

# Safer Streets NYC

At Elmhurst Hospital Center

A Look At Pedestrian Injury at Elmhurst Hospital

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# Why Look At Pedestrian Injuries at Elmhurst?

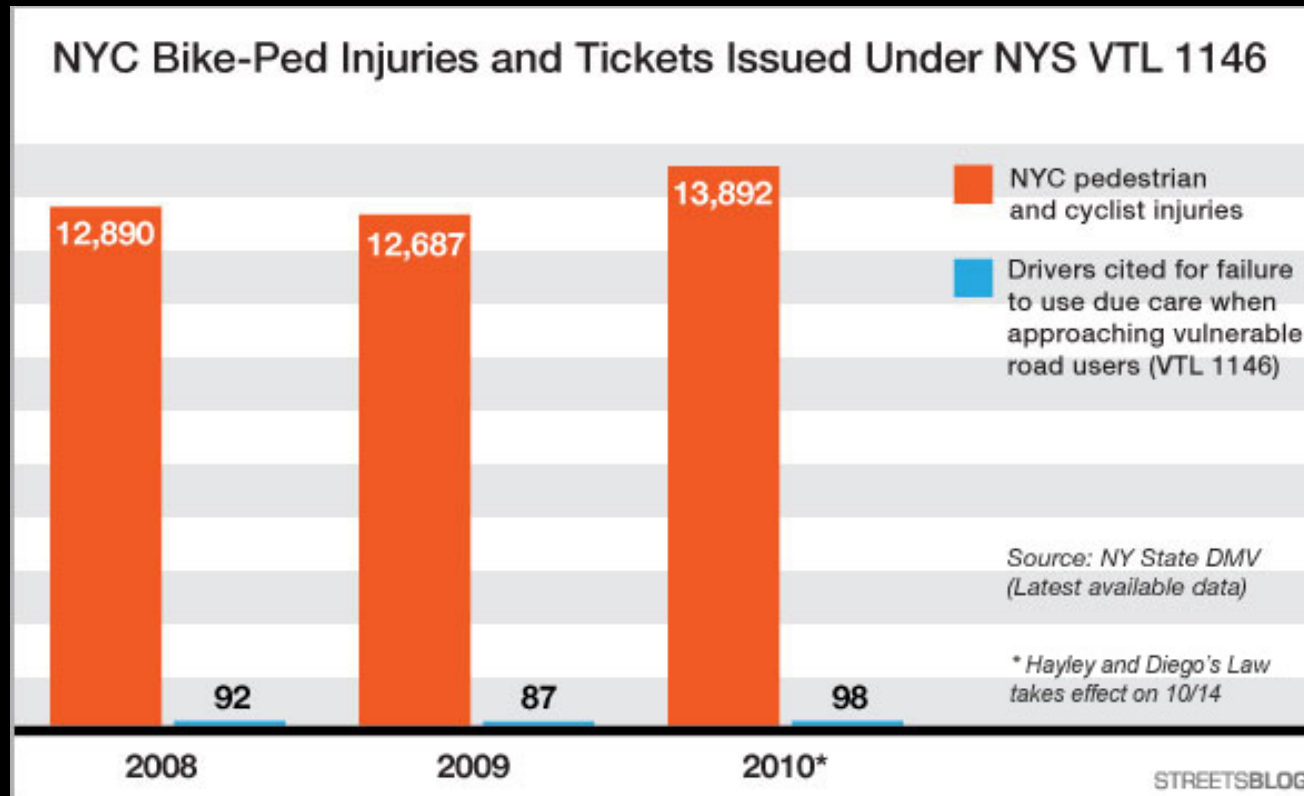
Data from 2000- 2009 show that Elmhurst Hospital Center's percentage of pedestrian injuries exceed other institutions

	Motor Vehicle Crash	Pedestrian Struck	Assault	Fall
Lincoln Hospital (2000-2003)	32%	14%	20%	34%
New York Hospital (2000-2004)	12%	6%	6%	66%
Mary Immaculate (2003)	20%	9%	12%	10%
Kings County (2000-2007)	30%	14%	9%	17%
St. Barnabas (2008-2009)	12%	19%	20%	19%
New York Presbyterian Children's (2000-2007)	4%	11%	5%	43%
Elmhurst Hospital (2000-2009)	19%	21%	10%	19%

# About Elmhurst Hospital Center



Elmhurst Hospital Center (EHC) serves an area of nearly one million people in one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse communities in the United States. Our patients come from across the globe, speaking a multitude of languages and dialects. Elmhurst has a catchment area of approximately 1.5 million people



Injuries are on the rise while drivers are not being held to account, We can expect to see more cases in the ER

**Some Streets Aren't  
Made for Walking**

An aging, more diverse US population could drive up traffic-related pedestrian deaths in the coming years, according to findings published in the *Morbidity and Mortality Report*.

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aged 75 years or older and American Indian/Alaska Native individuals. Overall, about 13% of people who die in motor vehicle crashes are pedestrians.

The US Census Bureau projects the number of US adults who are at least 75 years old will more than double, from 16 million in 2011 to 44 million in 2040. Racial and ethnic populations also are expected to increase, from 116 million in 2010 to 186 million in 2040.

State and municipal authorities should consider strategies to safeguard pedestrians as the country's demographics change, the study authors wrote. They suggested new or improved crosswalks, sidewalks, and raised medians; speed bumps to slow traffic; enforcing laws that address speeding, distracted driving, and pedestrian right of way; creating streets designed for walking; and improving mass transit route design and access. For older adults, more specific approaches such as longer pedestrian

**Campylobacter  
Vibrio Infections  
Increased in 2012**

Substantial increases in the number of *Campylobacter* and *Vibrio* infections demonstrate the need for regulatory agencies, the food and food service industries, public health officials, farmers, and consumers to direct greater efforts toward reducing preventable foodborne diseases.

The Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, known as FoodNet, which tracks confirmed infections transmitted via food at 10 US sites,

months, when waters contain more of the bacteria. People who are immunocompromised or have impaired liver function should be aware that eating raw seafood increases their risk of severe *Vibrio* infection. Additionally, contact with water containing *Vibrio* also can result in soft tissue infections.

*Campylobacter* infections increased by 14%, to 14.30 per 100 000 population, the highest rate since 2000. These infections are associated with eating raw or undercooked poultry, raw milk dairy products, and con-

the study authors wrote. They suggested new or improved crosswalks, sidewalks, and raised medians; speed bumps to slow traffic; enforcing laws that address speeding, distracted driving, and pedestrian right of way; creating streets designed for walking; and improving mass transit route de-



Contaminated with *Vibrio* bacteria, which live naturally in sea water. Infection increases during the warmer months, when waters contain more of the bacteria.



**IT'S A 3-WAY STREET**

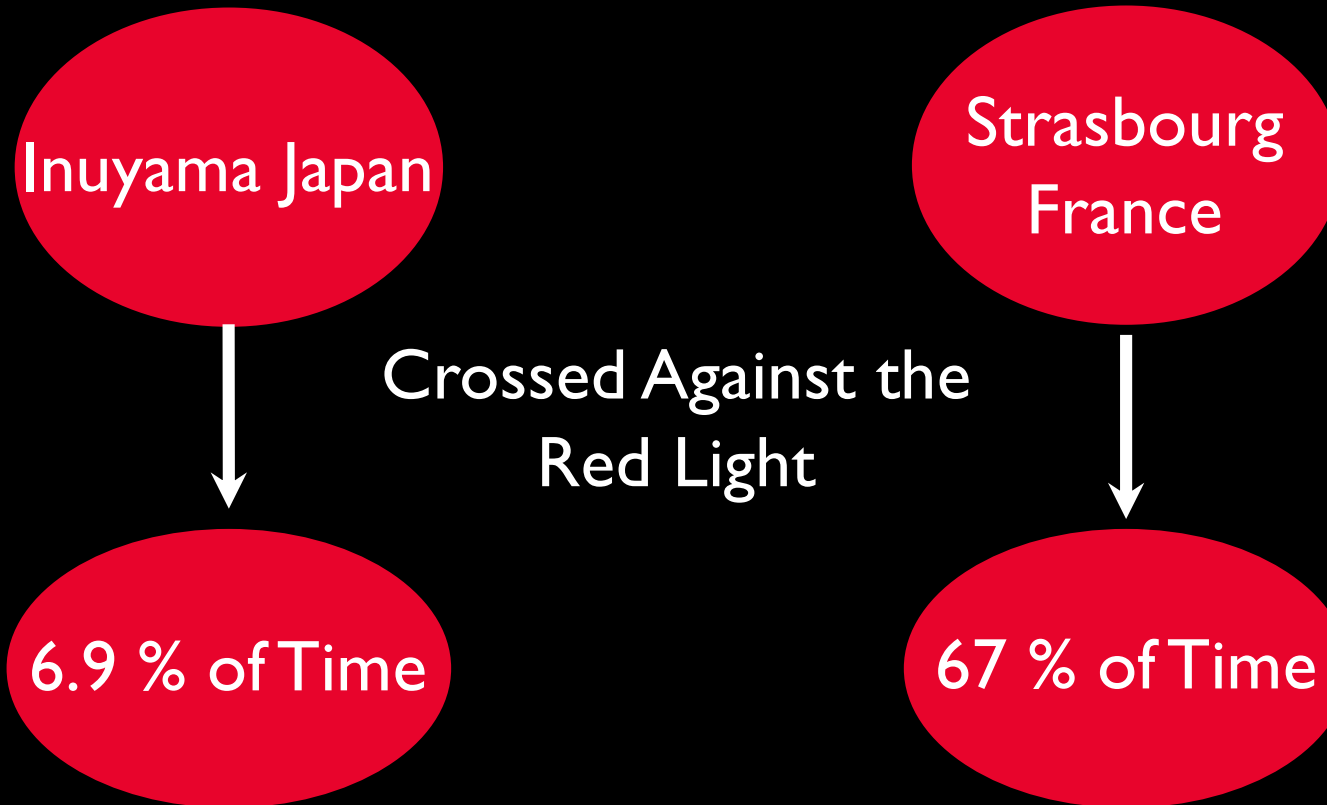
**QUEENS BOULEVARD: The Boulevard of Death!**



# Culture & Pedestrian Crossing Behavior



# Pedestrian Behavior At Intersection



Chi square test on absolute frequency  $p < 0.0001$

Cédric Sueur, Barbara Class, Charlène Hamm, Xavier Meyer, Marie Pelé Different risk thresholds in pedestrian road crossing behaviour: A comparison of French and Japanese approaches Accident Analysis & Prevention, Volume 58, September 2013, Pages 59–63

What Does This Mean

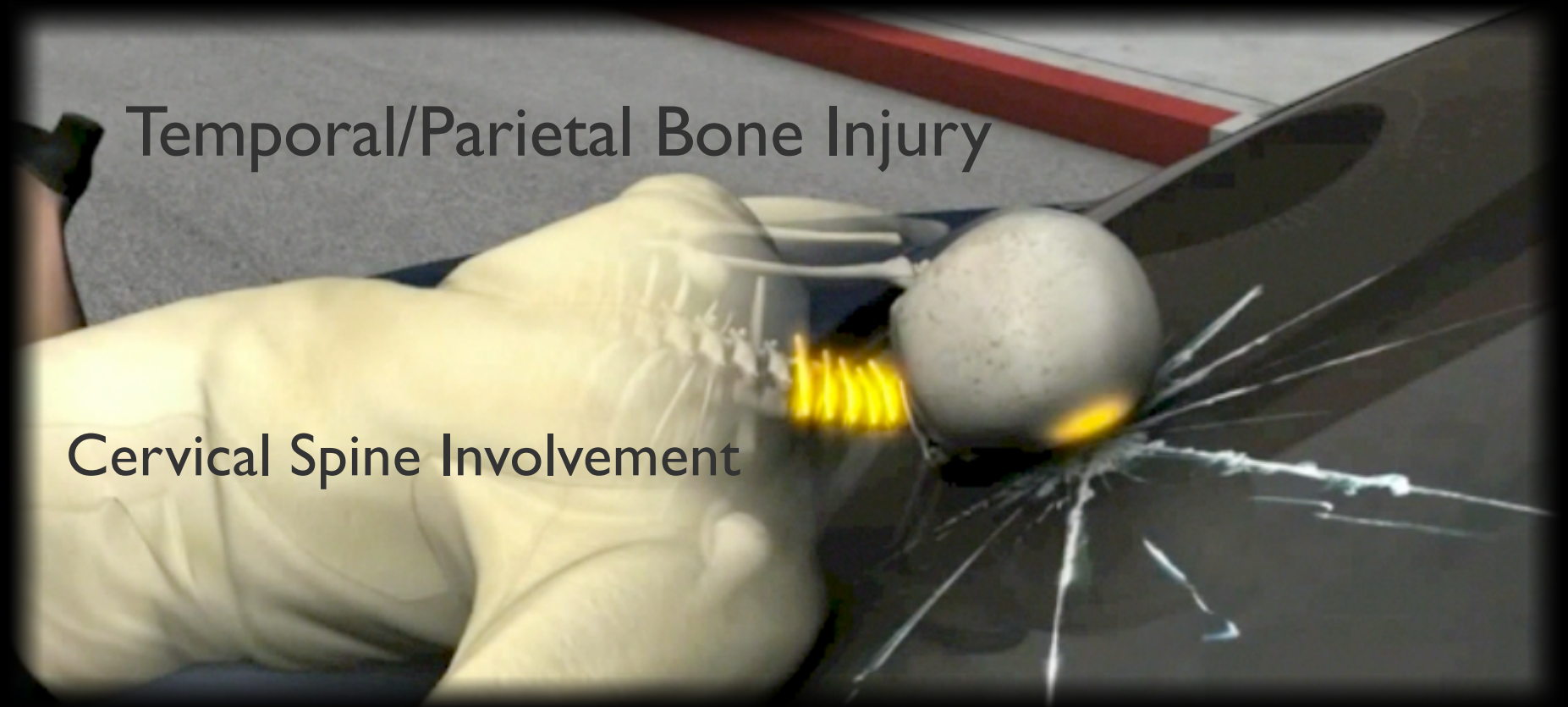
# Head Trauma in Pedestrian Injury

- Resulting trauma can be Epidural, Subdural hemorrhages to more commonly cerebral contusions where the brain gets bruised
- In children whose center of gravity is much lower, even at low speeds injuries may resemble those seen in adults struck at high speeds

# Neurosurgical Indications After Pedestrian Injury



# Neurosurgical Indications After Pedestrian Injury



# Neurosurgical Indications After Pedestrian Injury

Blunt Force  
Trauma



# Neurosurgical Indications After Pedestrian Injury

Coup &  
Contrecoup Type  
of Injury



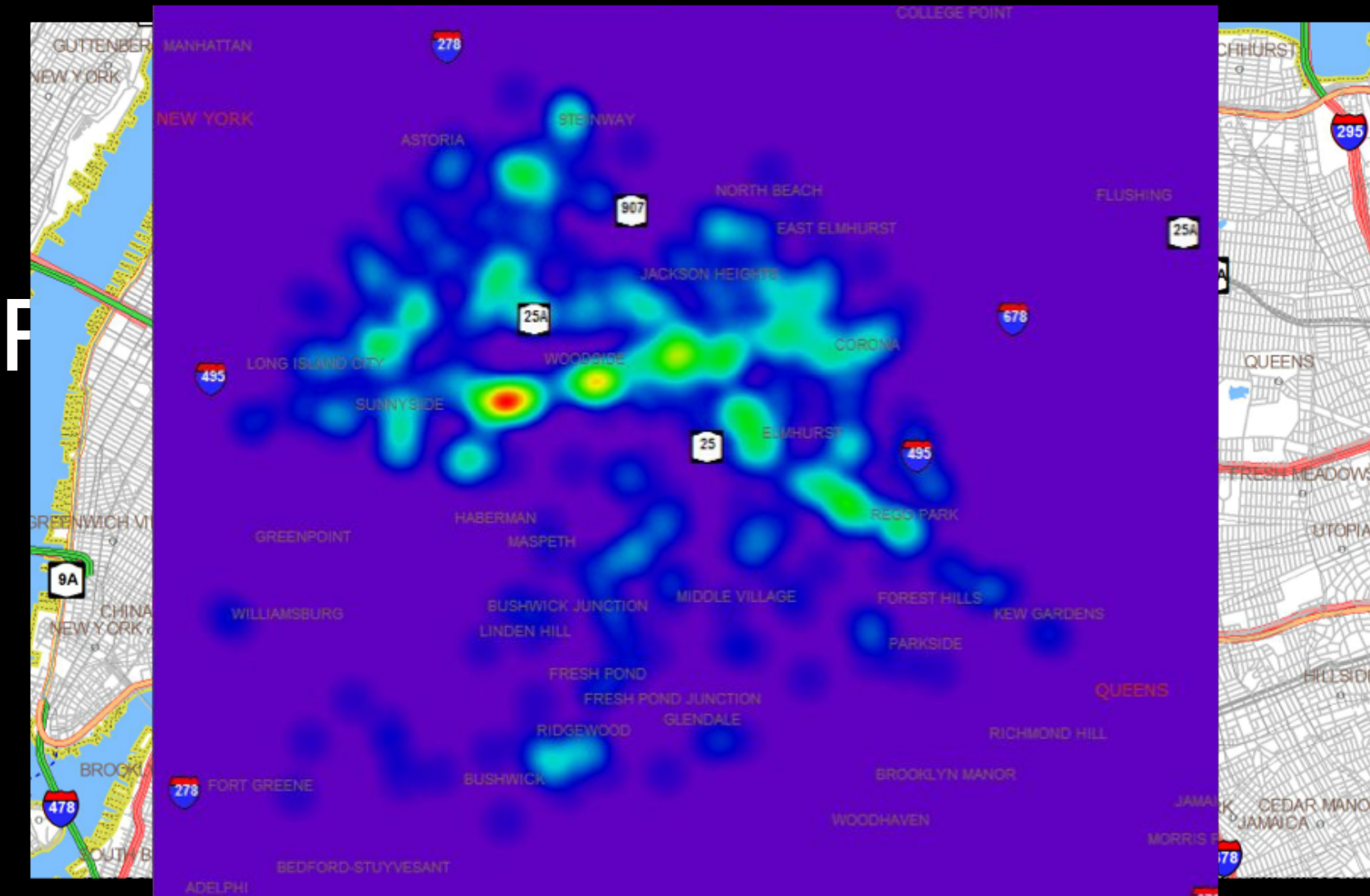


# Neurosurgical Indications After Pedestrian Injury

Squamous  
Temporal/Mastoid  
Area of Parietal Bone  
Fracture Leading to  
EDH



# Density of Incidents With Most At Queens Boulevard Which is Nicknamed The “Boulevard of Death”



# Study Title: Safer Streets NYC at Elmhurst Hospital Center

## Background:

This is a project that is being conducted in collaboration with NYU/Bellevue Hospital Center, who had realized a 22% incidence of pedestrian injury in their catchment area. A prospective analysis was conducted from 2008-11. The goal was to study this problem in other NYC boroughs and Elmhurst, with its announcement of a similar problem in their catchment area was chosen as the second site for Safer Streets

# Purpose:

This is a prospective, observational and epidemiological study evaluating risk factors for pedestrian and cyclist injury in western Queens. Results of this study will be used to advise agencies and local authorities on methods to reduce such injuries in addition to helping design a public health campaign tailored to the Elmhurst Catchment area and beyond.

# Methods:

- Verbal consent is always obtained with the explanation of study objectives and with the expressed understanding that participation is voluntary. Adults unable to give consent are enrolled with chart data collection only until they regain capacity
- Data will be analyzed using frequency statistics and correlations. Comparison statistics will be performed with the data obtained from the Bellevue Study



COMPLETE SHADED (i.e., prospective data) AREAS ON ALL PAGES!!!

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical Rec #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Visit: \_\_\_\_\_

Inclusion Criteria: All pedestrians and cyclists injured by motor vehicles and seen at EHC (including transfers)

Data accumulated from (check all that apply):  
 EMT/Paramedics  NYPD  FDNY  Patient  Medical Record  Scene Witness  
 Other surrogate: \_\_\_\_\_

Patient brought in by (check all that apply):  EMT/Paramedics  Walk-in  FDNY  NYPD

Patient Type (check one):  Pedestrian (includes wheelchair, stroller)  Cyclist (includes non-motorized scooters)  
Admitted (check one):  Yes  No (If died day of arrival, check here too: )  
Transferred (check one):  No  Yes, from: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Facility)

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Admitted (check one):  Yes  No (If died day of arrival, check here too: )  
Transferred (check one):  No  Yes, from: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Facility)

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female

Ethnicity:  White (non-Hisp)  Black  Hispanic  Unknown  
 East Asian: Mainland China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, and Taiwan  
 South Asian: Bangladesh, British Indian Ocean Territory, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years in NYC metro area: \_\_\_\_\_  Less than 1 year  Unknown  
Number of years in USA: \_\_\_\_\_  Less than 1 year  Unknown

Primary Language:  English  Spanish  Chinese  Russian  
 Polish  Bengali  Yiddish  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code (home address): \_\_\_\_\_  Unknown  Outside USA  No fixed address (undomiciled)

Insured:  No  Yes: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Height: \_\_\_\_\_  FEET & INCHES  METERS  
Check one:  Patient estimate  Broselow tape  Measured height  Clinician estimate  
 Guardian estimate  Medical record  Driver's license  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate Weight (on arrival): \_\_\_\_\_  POUNDS  KILOS  
Check one:  Patient estimate  Broselow tape  Measured height  Clinician estimate  
 Guardian estimate  Medical record  Driver's license  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Loss/Deficit:  No  Unknown  Yes → legally deaf:  No  Yes

(NOTE: Check 'yes' if patient normally wears hearing aids, etc., but did not have them at time of injury.)



SAFER STREETS: NYC-Elmhurst



Study #: \_\_\_\_\_



Visual Loss/ Deficit:  No  Unknown  Yes → legally blind:  No  Yes  
(NOTE: Check 'yes' if patient normally wears corrective lenses, glasses, etc., but did not have them at time of injury.)

Distracting factor:  None  
 Electronic device (check all that apply):  
 Music/iPod  Cell phone-texting  Cell phone-talking  
 Hand-held game  Other device (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributing Medical Condition:  None  
 Yes (check all that apply):  
 Unstable gait  Dementia  Seizure  Syncope  
 Alcohol  Drugs  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
Was patient run over by vehicle?  No  Unknown  Yes (If foot only, check here too: )  
Struck by side mirror of vehicle?  No  Unknown  Yes  
Was vehicle backing up?  No  Unknown  Yes

Pedestrian was crossing with green light (in crosswalk):  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was crossing against signal (in crosswalk):  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was crossing mid-block (not in crosswalk):  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was crossing at a STOP sign:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Other (ONLY if none of the above apply): \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Examples: traffic cop injured on the job; delivery person loading/unloading vehicle, etc.)*

present, but elevated above street by 2 inches  
Pedestrian was changing car tire:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was playing in road:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was in a wheelchair/mobility scooter:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Pedestrian was standing off-curb waiting to cross:  No  Yes  Unknown

**FOR PEDIATRIC PEDESTRIANS ONLY** (i.e., 17 and under):

Child was in a stroller:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Supervised by adult/ guardian:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Unsupervised:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Child darted out into the street:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Child was getting into/out of a school bus:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Crossing guard available and on-duty?  No  Yes  Unknown  
Child's school within 2 blocks?  No  Yes  Unknown

**CYCLISTS ONLY** (non-motorized wheels, all ages):

Patient was riding:  Bicycle  Skates/rollerblades  Skateboard  
 Non-motorized scooter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Protective gear (check all that apply):  None  Elbow pads  Wrist guards  Knee pads  
 Unknown  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cyclist was wearing a helmet:  No  Yes  Unknown  
Cyclist was working (e.g., delivery, bike messenger):  No  Yes  Unknown

**SCENE DATA**

Date of Injury: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

Borough:  Queens  Manhattan  Brooklyn  Bronx  Staten Island

Incident ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Location (Enter exact address, if available): \_\_\_\_\_

Unknown  Patient moved from scene (Example: 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue & 79<sup>th</sup> Street)

Street Type (check one):  Limited access highway (e.g., BOE)  Local street  Local Avenue  
 Unknown  Arterial road  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. time of injury: (24-hour clock, e.g., 0800) \_\_\_\_\_

Morning rush (7-9 AM):  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Afternoon rush (3-6 PM):  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Day of Week: \_\_\_\_\_

Street/Avenue had pedestrian island:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Was patient on pedestrian island when struck?  Yes  No

Street/Avenue was:  One way  Two way  Unknown  
 Number of active lanes:  1  2  3  4  5  6 (or more)

Incident occurred at traffic light:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Incident occurred at STOP sign:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Incident occurred middle of block:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Street/Avenue had speed bumps:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Street/Avenue had pedestrian island:  No  Yes  Unknown  
 Was patient on pedestrian island when struck?  Yes  No



# Data

## May 2012-October

### 2013

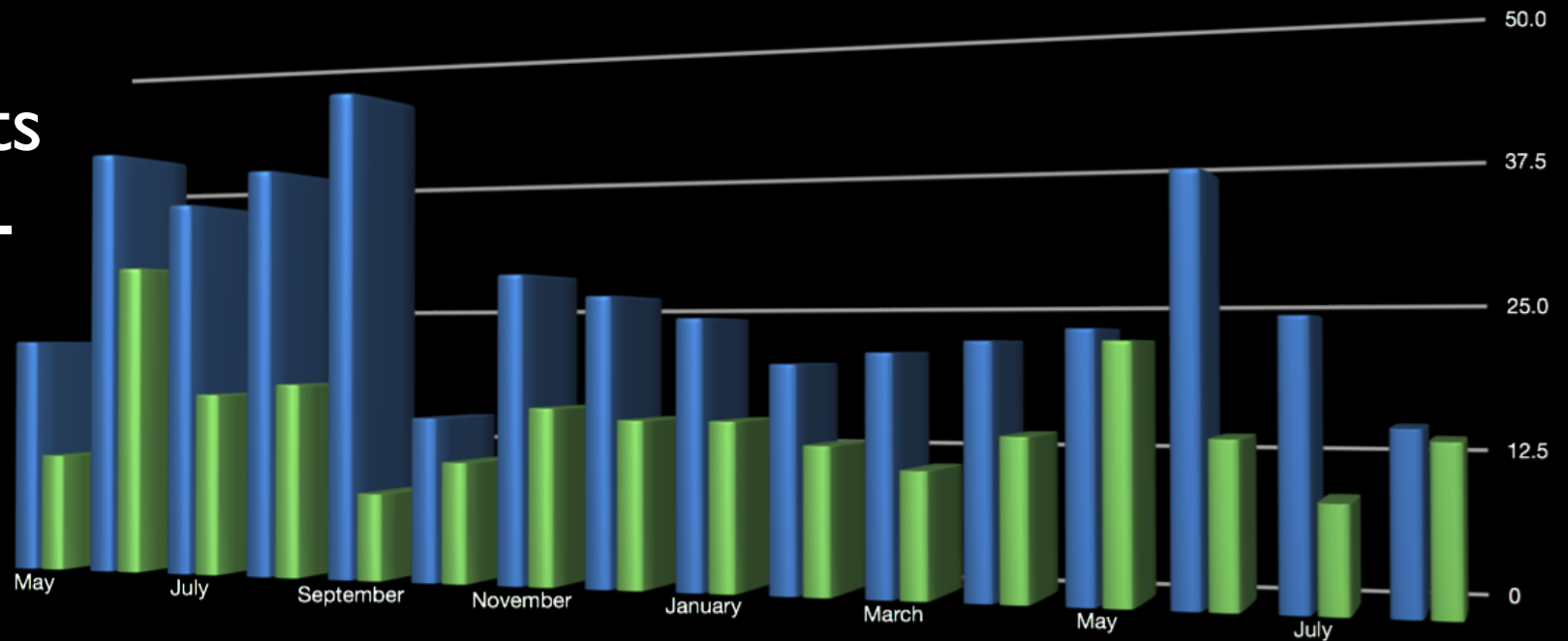
# RESULTS

- Thus far as of May 2012 to the end of August 2013, the following data were accrued
- Incidents by gender
- Average age of patients involved
- Severity of injury (admissions vs discharge with minor injuries)
- Cyclists vs pedestrian incidents
- Days and time when most incidents occurred
- Children during rush hour
- Helmet use
- Red light being ignored

# Pedestrian Cases By Gender

Number of Cases By Gender

Total  
Number  
XX Patients  
May 2012-  
August  
2013



# Pedestrian Cases by Age

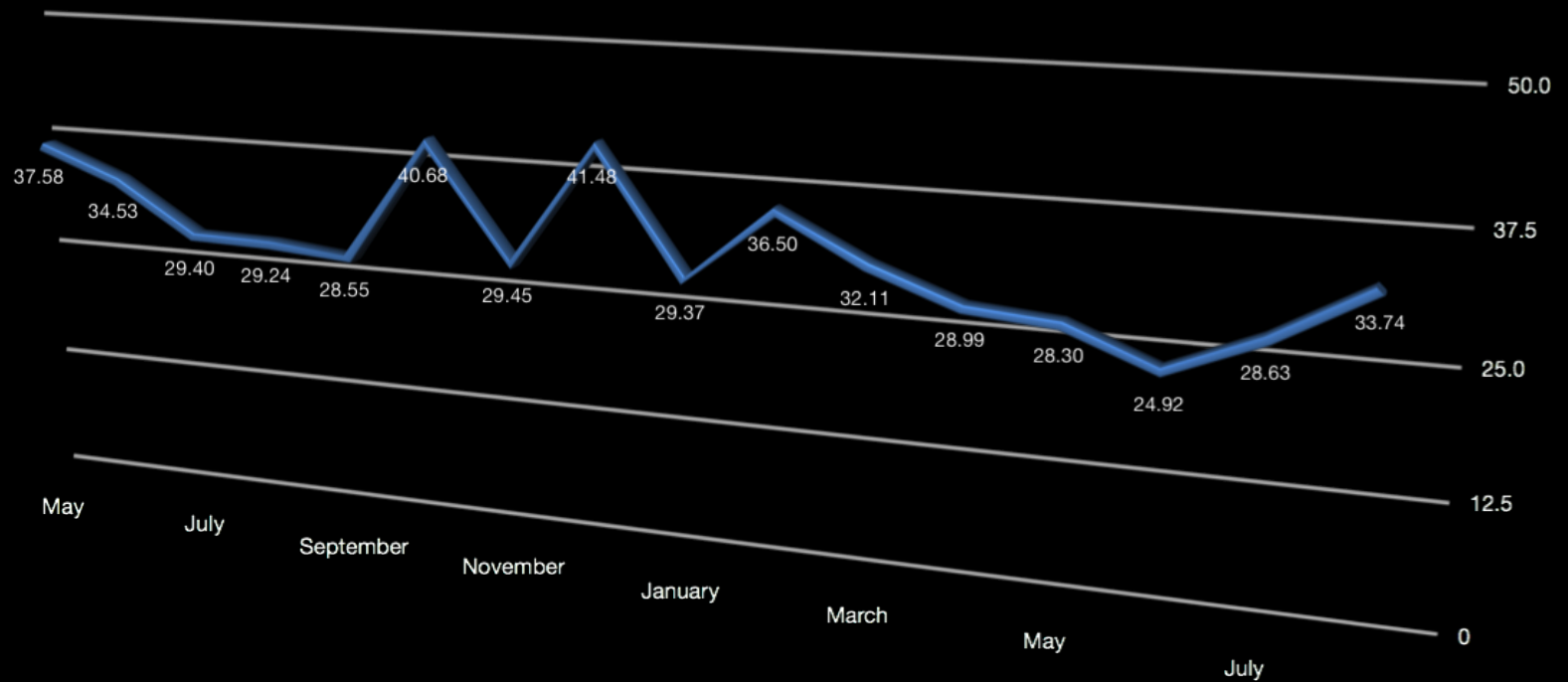
Total  
Number

XX Patients

May 2012-

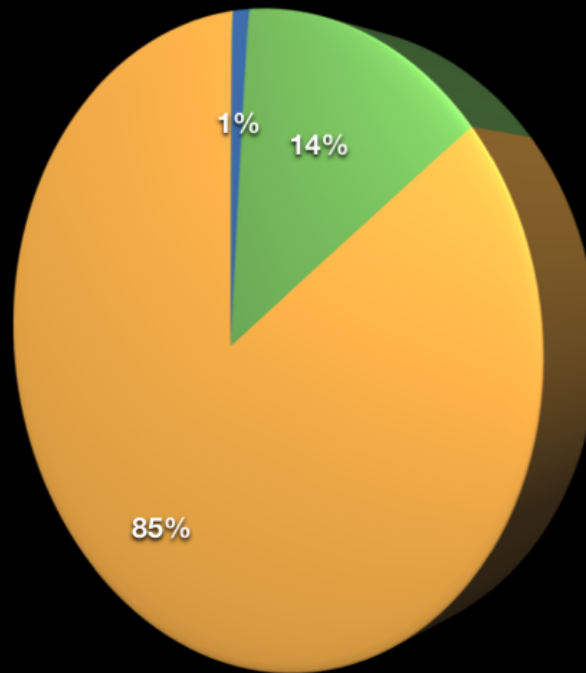
August

2013



# Pedestrian Adult Cases and Severity

Total  
Number  
798  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013

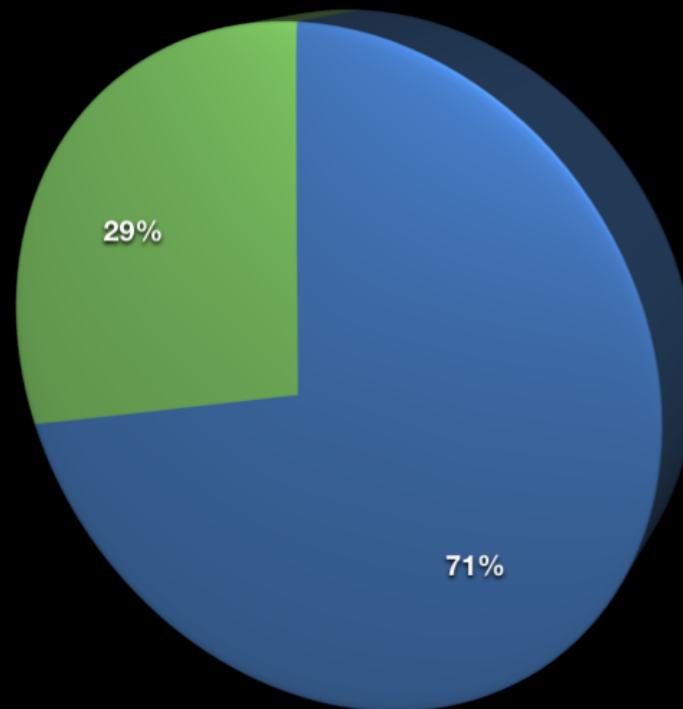


Total Number is 798  
313 Retrospective  
485 Prospective

● Deaths ● Admissions ● Discharged With Minor Injuries

# How Many Cyclists Vs Pedestrians?

Total  
Number  
798  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013

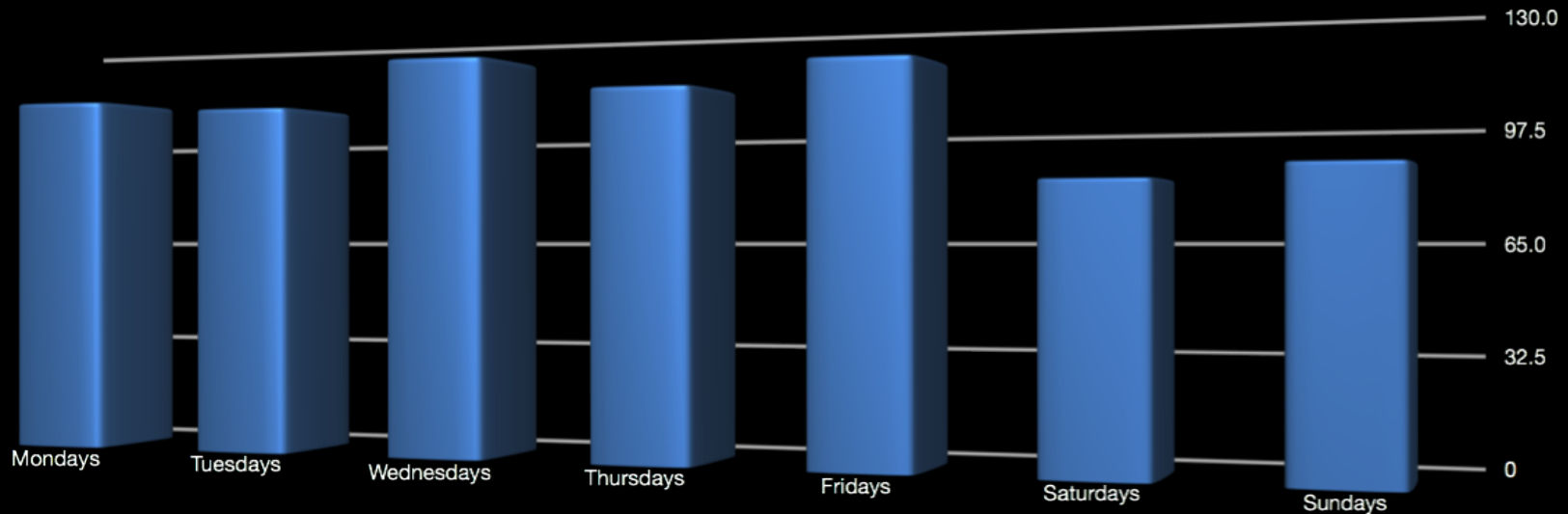


● Pedestrians

● Cyclists

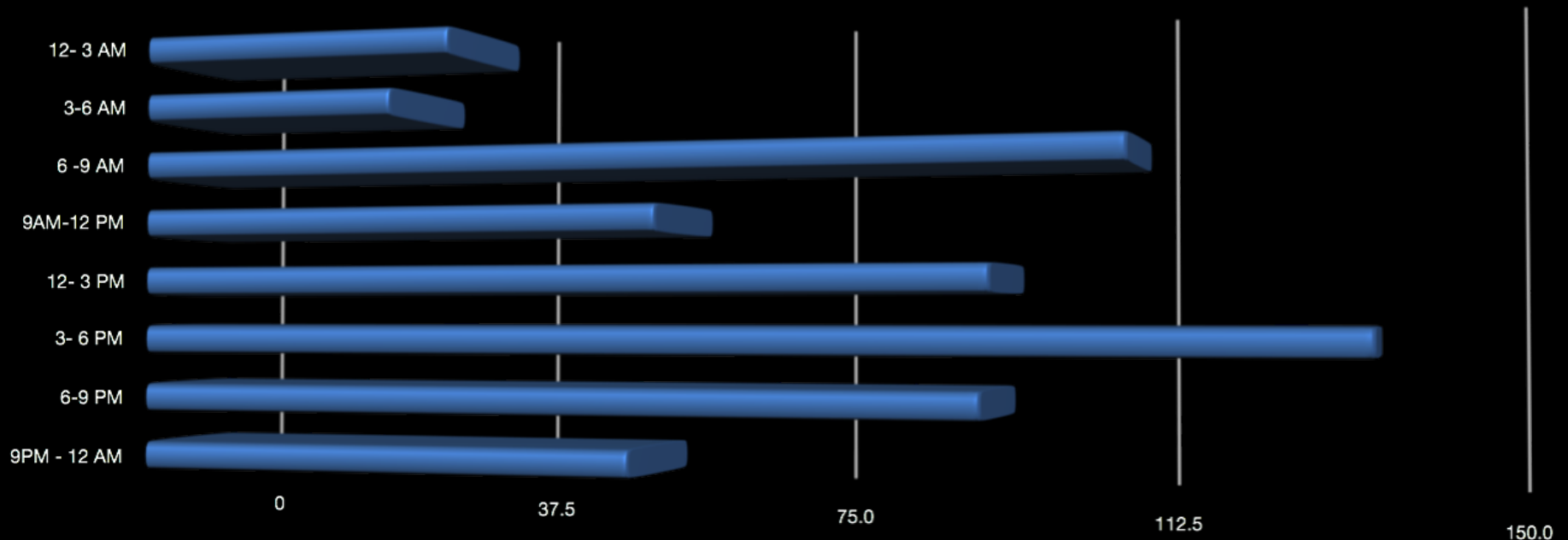
# Days When Most Incidents Occurred

Pedestrian Injury at EHC



# Times Where Most Incidents Occurred

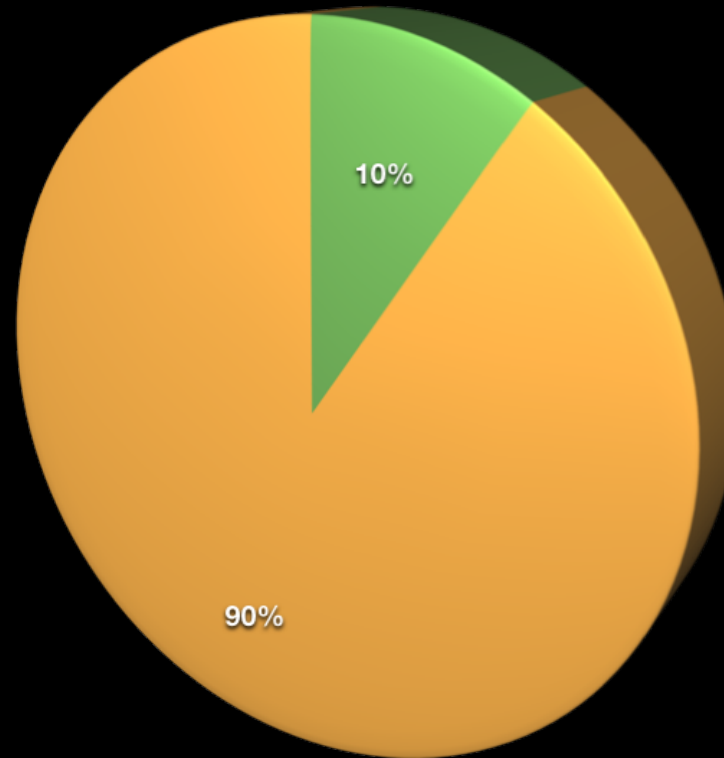
Time of Triage





# Impact on Pediatric Population

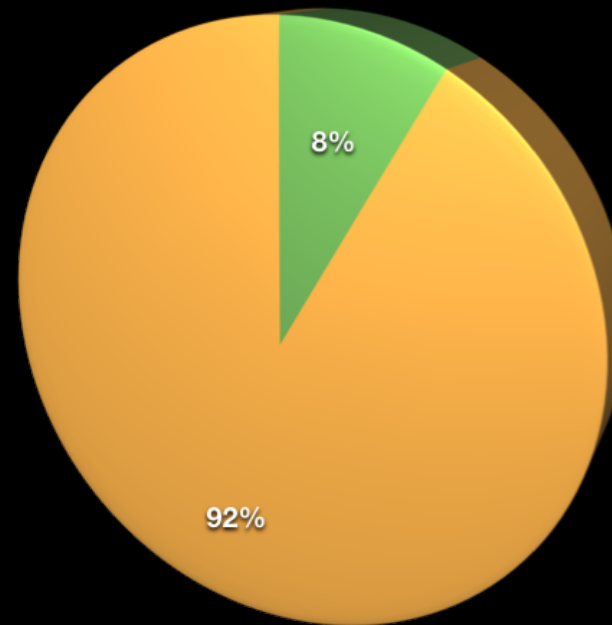
Total  
Number  
220  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013



● Deaths ● Admissions ● Discharge With Minor Injury

# Pediatric Cyclists Struck

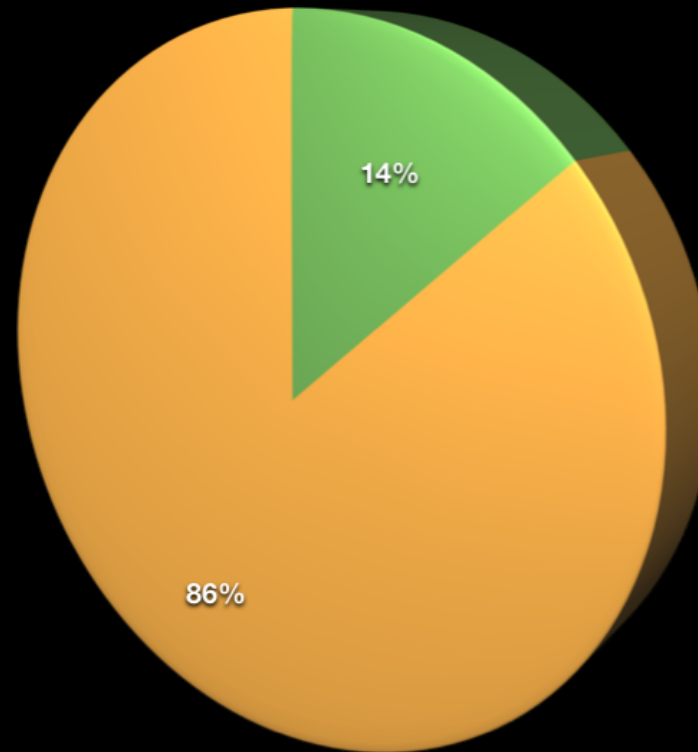
Total  
Number  
48 Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013



● Deaths ● Admissions ● Discharge With Minor Injury

# Adult Cyclists

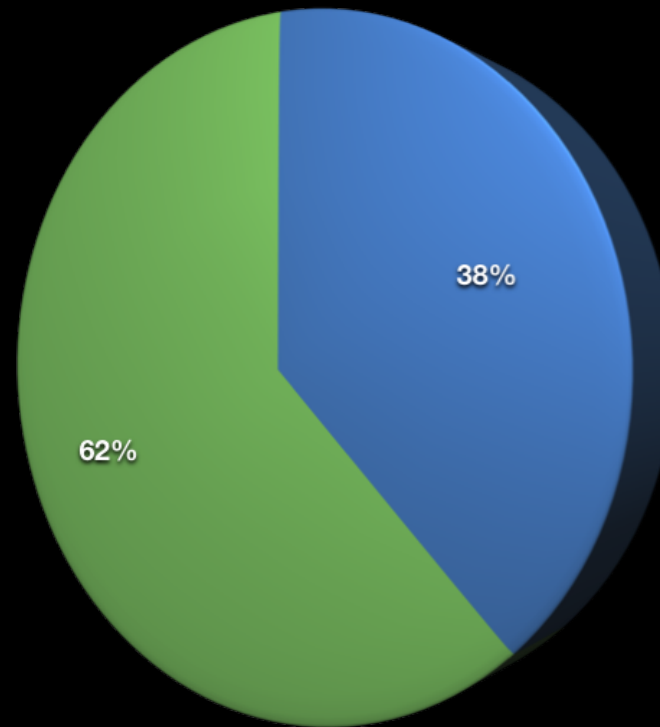
Total  
Number  
184  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013



● Deaths    ● Admissions    ● Discharged With Minor Injuries

# Children At Rush Hour

Total  
Number  
220  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013



● Rush Hours (AM and PM)

● Non Rush Hours

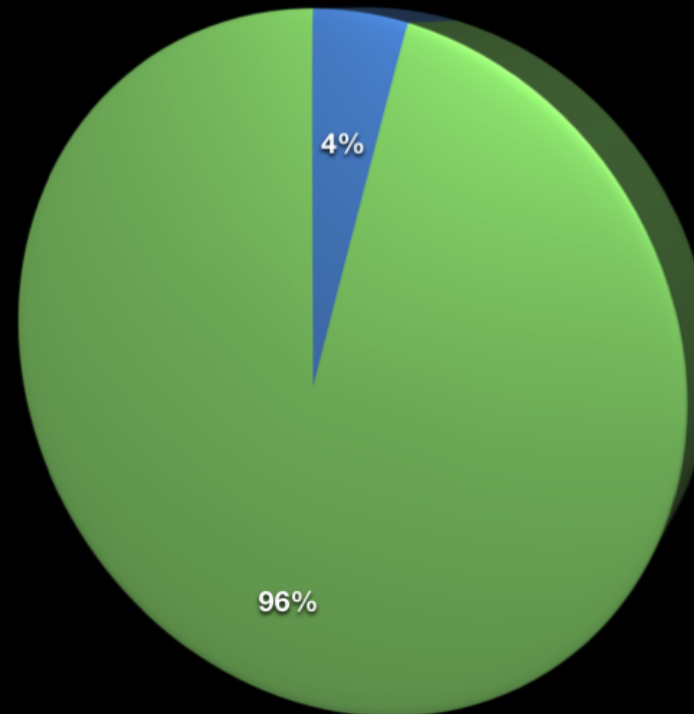
# Bicycle Helmet Usage



Safer Streets NYC

# Children & Helmets

Total  
Number  
48 Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013

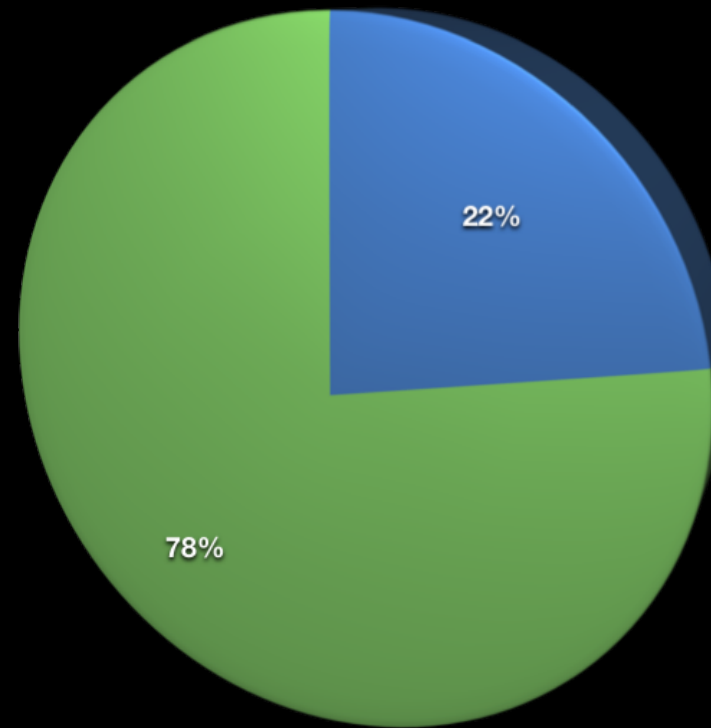


● Helmeted

● Non Helmeted

# Adults & Helmets

Total  
Number  
184  
Patients  
May 2012-  
October  
2013

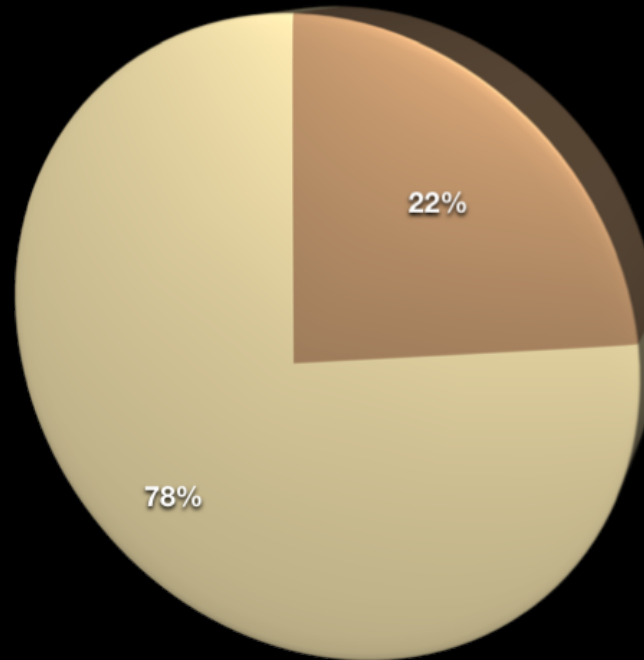


● Helmeted

● Non-Helmeted

# Red Lights

199 Cases  
Where it  
Was Clear

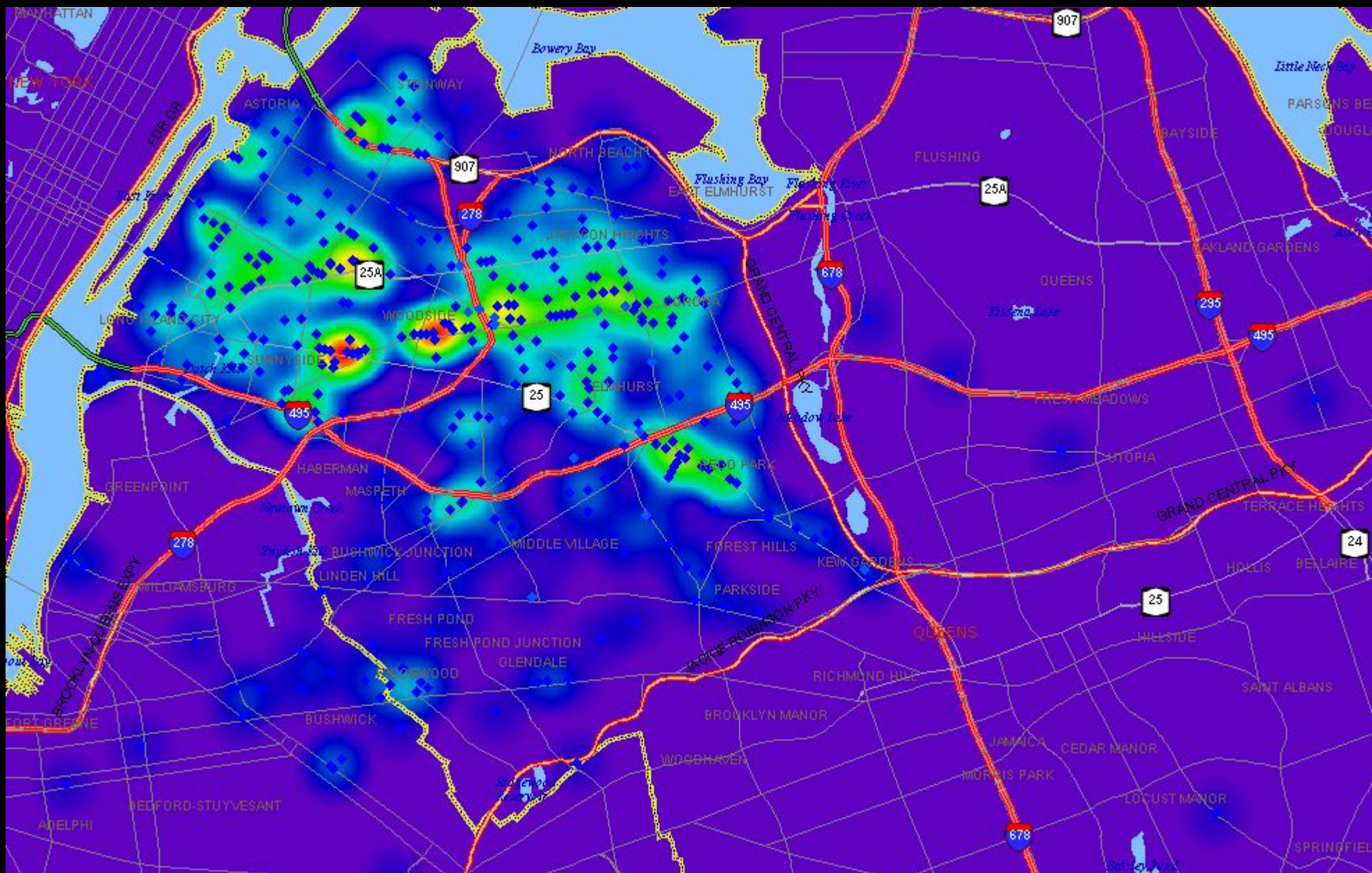


● Red Lights Run

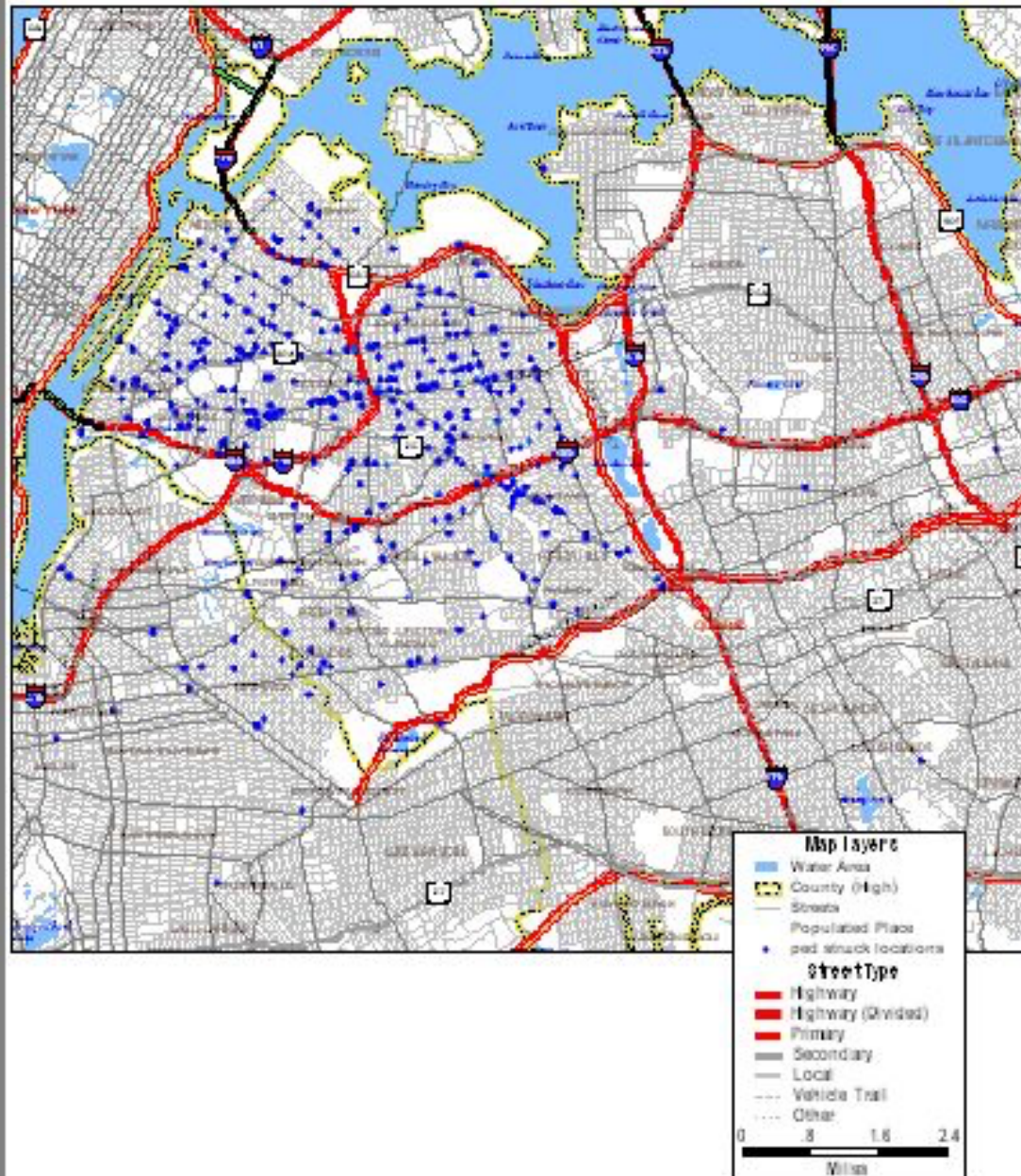
● Red Light Not Involved



# Descriptive Statistics



# Pedestrian Injury Locations



- It appears that helmets continue to be an issue in our catchment area. Although bike usage is not as high foot traffic, the percentage of those presenting to the ED without helmets especially in children are high

## Discussion

- The time where most incidents occur are during the mid week specifically during the evening rush hour as defined from 3 PM -6 PM
- There has been a localized density of incidents around Roosevelt Avenue which may be an area that needs improvement

# Conclusion

- Improvements on specific areas of Roosevelt Avenue could be potentially be constructed through DOT projects
- Past DOT projects have greatly improved pedestrian safety by widening medians such as in the following images

# Conclusion



Before: Narrow Median



Before: Larger  
Pedestrian Island

# Conclusion

- A multilingual awareness campaign tailored to the unique diverse community of Elmhurst could make an impact in high incident areas
- Pedestrian signals could potentially stay longer for those elderly individuals who may need it through a registered a pedestrian signal preemption system whereby those with this RFID pendant could have extra time in crossing the street

# Conclusion

- Pedestrian injuries continue to be an important public health issue in NYC as seen firsthand by the neurosurgery department at Elmhurst.
- Elmhurst's Safer Streets NYC study over the next 3 years will gather vital data and will also include a retrospective arm to include demographic information on patients not initially enrolled at time of injury in order to avoid selection bias.



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