



<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>TRUCK INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER ROAD USERS</b>
<b>RESOURCES</b>	BITRE Website link to road deaths in the last 10 years and Heavy Vehicle Annual Report 2023 PowerPoint: Truck Interactions – Road Safety

## TRUCK INTERACTIONS - ROAD SAFETY

According from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport & Regional Economics (BITRE), the 2021 annual count of fatalities in crashes involving heavy vehicles from 2012-2021 has increased.

### Facilitator:

*Question:* Which state in Australia do you think has the most truck accidents involving trucks?

*Answer:* Statistics from 2021:  
NSW 52, Qld 48, Victoria 29, SA an WA 13 each, Tasmania 4 and NT and ACT 2 each.

Refer to BITRE report statistics Table 1.2 as part of this toolbox.

Because the number of trucks is increasing on the road each year, it is important that protecting all road users for serious injury is a major safety issue.

*Ask the general question below, followed by the toolbox talk.*

*Question:* As a truck driver, can you think of some precautions you can take to avoid a serious accident?

### References:

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/ongoing/road-trauma-involving-heavy-vehicles>

<sup>2</sup> Road Deaths involving heavy vehicles, last 10 years – Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts.

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoieYTk5Y2RiN2MtOWY4YS00ZWm4LWlxN2QtOWNhMjY4NWY0NjRjIiwidCI6ImFhMjFiNjQwLWJhYzItNDU2ZC04NTA1LWYyY2MwN2Y1MTc4NCJ9>

Use this link as it shows you the overall statistics for the last 10 years involving trucks, both nationally in Australia, plus by individual Australian States & Territories



hv\_annual\_2021.pdf



The following are what precautions truck drivers should take whilst on the road.

- Be aware of what is going on in your surroundings whilst driving. Remember, you have more blind spots than a normal car driver, always check before changing lanes, overtaking a vehicle or reversing.
- Remember that trucks are larger and heavier when they contain a full load or have no load, they require more distance and time to slow down. To avoid a serious crash and losing control of your truck, drive slowly and brake early, especially to avoid a rear end crash of another vehicle.
- Truck turning, every time you need to turn your truck allow additional space when manoeuvring around corners. Always put your turning indicator on early so other drivers are aware that you are planning to turn. If you require to make a wide turn, move to the adjacent lane, check in your mirrors to make sure that no other vehicles are in your way and then proceed carefully.
- Keep a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you, leave plenty of space when merging and never cut in too close to another vehicle, especially in high-speed highway areas. As speed increases, so does the time and distance required to stop your heavy vehicle. Research statistics show that for every 5km/h over a 60km/h increases your risk of crashing by four times a normal (eg: car) vehicle crash.
- Always drive safely, be professional and do not take risks when driving. Do not become frustrated by other drivers or respond aggressively because this may result in a serious accident.
- Make your truck vehicle movements obvious to other road users, not only other vehicles, bicycle riders and pedestrians.
- Stay focussed, if you are feeling dizzy, tired or fatigued, find a safe place to stop and take a break.

**Remember, be patient, be safe and do not take risks.  
Drive so everyone survives.  
Drive as if your family or friends are on the road ahead.  
Everyone has the right to get home safely to their loved ones.**

*Video Links that can help visual learners understand:*

Check for blind spots: <https://youtu.be/SVE8dNXXyt8>

Be aware of long stopping distances: <https://youtu.be/ZbYj1Em9Hqw>

Make wide turns carefully: [https://youtu.be/j\\_3JcX4b3bg](https://youtu.be/j_3JcX4b3bg)

# COR TRUCK INTERACTIONS TOOLBOX TALK



Page 3 of the BITRE report

Section I • Heavy trucks

**Table 1.2 Deaths from crashes involving heavy trucks by state/territory**

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
<b>Any heavy truck involved</b>									
2012	72	45	73	17	29	6	3	0	245
2013	53	28	52	15	27	2	4	0	181
2014	51	56	39	27	21	6	0	2	202
2015	57	41	48	18	18	9	1	1	193
2016	56	40	40	18	19	7	5	1	186
2017	79	38	33	11	22	7	1	0	191
2018	52	24	53	10	17	4	0	0	160
2019	55	45	36	28	17	5	1	1	188
2020	56	35	46	10	18	6	1	0	172
2021	52	29	48	13	13	4	2	2	163
<i>Change last 12 months (%)</i>	-7.1	-17.1	4.3	30.0	-27.8	-33.3	100.0	-	-5.2
<i>Ave. trend change p.a.(%)</i>									
- for last 10 calendar years	-1.3	-3.1	-2.9	-4.3	-6.5	0.4	-	-	-2.9
- for last 3 calendar years	-2.8	-19.7	15.5	-31.9	-12.6	-10.6	41.4	-	-6.9
<b>Articulated truck involved</b>									
2012	50	30	45	10	17	3	2	0	157
2013	32	15	35	11	16	2	4	0	115
2014	31	27	31	12	10	3	0	2	116
2015	34	21	28	15	11	3	0	1	113
2016	26	22	25	11	13	6	5	1	109
2017	49	20	19	6	11	1	0	0	106
2018	26	14	29	6	12	2	0	0	89
2019	23	22	18	23	10	2	0	1	99
2020	28	23	35	5	10	2	1	0	104
2021	27	14	40	10	11	2	2	0	106
<i>Change last 12 months (%) Ave. trend change p.a.(%)</i>									
- for last 10 calendar years	-3.6	-39.1	14.3	100.0	10.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	1.9
- for last 3 calendar years	-4.8	-3.7	-2.4	-3.3	-4.2	-5.1	-	-	-3.4
	8.3	-20.2	49.1	-34.1	4.9	0.0	-	-	3.5
<b>Heavy rigid truck involved</b>									
2012	23	15	30	7	13	4	1	0	93
2013	24	13	17	4	12	0	0	0	70
2014	21	29	8	15	11	3	0	0	87
2015	25	20	21	3	7	6	1	0	83
2016	32	19	15	7	7	2	0	0	82
2017	33	20	15	5	14	6	1	0	94
2018	29	10	27	5	6	2	0	0	79
2019	34	24	18	5	7	3	1	0	92
2020	29	12	11	5	9	4	0	0	70
2021	26	16	9	3	2	2	0	2	60
<i>Change last 12 months (%) Ave. trend change p.a.(%)</i>									
- for last 10 calendar years	-10.3	33.3	-18.2	-40.0	-77.8	-50.0	0.0	-	-14.3
- for last 3 calendar years	3.3	-1.8	-5.4	-6.1	-11.9	-	-	-	-2.2
	-12.6	-18.4	-29.3	-22.5	-46.5	-18.4	-	-	-19.2

# COR TRUCK INTERACTIONS TOOLBOX TALK



Items Raised/Corrective Action	Action By	Action completed	
		Sign off	Date

**DATE:**.....

**FACILITATOR SIGNATURE**.....