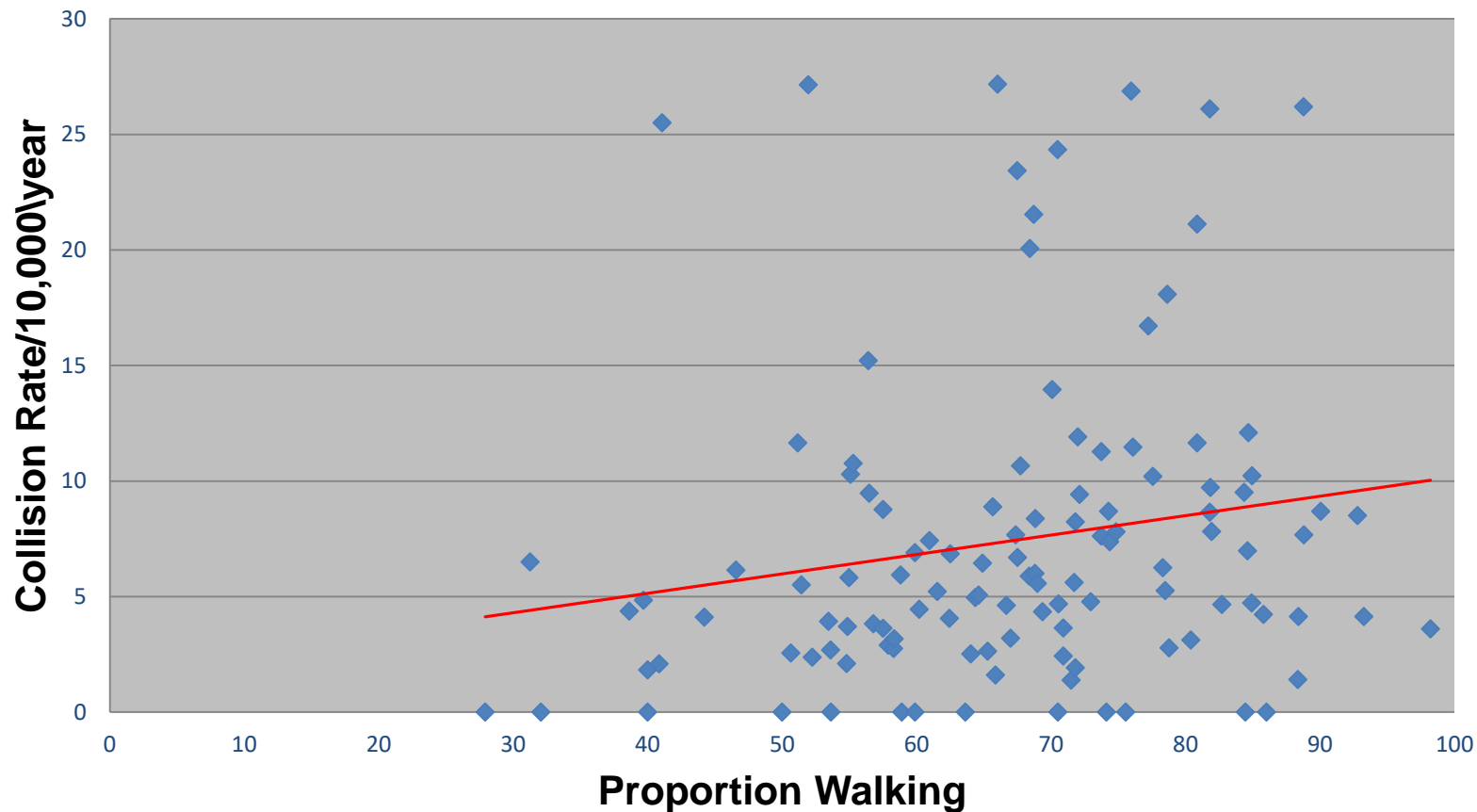


- 481 collisions within 105 school boundaries*
- No collisions in 13 school boundaries

- No Injury: 24 (5%)
- Minimal Injury: 191 (40%)
- Minor Injury (seen in ED): 236 (49%)
- Major Injury (admitted): 30 (6%)
- Fatality: 1 (<1%)

- 214 (44%) were school travel time collisions

COLLISION RATE AND PROPORTION WALKING TO SCHOOL



- 13% increase in collision rate with every 10% increase walking

RESULTS: COLLISIONS MODELLED (NEG BINOM)

| | Variable | IRR (95% CI) |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Exposure | Walking to School | 0.84 (0.29, 2.46) |
| Built Environment | Multi-dwelling density # /1000m ² | 0.84 (0.73, 0.96) |
| Density | | |
| Design | Traffic lights/km roads | 3.20 (1.89, 5.41) |
| | One way streets/10 km roads | 1.19 (1.03, 1.36) |
| | Traffic calming/10 km roads | 1.31 (1.06, 1.63) |
| | School crossing guard | 1.45 (1.09, 1.91) |
| Non-built environment | Lower school SES | 2.36 (1.39, 3.99) |

METHODOLOGIC OVERVIEW

- Cross Sectional Studies
- Case Control Studies
- Quasi – Experimental Studies (Natural Experiments)



School environments and social risk factors for child pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions: A case-control study



Linda Rothman (BScOT MHSC PhD)^{a,b,*}, Andrew Howard (MSC MD FRCSC)^b,
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^a Faculty of Health-School of Kinesiology & Health Science York University, Norman Bethune College, 4700 Keele St., Room 337 Toronto, ON M3J 1P3, Canada

^b Child Health Evaluative Sciences, The Hospital for Sick Children, 555 University Ave., Toronto M5G 1X8, Canada

^c Department of Geography, University of Toronto Mississauga, 3359 Mississauga Road, 5B31 04, Mississauga, ON L5L 1C6, Canada

REPEAT (2015): CASE/CONTROL (Log Reg)

| | Variable | Odds (95% CI) of being a higher collision school |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Exposure | Walking to School | 0.49 (0.02, 13.72) |
| Built Environment | Residential Land Use km ² /10km ² | 0.56 (0.37, 0.86) |
| Design | Traffic lights/km roads | 1.59 (1.17, 2.15) |
| | One way streets/10 km roads | 4.00 (1.76, 9.08) |
| | Traffic calming/10 km roads | 3.56 (1.03, 12.26) |
| | School crossing guard | 3.65 (1.10, 12.20) |
| Non-built environment | Lower school SES | 1.37 (1.11, 1.70) |

PROBLEMS WITH CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDIES

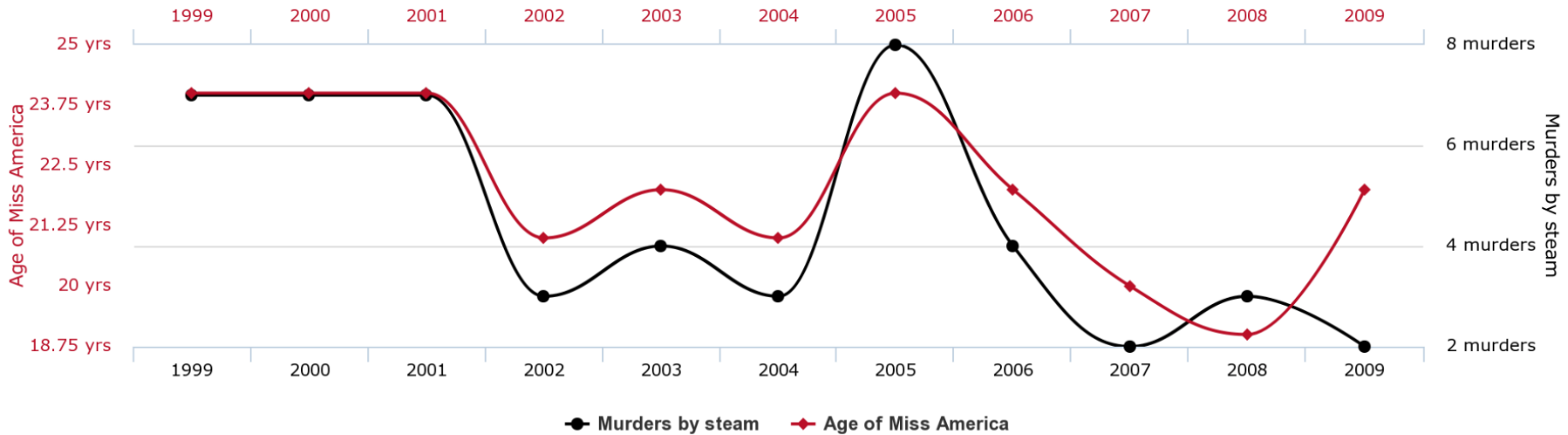
- Associated with **higher** collision rates ??
 - School crossing guard
 - More traffic calming



- Traffic calming may have not been present when collision occurred
- Pre-post studies

CORRELATION OR CAUSATION ?

Age of Miss America
correlates with
Murders by steam, hot vapours and hot objects



METHODOLOGIC OVERVIEW

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(Natural Experiments)

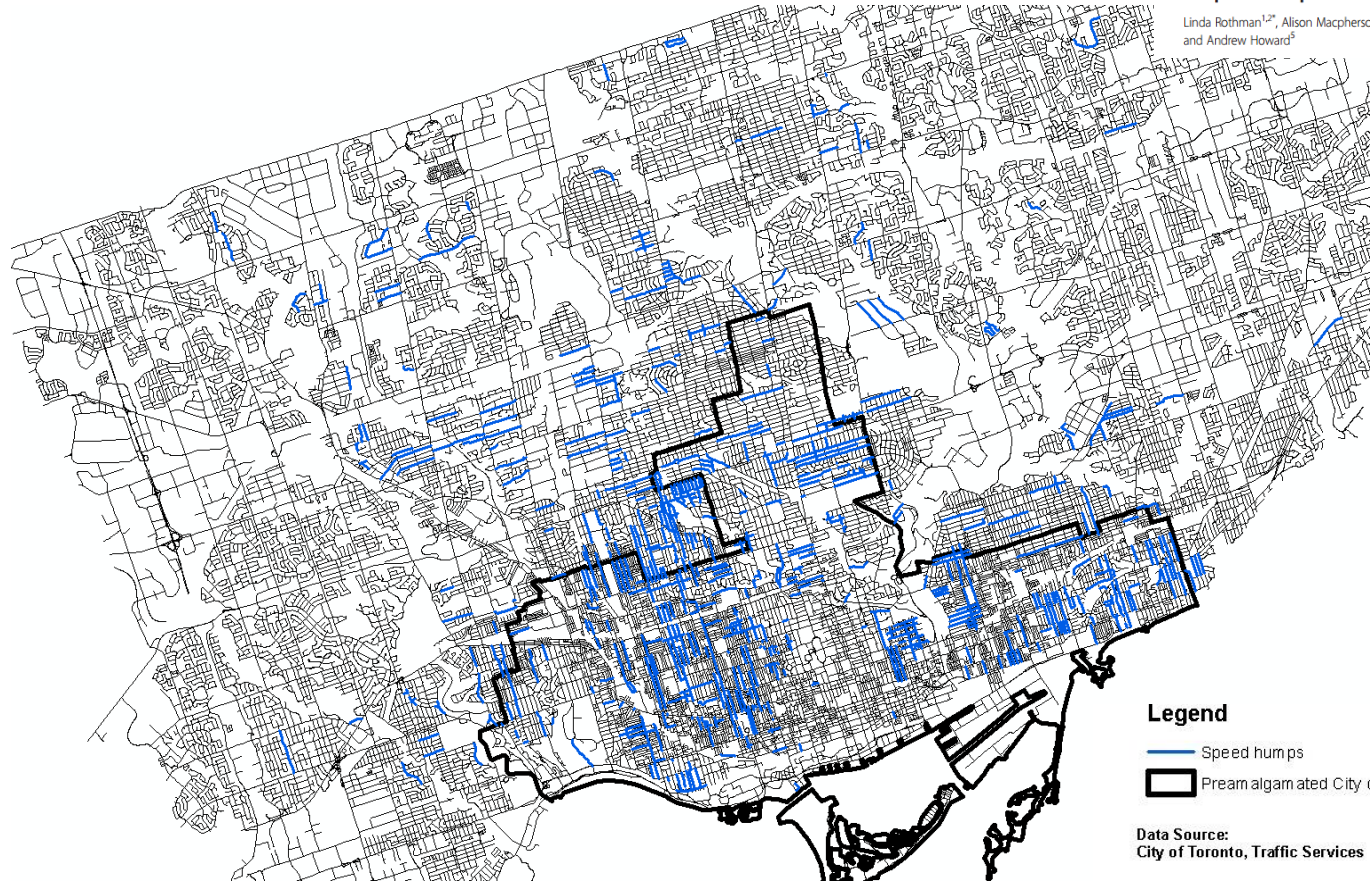
GENERAL METHODS

- Quasi-experimental, pre-post repeated measures
 - Repeated measure **by** traffic feature
 - Limited by lack of exposure data – design uses time as the denominator
- Regression analyses for count data
 - Incidence rate ratios with 95% CI
- Mapping
 - Locate collisions and assign to traffic features
 - Map features of the built environment
 - Conduct **spatial analysis** of collisions pre/post installation

SPEED HUMPS

Installation of speed humps and pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions in Toronto, Canada: a quasi-experimental study

Linda Rothman^{1,2*}, Alison Macpherson², Ron Bulling³, Colin Macarthur⁴, Teresa To¹, Kristian Larsen^{1,3} and Andrew Howard⁵



• 1,344 collisions along speed hump roadways

Legend

- Speed humps
- ▭ Pre-amalgamated City of Toronto

Data Source:
City of Toronto, Traffic Services

Central City of Toronto

- Installation associated with a **22%** decrease overall (296 PMVCs prevented) and **45%** decrease in collision rates in children

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

Rothman et al. *BMC Public Health* (2015) 15:732
DOI 10.1186/s12889-015-2065-y



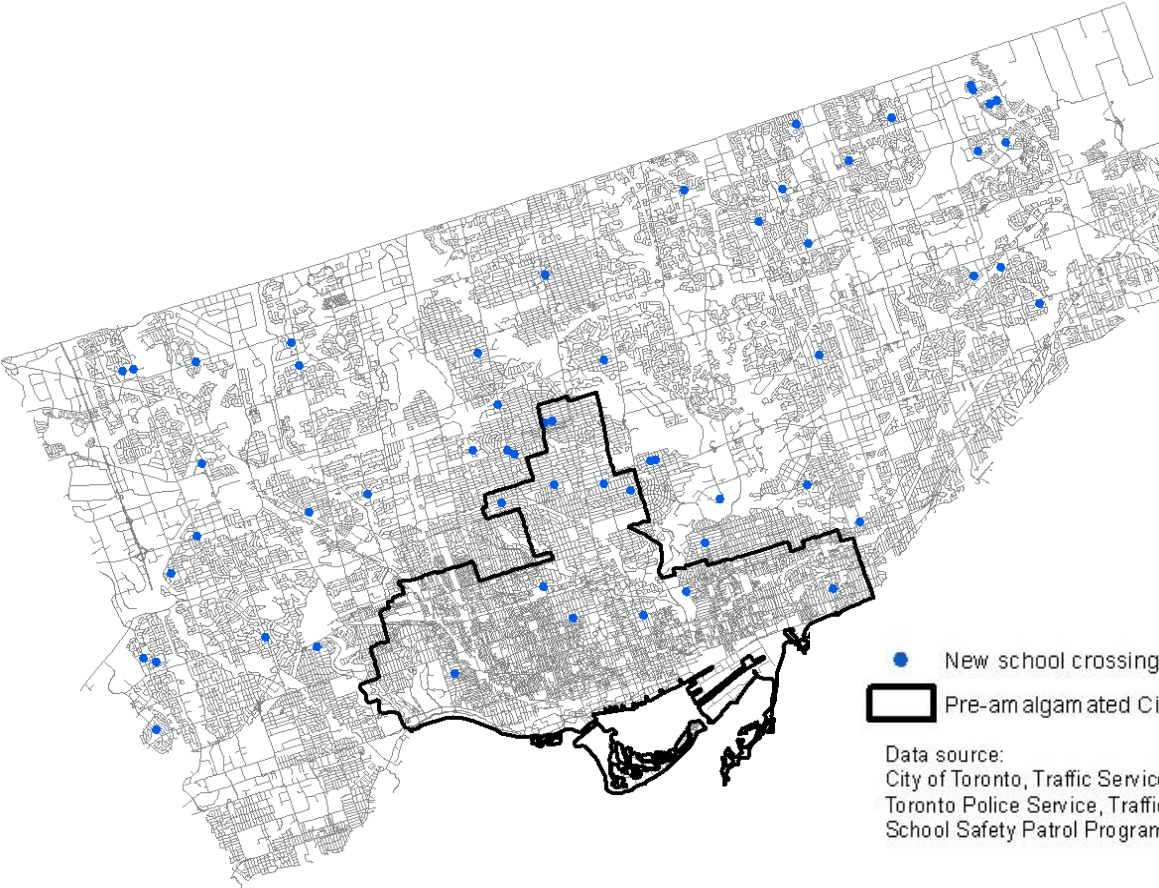
RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Do school crossing guards make crossing roads safer? A quasi-experimental study of pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions in Toronto, Canada

Linda Rothman^{1,2†}, Daniel Perry^{2,4}, Ron Bullung⁵, Colin Macarthur^{1,6,8}, Teresa To^{1,8,9}, Alison Macpherson³, Kristian Larsen^{1,5} and Andrew Howard^{1,2,7,8}



- New school crossing guards (2003-2011)
- ▭ Pre-amalgamated City of Toronto

Data source:
City of Toronto, Traffic Services
Toronto Police Service, Traffic Services
School Safety Patrol Program

- 58 newly implemented guards
- 260 PMVCs

- Collision rates unchanged after implementation
- ?? More children walking at these locations, future study
- Guards are a simple roadway modification to increase walking to school without detrimental safety effects

City Wide Guards: 568

Proportion of collisions (n = 1850) occurring at a guard location

| | Non-school travel time | | | School travel time | | | Chi-square P-value |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | N | SCG location | Not at SCG location | N | SCG location | Not at SCG location | |
| Children (4 – 12) | 1155 (62%) | 138 (12%) | 1017 (88%) | 695 (38%) | 95 (13.7%) | 600 (86.3%) | 0.28 |

- High burden of child PMVC outside school travel times and not at crossing guard locations

PEDESTRIAN COUNTDOWN SIGNALS



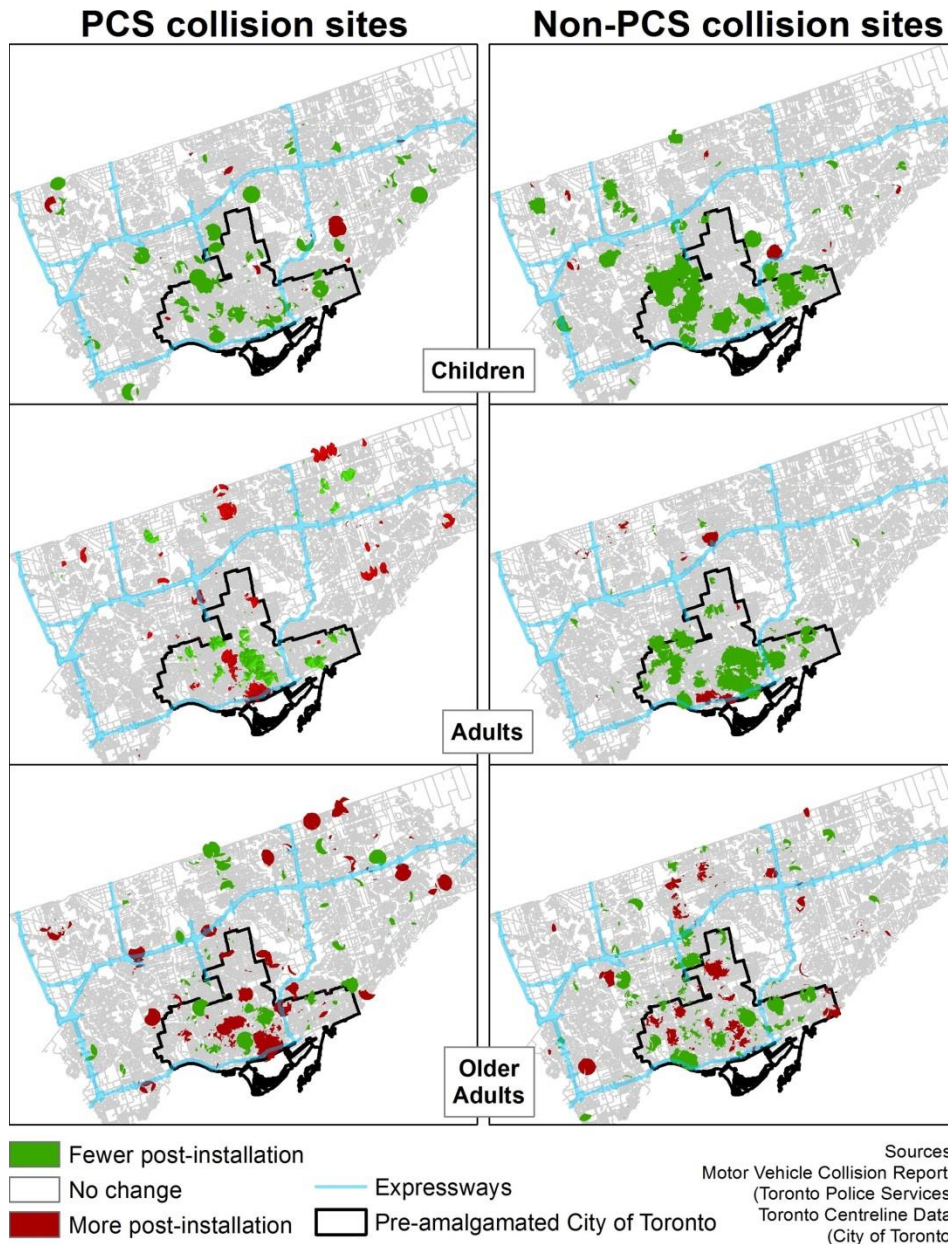
- Spatial pre-post study of pedestrian countdown timers at 1965 traffic light controlled intersections

Table 1 Frequency and incidence rate ratios of all collisions by pedestrian countdown signal (PCS) (pre, post) and by season (summer, winter)

| Collision type | Total I-M ^a | I-M (≥1 collision) | # of collisions | IRR ^b (95% CI) [†] (adjusted for covariates) ^{††} | p-value |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|---|---------|
| All collisions | | | | | |
| Pre PCS | 42904 | 935 | 1023 | 1 | |
| Post PCS | 29619 | 1548 | 1737 | 1.26 (1.11 - 1.42) | <0.001 |
| Summer | 36406 | 1041 | 1142 | 1 | |
| Winter | 36117 | 1442 | 1618 | 1.19 (1.09 - 1.31) | <0.001 |

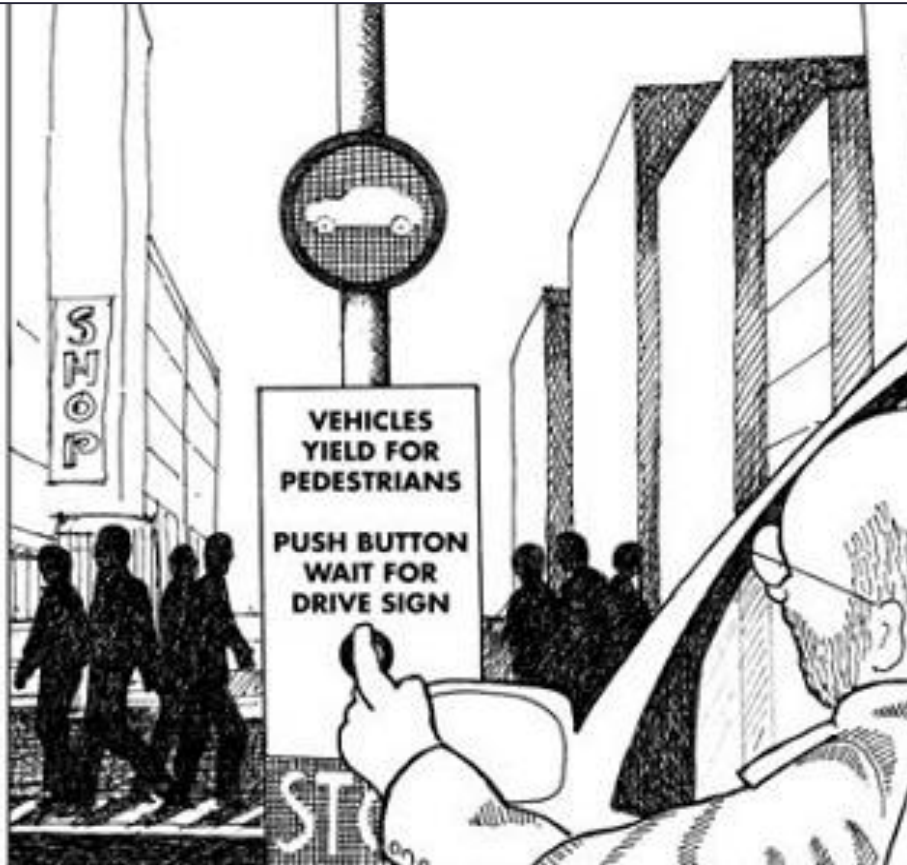


Spatial Analysis



- Effects varied by age and location
 - Installation may result in increased PMVC; non-PCS locations showed more consistent reductions
 - Effectiveness varies within a city, therefore, likely to vary across cities
 - Pedestrians may misuse the information to cross quickly, rather than to cross safely
- **Could changes in signal timing, or vehicle turning restrictions, yield desired safety benefits?**

WHAT IF
INTERSECTION
CROSSINGS
WERE
DESIGNED
FOR
PEDESTRIANS
NOT
VEHICLES
?



Source: http://shadeparadenashville.blogspot.ca/2015_08_01_archive.html

STREETCAR RIGHT OF WAY



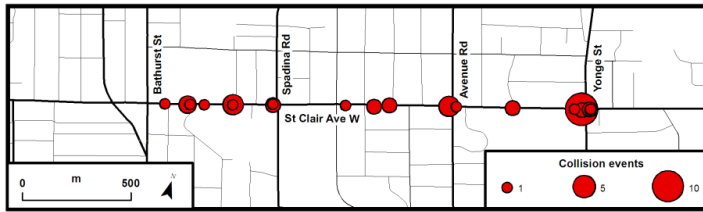
TABLE 1. Incidence rates and incidence rate ratios, comparing pre and post right-of-way on pedestrian motor vehicle collisions

| | Collisions (pre) | Collisions (post) | IR ^a (pre) | IR (post) | IRR ^b (95%CI) ^c |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--|
| St. Clair | 100 | 53 | 113.7 | 60.2 | 0.52 (0.37 – 0.74) |
| Age (years) | | | | | |
| Child (0-15) | 23 | 3 | 26.2 | 3.40 | 0.13 (0.04 – 0.44) |
| Adult (16-59) | 59 | 34 | 67.1 | 38.6 | 0.61 (0.38 – 0.97) |
| Older adult (60+) | 16 | 12 | 18.2 | 13.6 | 0.75 (0.34 – 1.64) |
| Injury status | | | | | |
| No injury | 3 | 2 | 3.4 | 2.3 | 0.67 (0.11 – 3.98) |
| Minor injury | 87 | 49 | 98.9 | 55.6 | 0.56 (0.40 – 0.80) |
| Major injury | 9 | 2 | 10.2 | 2.3 | 0.23 (0.05 – 1.15) |
| Fatal injury | 1 | 0 | 1.1 | 0 | - ^d |

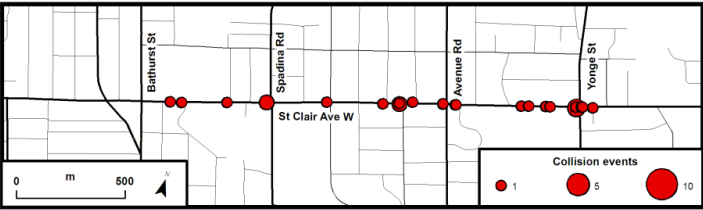
SPATIAL ANALYSIS

Exploring the impact of a dedicated streetcar right-of-way on pedestrian motor vehicle collisions: A quasi experimental design

Sarah A. Richmond^{a,*}, Linda Rothman^{a,c,1}, Ron Buliung^d, Naomi Schwartz^{a,b,2}, Kristian Larsen^d, Andrew Howard^{a,e,f,g,3}

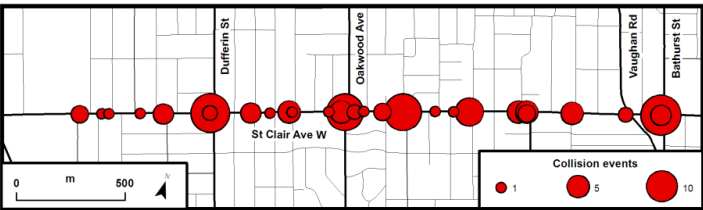


Pre-Construction

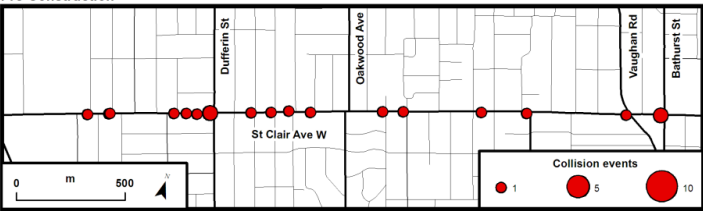


Post-Construction

Yonge to Bathurst (July 2005 - September 2007)

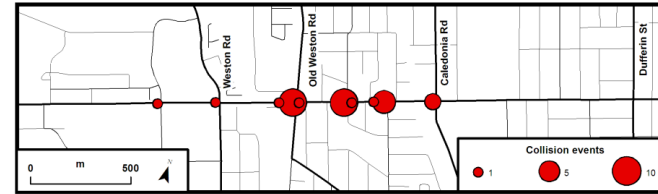


Pre-Construction



Post-Construction

Bathurst to Lansdowne (June 2006 - December 2009)

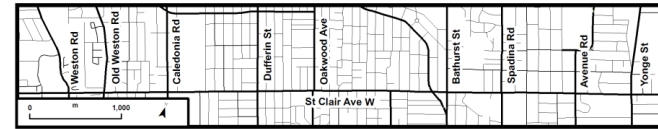


Pre-Construction



Post-Construction

Lansdowne to Gunn's Loop (June 2006 - June 2010)



Study area

- Increased dispersion of collision events post installation

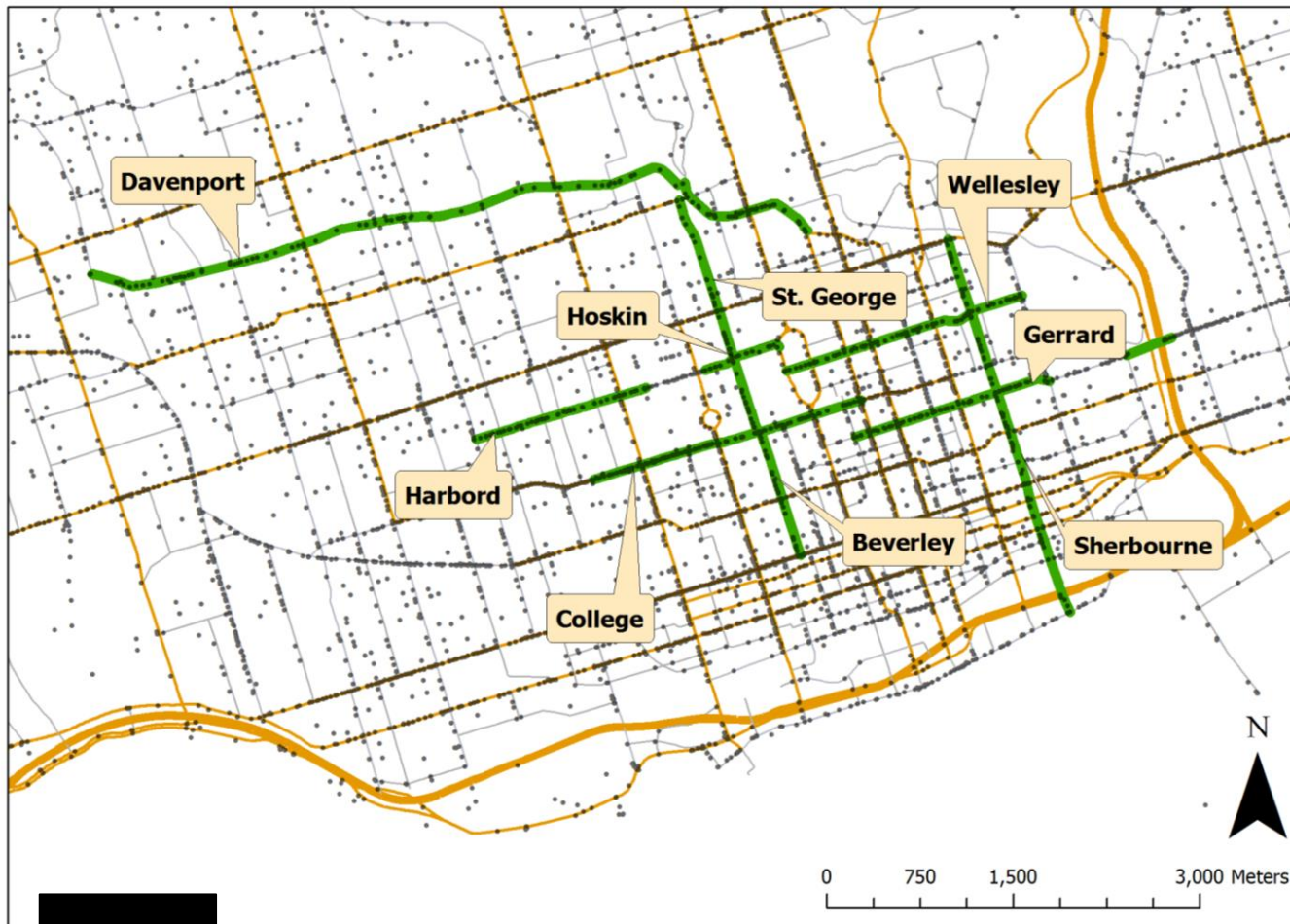
BIKE LANES

Examining the impact of cycle lanes on cyclist-motor vehicle collisions in the city of Toronto

Deepit Bhatia ^{a, c}, Sarah A. Richmond ^{a, b, c}, C.K. Jennifer Loo ^c, Linda Rothman ^b, Colin Macarthur ^d, Andrew Howard ^a

[Show more](#)

Downtown Toronto cycle lanes and CMVCs (1991-2010) (n=23,959)



1:45,000

Data Sources: City of Toronto, Toronto Police Service, Jennifer Loo



Changes in collision frequency pre- and post-installation

| | IR per 100 segment-months (pre) | IR per 100 segment-months (post) | Model IRR | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| All lanes | 65.22 | 53.99 | 0.8109 (0.65, 1.01) | |
| <i>Beverley-St. George</i> | 91.7 | 62.5 | Change in collision freq. per 100 months: | |
| <i>Sherbourne</i> | 61.7 | 63.3 | | -16 (-34, 2.0) |
| <i>Davenport</i> | 85.8 | 64.2 | | -13 (-27, 1.0) |
| <i>Harbord-Hoskin</i> | 33.3 | 28.3 | | -16 (-34, 12) |
| <i>Wellesley</i> | 58.3 | 33.3 | | -6.0 (-13, 1.0) |
| <i>College</i> | 179.2 | 145.8 | | -10 (-21, 1.0) |
| <i>Gerrard</i> | 31.25 | 29.2 | | -32 (-66, 2.0) |
| | | | | -6.0 (-13, 1) |
| No injury | 1.087 | 5.435 | 5.00 (1.44, 17.28) | |
| Minimal/minor | 24.28 | 20.29 | 0.84 (0.58, 1.20) | |
| Major/fatal | 28.98 | 21.74 | 0.72 (0.51, 1.01) | |

QUASI-EXPERIMENTAL STUDIES

- **Limitations**

- Collisions are rare
- Lack of traffic and pedestrian exposure data
- Lack of traffic speed data
- Non-randomized
- Police-reported data
- Small numbers

- **Strengths**

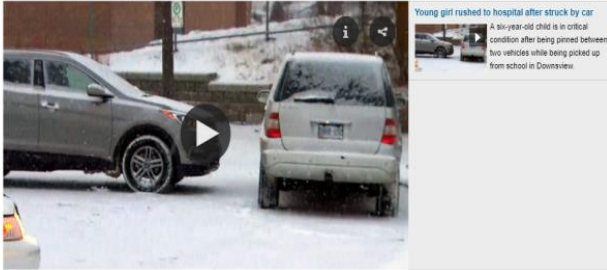
- Pre-post design allows for control of non-time dependent covariates, temporal and seasonal effects
- Study generalizability
- Multidisciplinary collaborations
- Active involvement of stakeholders
- Real-world policy implications



EMPHASIS AREA 2: SCHOOL CHILDREN

A child is seriously injured or killed every 17 weeks on their way to or from school on Toronto's roads.

5-year-old girl dead after becoming pinned between two vehicles in school pick-up area



Young girl rushed to hospital after struck by car
A six-year-old child is in critical condition after being pinned between two vehicles while being picked up from school in Downsview.

CRIME

September 3, 2013 12:30 pm

Updated: September 3, 2013 5:19 pm

Teenage girl struck and killed by truck in Toronto's west-end

By David Shum and James Armstrong Global News

Rachael D'Amore, CTV Toronto
Published Friday, April 21, 2017 3:53PM EDT
Last Updated Friday, April 21, 2017 6:59PM EDT

Boy, 6, struck and killed by vehicle was on his way home from Scarborough school

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION

February 13, 2018 9:42 am

Updated: February 14, 2018 4:49 pm

8-year-old boy dies after being hit by vehicle on St. Anne's Road

By Logan Caswell and Tamara Forlanski Global News



children hit by car near school



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About 46,500,000 results (0.54 seconds)

Toronto girl, 5, struck and killed by unoccupied vehicle was cancer ...

<https://globalnews.ca/news/3967252/school-mourns-death-of-girl/>

Jan 16, 2018 - A 5-year-old girl fatally struck by an empty SUV that police say somehow rolled away and pinned her against another vehicle outside a school in Toronto's north end had previously survived a cancer diagnosis, a family friend told Global News. Ana Paula Carrera said she has known the little girl's mother for ...

17-year-old girl hit by car near Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School

www.cbc.ca/.../17-year-old-girl-hit-by-car-near-sir-john-a-macdonald-secondary-school...

A girl, a 17-year-old student, was hit by a car early Wednesday morning, police say, outside Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School in Hamilton. ... CBC News Posted: Nov 08, 2017 10:09 AM ET Last Updated: Nov 08, 2017 12:36 PM ET. A female student has been injured after she was hit, police say, by a car near Sir ...

Toronto police to examine SUV, seek witnesses after girl pinned ...

www.cbc.ca/.../fatal-collision-girl-killed-five-makeshift-memorial-witnesses-1.4489110

Jan 16, 2018 - Toronto police will examine an SUV and are seeking witnesses to a collision outside a school on Monday in which a five-year-old girl was pinned between two ... Child struck by vehicle near Keele and Wilson. A police spokesperson said 'the vehicle that was set in motion struck the man and the child.

11-year-old girl hit by car, seriously injured near Auburn school | KOMO

komonews.com/.../12-year-old-girl-airlifted-after-being-hit-by-car-near-auburn-school...

AUBURN, Wash. - An 11-year-old girl was airlifted to the hospital with life-threatening injuries Wednesday morning after she was hit by a minivan near an Auburn elementary school, emergency officials report. Police and medics responded to the scene, near Ca.

Child, woman hit by car near Bill Williams Elementary - turnto23.com ...

<https://www.turto23.com/.../child-woman-hit-by-car-near-bill-williams-elementary>

Dec 6, 2017 - UPDATE (12/7/17 8:22 a.m.): The Kern County Coroner's Office has identified the 5-year-old hit and killed on Wednesday as Emily Guillen-Casillas.

12-year-old girl hit by minivan near Auburn school in critical condition ...

<https://www.seattletimes.com/.../12-year-old-girl-struck-by-car-near-school-in-auburn/>

Sep 14, 2016 - Authorities say a 12-year-old girl was seriously injured and airlifted to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

12-year-old girl 'critical' after being hit by a car in Leeds - Yorkshire Post

FURTHER SCHOOL BASED STUDIES

- Parent Perceptions of Traffic Danger
- Risky Driver Behaviour
- Vision Zero Intervention Project



Associations between parents' perception of traffic danger, the built environment and walking to school

Linda Rothman^{a,b,*}, Ron Buliung^c, Teresa To^a, Colin Macarthur^a, Alison Macpherson^b, Andrew Howard^a

PARENT PERCEPTIONS OF TRAFFIC DANGER



1. Are parent perceptions of traffic danger *en route* to school and/or at the *school site* during morning drop-off related to walking to school?
2. What are the relationships between features of the built environment and parent-perceived traffic danger?
 - Caregiver questionnaire
 - 20 schools subsample
 - Grades 4-6
 - 733 surveys returned



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Journal of Transport & Health

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jth

Associations between parents' perception of traffic danger, the built environment and walking to school

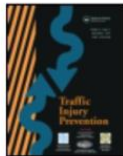
Linda Rothman^{a,b,*}, Ron Buliung^c, Teresa To^a, Colin Macarthur^a, Alison Macpherson^b, Andrew Howard^a

- **High route danger perception** was related to:
 - Less frequent walking
 - Dangerous midblock crossing
 - Higher speed roadways
 - But **not** actual collision rates
- To influence walking, the ***safety of the route*** must be considered, however, must also address safety directly around school sites



FURTHER SCHOOL-BASED STUDIES

- Parent Perceptions of Traffic Danger
- Risky Driver and Pedestrian Behaviours
- Vision Zero Intervention Project



Traffic Injury Prevention

ISSN: 1538-9588 (Print) 1538-957X (Online) journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/gcpi20>

Dangerous student car drop-off behaviours and child pedestrian-motor vehicle collisions: an observational study

Linda Rothman MHSPhD, Andrew Howard MSCFRCS, Ron Buliung PhD, Colin Macarthur MBChBPhD & Alison Macpherson PhD



Travel Behaviour and Society

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/tbs

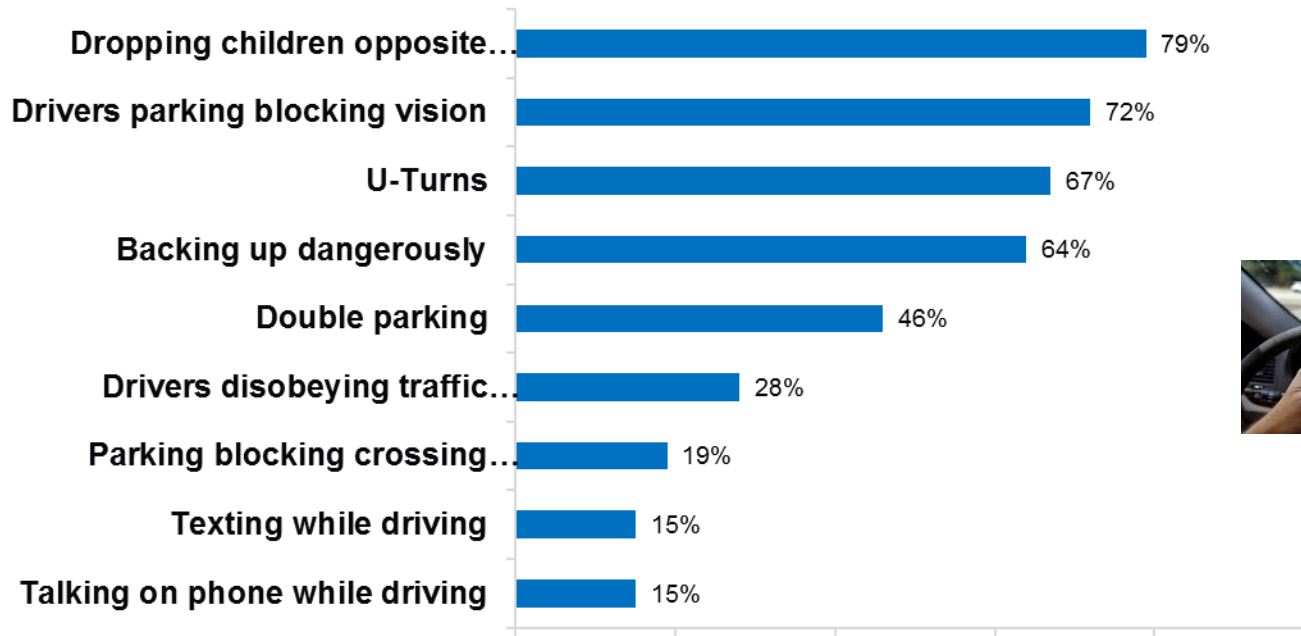


The school environment and student car drop-off at elementary schools

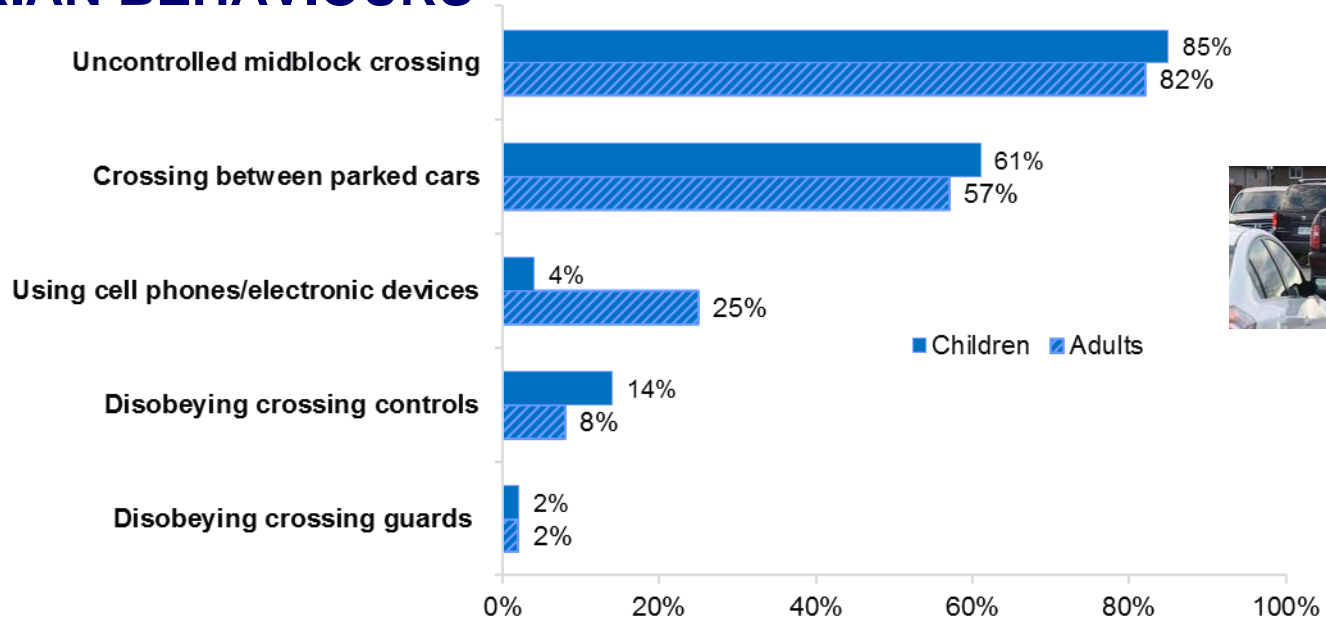
Linda Rothman^{a,b,*}, Ron Buliung^c, Andrew Howard^{b,d}, Colin Macarthur^b, Alison Macpherson^a

DRIVING BEHAVIOURS

2015



PEDESTRIAN BEHAVIOURS



Risky driving behaviours and child PMVC (200 m) during school travel times (n =45)

| | Unadjusted IRR (95% CI) | Adjusted IRR (95% CI) |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Total dangerous driving behaviours | 1.36 (1.04, 1.80) | 1.45 (1.02, 2.07) |
| Major and minor arterials | 1.29 (1.14, 1.46) | 1.27 (1.13, 1.44) |
| LOI (social disadvantage) | 4.19 (1.36, 12.92) | 2.99 (1.03, 8.68) |

- Traffic congestion –*risk*
- Designated drop off areas-*protective*
- School crossing guards-*protective*

- Last day of observational data collection, 2015
- In front of a school at 8:10 a.m.



SCHOOLS' RESPONSE....



Knowledge users:

- Parent council
- School staff
- School advisory council
- Crossing guard
- Community liaison officer
- Toronto public health
- Caretaker
- School superintendent
- Caring and safe schools committee
- Toronto Police Services
- School newsletter

Actions taken:

- Developed a pedestrian/parking safety committee
- New **crosswalk** installed
- Used info for establishment of **Kiss' N Ride**
- Used for proposal to City of Toronto for **new crossing guard**
- Walking school bus implemented
- Contacted police re: **excessive speeding**
- Assigned more staff to monitor drop off
- “No stopping, buses only” **signs** posted along curb
- Started Walking Wednesdays
- **New lines painted on driveway**
- Purchased **bike rack**
- Planned 3 walk to school days
- Registered on the Safe Routes to School website
- **Changed bus loading, legal parking and drop-off zones**
- Investigated changes to **speed limit** and signage (e.g. curve ahead)
- Invited Manager of Traffic Operations for City of Toronto to do student talk about traffic safety
- Traffic safety incorporated into health class discussions
- Established walking goals for school

FURTHER SCHOOL-BASED STUDIES

- Parent Perceptions of Traffic Danger
- Risky Driver Behaviour
- Vision Zero Intervention Project

- School safety zones: physical environment changes, enforcement activities, education and school traffic facilitators
- Evidence-based and data-driven
- **Our Project**
 - Policy makers and academics working together to develop appropriate evaluation strategies
 - Developing step-up pre-post evaluation

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

- Priority setting exercise
 - Weighted score of school
 - # of collisions involving killed/severely injured children
 - # of other collisions
 - % of children living within walking distance of the school (i.e. 1.6 km)

1/3

PROJECT 1: SCHOOL ZONE (150 M)

- To examine the impact of Vision Zero built environment interventions related to the school safety zone strategy
 - **Primary Outcomes**
 - Active School Transport (surrogate health outcome)
 - Vehicle Speeds (surrogate safety)
 - PMVC as rare outcomes
 - **Secondary Outcomes**
 - Traffic Volume
 - Risky Driving and Pedestrian Behaviour

PROJECT 2: SCHOOL ROUTES

- Process evaluation, introduction of road safety improvements along specified **routes** at **two** schools
- Bloomberg, Partnership for Healthy Cities
- **Outcomes**
 - Facilitators and the barriers to implementation
 - Parent's perceptions of traffic dangers before and after the interventions (survey)
 - Change of walking routes
 - Feasibility/usefulness of measuring the proposed outcomes

BUILT ENVIRONMENT INTERVENTIONS



Speed

- Traffic calming
- Speed signage reductions
- Radar speed boards

Time

- Traffic signals (including installation of and leading pedestrian intervals)

Midblock crossings

- School crossing guards

Space

- Signs/pavement
- Designated drop-off areas

Pedestrian Visibility

- Increased lighting

Personnel/Programming

- School traffic management coordinator
- School travel planning

PROJECT 1

Group 1
(2017 program)
N = 25

Group 2
(2018 program)
N = 22

Group 1 Interventions
(prior to Spring 2018 Data Collection)

Spring 2018 Data
Collection

Post Intervention Analysis
(Group 1)
with Control Group

Group 2 Interventions
(prior to Spring 2019 Data Collection)

Spring 2019 Data
Collection

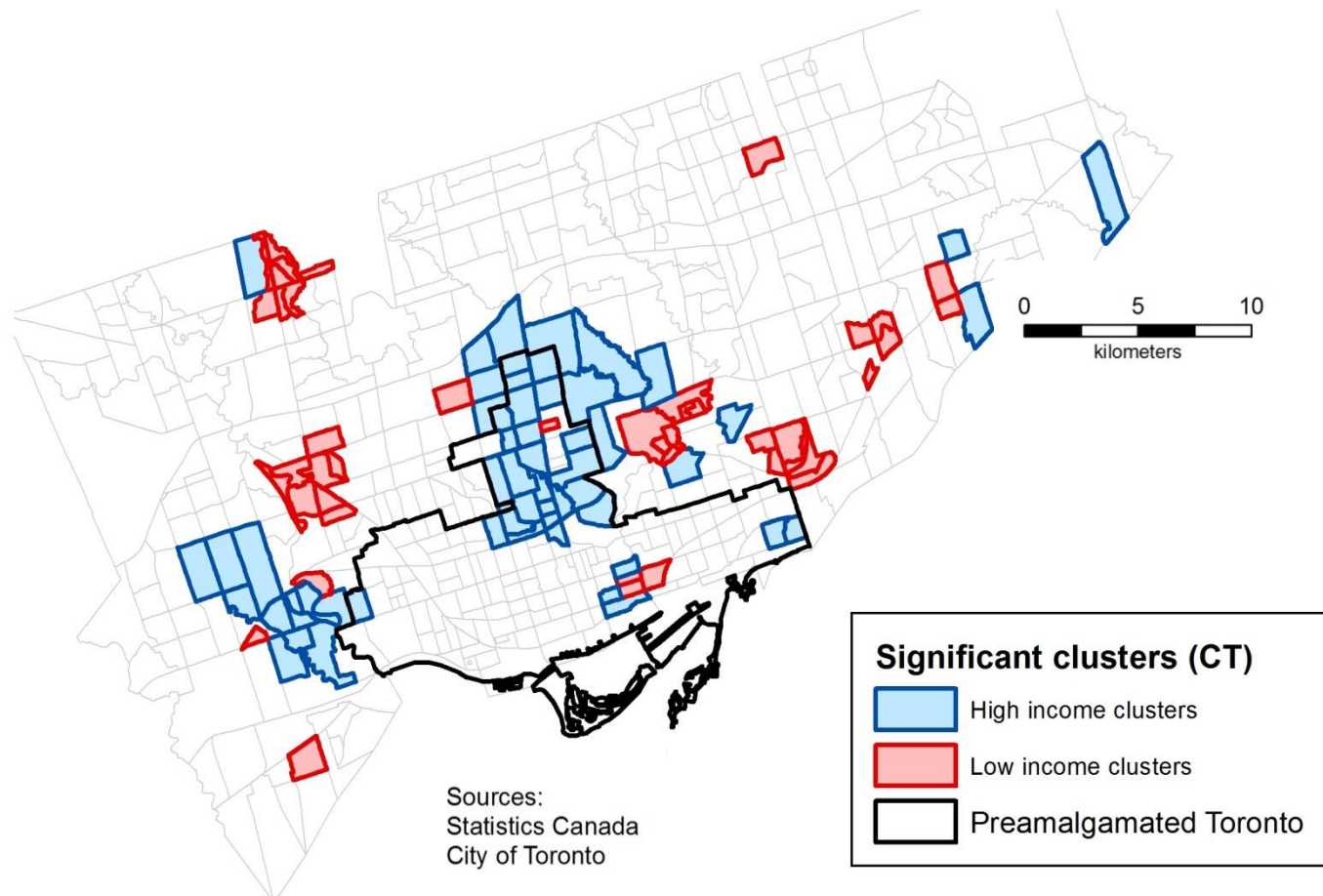
Pre-Post Intervention Analysis (Groups 1 & 2)
Post-post (Group 1)
with Control Group

FURTHER CITY WIDE STUDIES

- **Social Inequities in the Roadway BE**
- Child Active Transportation Safety and the Environment (CHASE) study

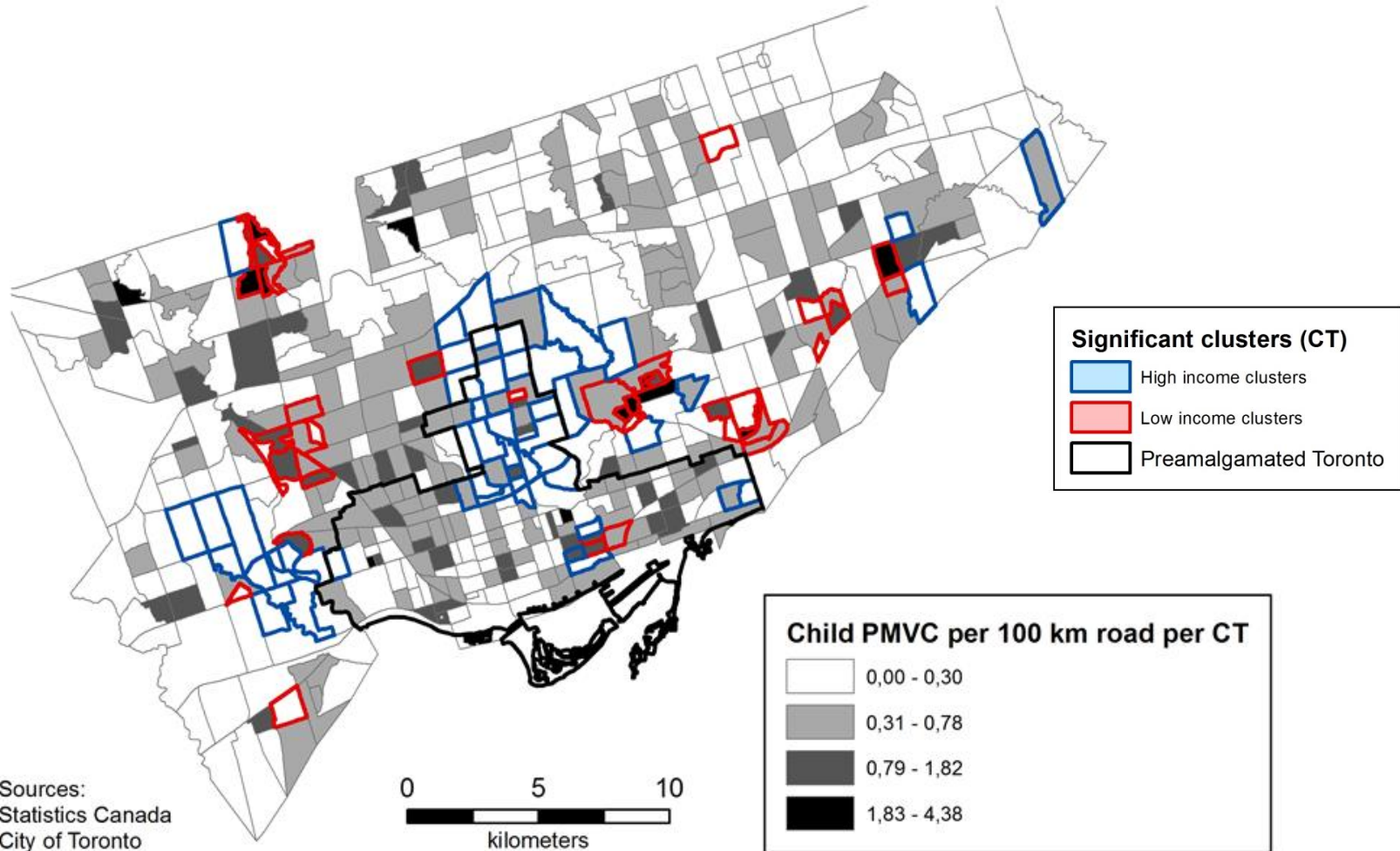
Greater School Social Disadvantage (2011, 2015)

- Higher collision rates
- Higher density multifamily housing
- Fewer crossing guards
- Higher speed roadways
- Less traffic calming
- More traffic congestion



- 524 census tracts
 - 58 (11%) high, 44 (8%) significant low income clusters (2006 Census)

Spatial distribution of child (5-14) PMVC/per 100 km per CT, 2001-2010



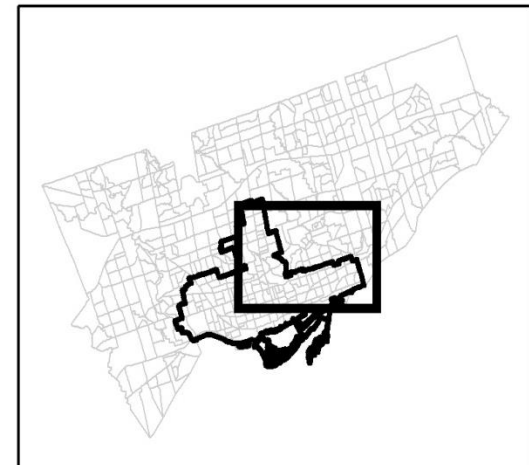
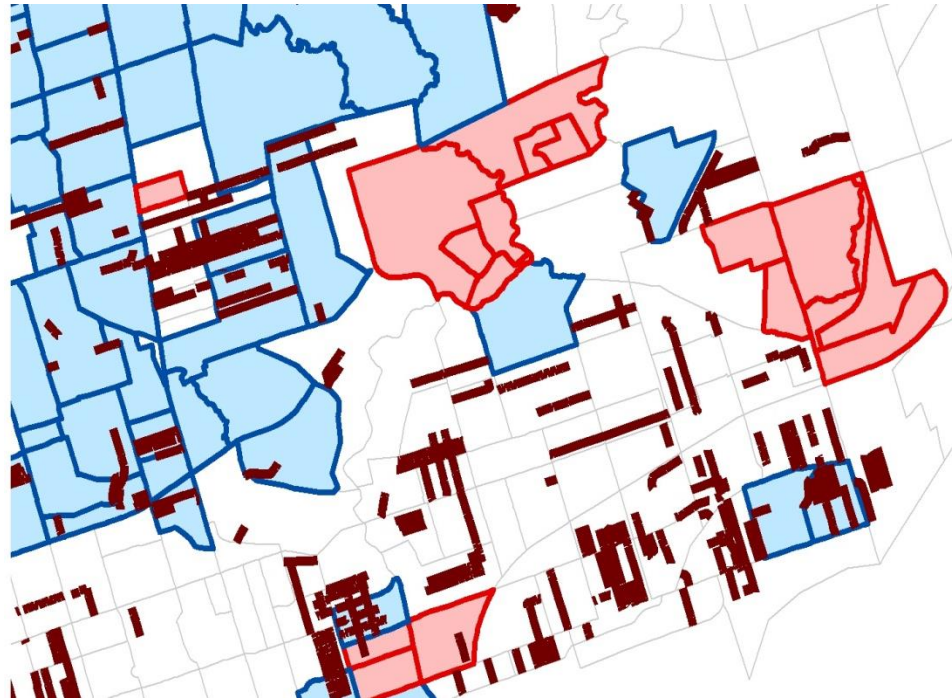
- Collision rates almost **6 times** higher in low income clusters

Multivariate analysis: Odds (95% CI) of being in a low income cluster




| Roadway Environment | Adjusted Odds Ratios (95% CI) |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Speed humps | 0.35 (0.15, 0.80) |
| Local road | 0.62 (0.47, 0.82) |
| Crossing guard | 1.43 (1.03, 1.99) |

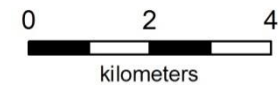


Spatial Distribution of Speed Humps



Significant clusters (CT)

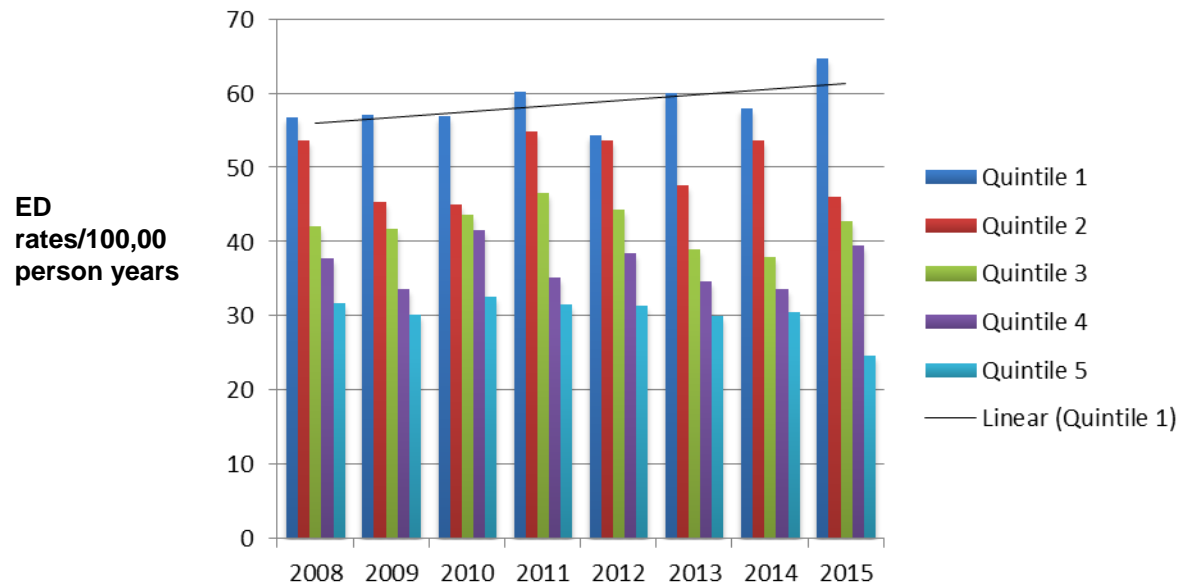
-  High income
-  Low income
-  Speed humps



Sources:
Statistics Canada
City of Toronto

TRENDS IN CHILD PMVC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS AND SES

- 0-19 years (2008-2015), Ontario
- 2015 socioeconomic quintiles (1 = lowest, 5 = highest)



- Rates **2 times** higher in lowest versus highest SES quintile; differential increasing over time

FURTHER CITY WIDE STUDIES

- Social Inequities in the Roadway BE
- Child Active Transportation Safety and the Environment (CHASE) study

CHILD ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CHASE)

- 5 year (2017-21) Intersectoral Research Grant from CIHR
- To examine within and across large Canadian urban centres the built environment and
 - Child and adolescent active school transportation
 - Pedestrian and cycling injuries
- To identify implementation strategies for BE change at the municipal level to encourage AT

CHILD ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CHASE)

Brent E. Hagel¹, Andrew Howard², Alison Macpherson³ Pamela Fuselli⁴
¹University of Calgary, ²University of Toronto, ³York University, ⁴Parachute

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- City of Montreal, Transportation Safety
- City of Toronto, Traffic Safety Unit
- City of Edmonton, Office of Traffic Safety
- The City of Calgary, Traffic Safety Roads
- Canadian Cancer Society, Quebec Division
- Vélo Quebec, Research
- Canadian Association for Road Safety Professionals
- Green Communities Canada
- Metrolinx, Planning and Policy
- University of British Columbia, School of Population and Public Health
- Hub for Active School Travel (HASTE)
- Alberta Health Services, Office of the Medical Officer
- Transport Canada, Road Safety Directorate
- Region of Peel, Sustainable Transportation
- Alberta Health Services, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Hospital for Sick Children, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- University of British Columbia, Pediatric Emergency Medicine
- Alberta Children's Hospital (Calgary), Emergency Medicine.
- Alberta Health Services, Office of the Medical Officer
- Eco-Counter

CHASE: STUDY ACTIVITIES (2017-21)

- ***School observational data collection***
- ***Geographic analyses*** to examine space-time distribution of collisions city-wide
- ***Pre-post quasi-experimental studies*** to estimate effects of BE traffic features
- ***Case-crossover study*** to compare BE characteristics of cyclist injury site and random sites along route
- ***Literature reviews, focus groups, national survey*** to identify facilitators and barriers for implementing BE change at municipal level
- ***BE implementation toolkit***

FURTHER QUESTIONS....

- What are our next 'natural experiments' from your perspective
- How do we get exposure data?
- The 'big picture' is healthy transportation – but the effective interventions are built environment

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Linda Rothman, linda.rothman@sickkids.ca



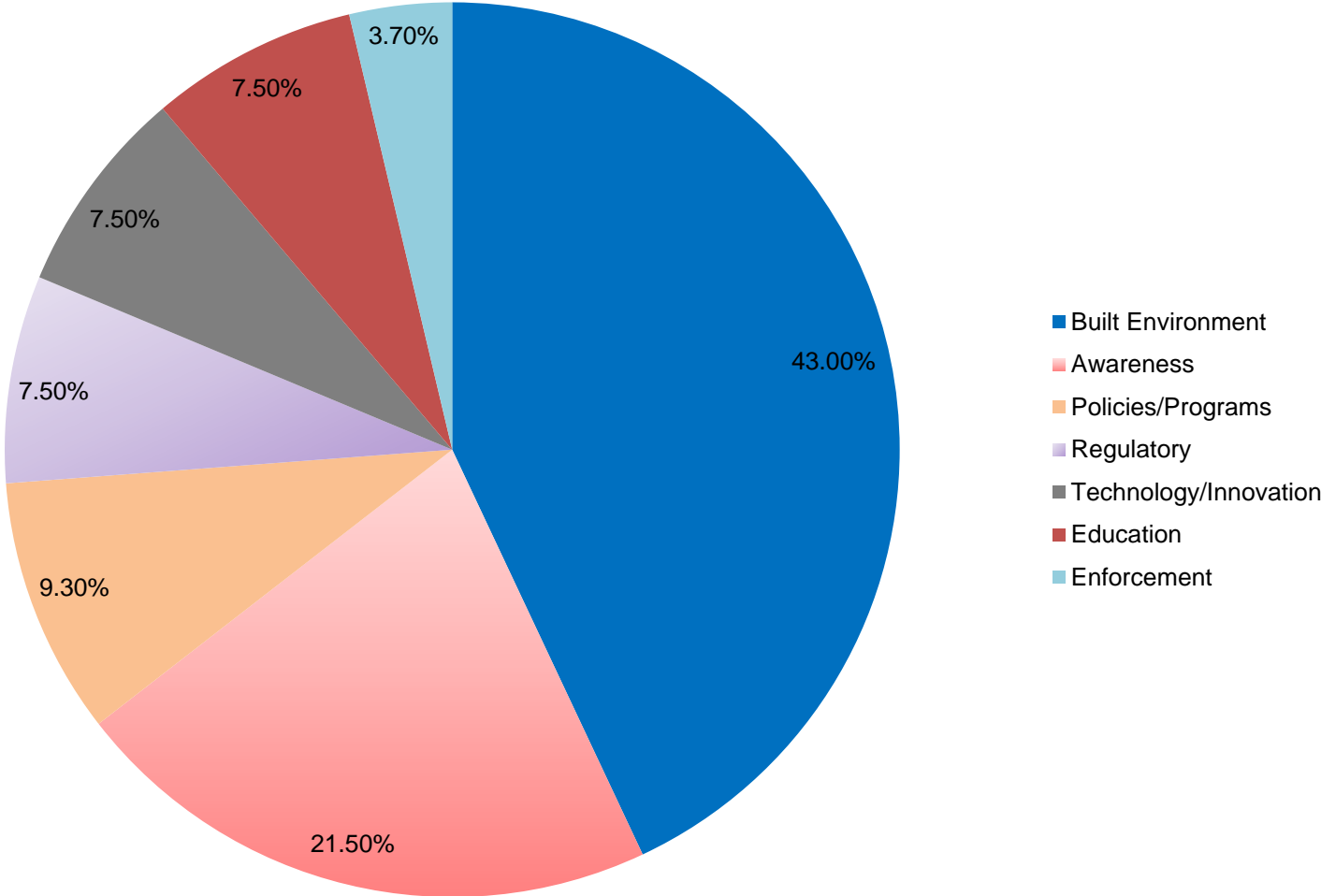
CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

- More walking does not have to result in more collisions.
- Safety **must** be considered with the promotion of children's active transportation
- We need to get the built environment right!



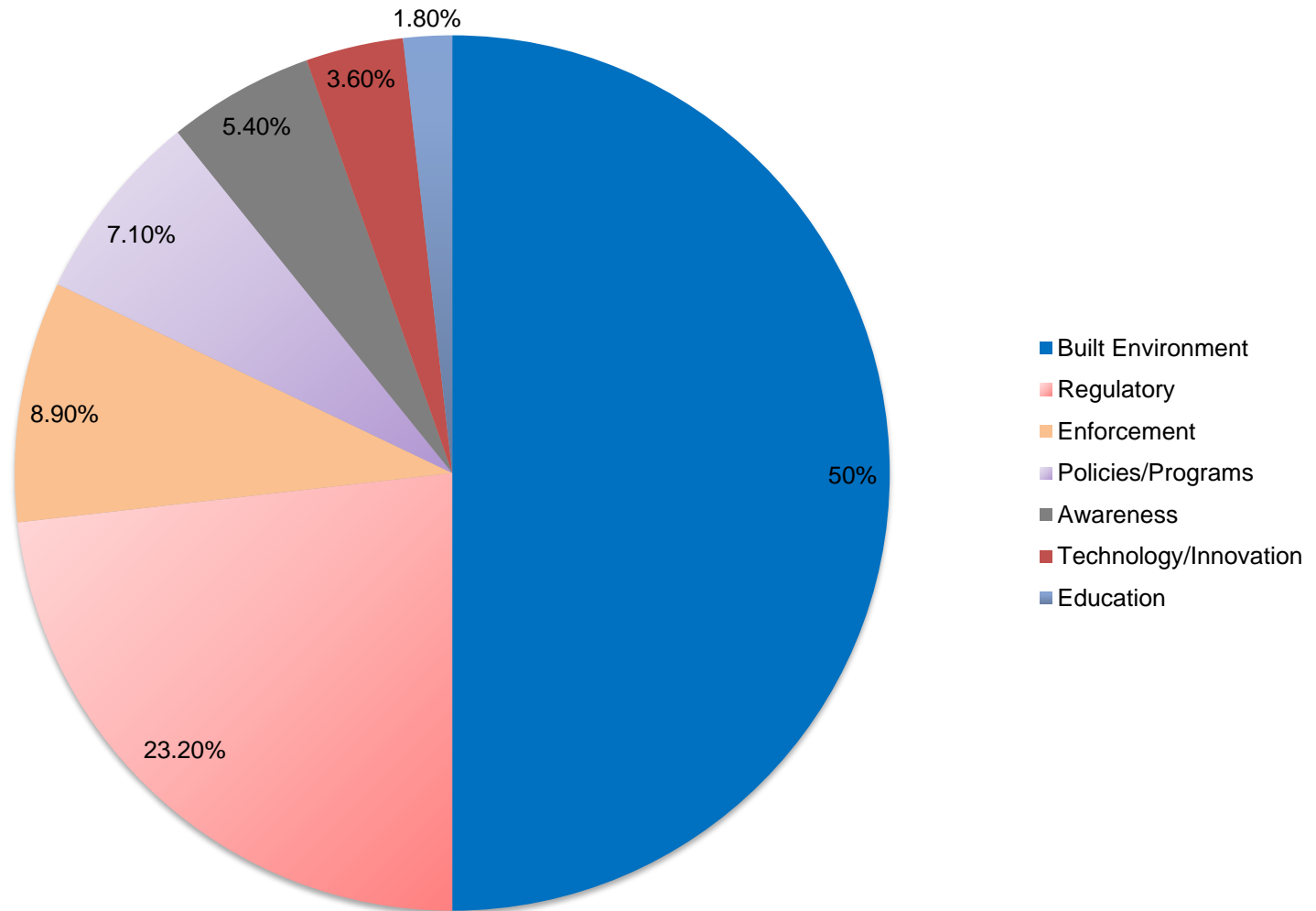
Extra slides

Breakdown of Intervention Types outlined in Road Traffic Policy Documents in Toronto



Liraz Fridman, 2017

Breakdown of Intervention Types outlined in Road Traffic Policy Documents in Peel



Liraz Fridman, 2017