

# AUTOPSY FINDINGS IN MOTOR VEHICLE OCCUPANTS INVOLVED IN FATAL TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Authors: Student Ignas Velionis,  
Student Vilius Kaupas,  
Master's degree Dalius Banionis

## INTRODUCTION

According to Lithuanian Traffic Police Service, between 2017 and 2020 in road traffic accidents died 726 people and, among those, 422 were motor vehicle occupants.

## METHODS

A retrospective analysis of The State Forensic Medicine Service Kaunas Department data of fatally injured motor vehicle occupants from 2017 to 2020.

## CONCLUSIONS

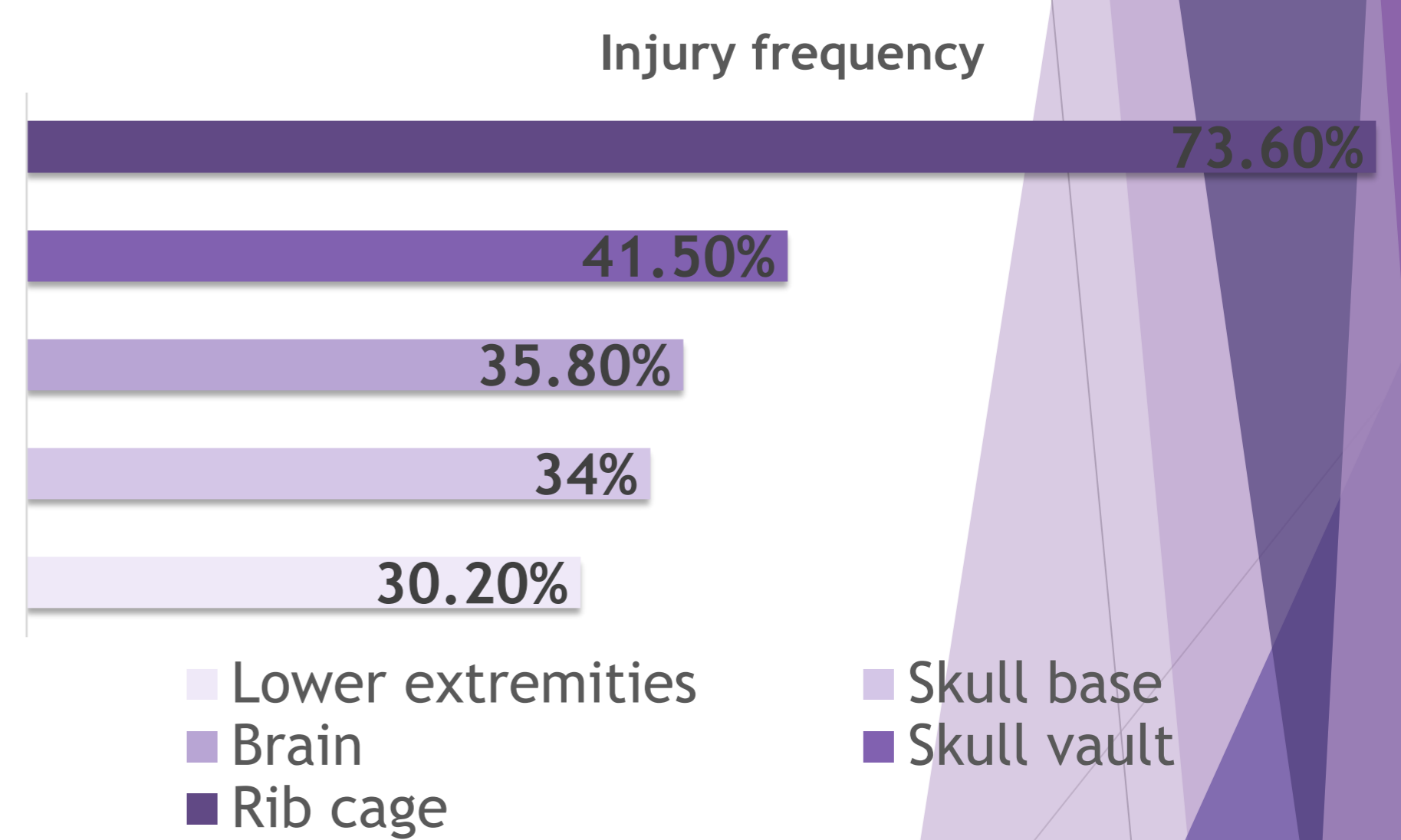
The most common sites of trauma among fatally injured motor vehicle occupants were rib cage and skull. Furthermore, driving under the influence of alcohol and skull vault fractures were associated with death at the scene.

## AIM

The goal of the study was to assess autopsy findings in motor vehicle occupants involved in fatal traffic accidents.

## RESULTS

The total of 53 fatally injured motor vehicle occupants were included in this study. Polytrauma occurred in 50 of all cases (94,3%). 75,5% of victims died at the scene of an accident.



45% of victims were under the influence of alcohol. In addition, there was a significant correlation between skull vault fractures and death at scene ( $p=0,028$ ) as well as between driving under the influence and death at scene ( $p=0,015$ ).