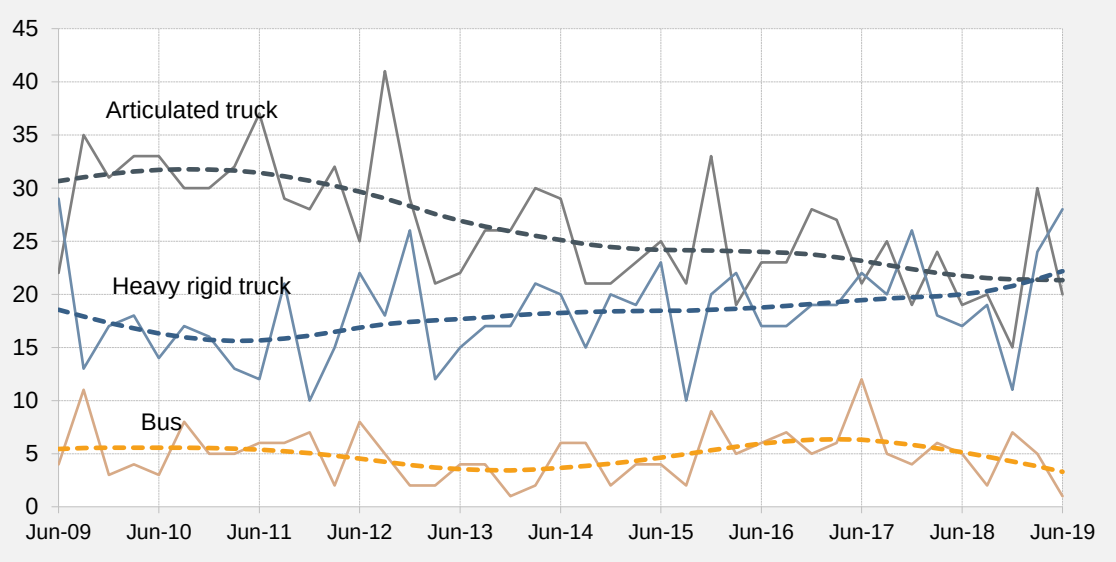
ISSN 1835-0240

Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

bitre

Fatal heavy vehicle crashes Australia quarterly bulletin Apr - Jun 2019

Quarterly counts of fatal crashes involving heavy vehicles, Australia, with trends



Key features

- During the 12 months to the end of June 2019, 183 people died from 162 fatal crashes involving heavy trucks. These included 95 deaths from 85 crashes involving articulated trucks, 94 deaths from 82 crashes involving heavy rigid trucks and 6 deaths from 5 crashes involving both a heavy rigid truck and an articulated truck[a].

- Fatal crashes involving heavy trucks:
  – increased by 2.5 per cent compared with the corresponding period one year earlier (from 158 to 162 crashes)
  – decreased by an average of 0.7 per cent per year over the three years to June 2019.

  - Fatal crashes involving articulated trucks:
    – decreased by 2.3 per cent compared with the corresponding period one year earlier (from 87 to 85 crashes)
    – decreased by an average of 4.8 per cent per year over the three years to June 2019.

  - Fatal crashes involving heavy rigid trucks:
    – increased by 1.2 per cent compared with the corresponding period one year earlier (from 81 to 82 crashes)
    – increased by an average of 5.8 per cent per year over the three years to June 2019.

- During the 12 months to June 2019, 18 people died in 15 fatal crashes involving buses.

- Fatal crashes involving buses:
  – decreased by 25.0 per cent compared with the corresponding period one year earlier (from 20 to 15 crashes)
  – decreased by an average of 14.1 per cent per year over the three years to June 2019.

a Figures sum to more than the total because some crashes involved more than one type of heavy vehicle.

ANNUAL TRENDS

Table 1 Fatal crashes

	Articulated Truck involved	*Heavy Rigid Truck involved*	*Any heavy truck involved*	*Bus involved*	*Any heavy vehicle involved*
12 Months ended					
June 2009	116	87	197	21	218
June 2010	132	62	190	21	211
June 2011	129	58	176	24	199
June 2012	114	68	177	23	197
June 2013	113	71	181	13	193
June 2014	111	75	182	13	194
June 2015	90	77	165	16	179
June 2016	96	69	162	22	184
June 2017	99	77	169	30	195
June 2018	87	81	158	20	178
June 2019	85	82	162	15	177
Ave. trend change p.a.(%)					
- for last 10 years	*-4.1*	*1.6*	*-1.9*	*-1.0*	*-1.8*
- for last 5 years	*-3.9*	*2.0*	*-1.9*	*5.0*	*-1.2*
- for last 3 years	*-4.8*	*5.8*	*-0.7*	*-14.4*	*-2.1*

Table 2 Fatalities

	Articulated Truck involved	*Heavy Rigid Truck involved*	*Any heavy truck involved*	*Bus involved*	*Any heavy vehicle involved*
12 Months ended					
June 2009	129	91	214	25	239
June 2010	161	75	230	24	254
June 2011	151	62	202	25	226
June 2012	126	81	202	23	222
June 2013	143	79	219	15	233
June 2014	122	86	204	13	216
June 2015	107	87	192	20	210
June 2016	111	80	186	25	211
June 2017	114	80	185	35	214
June 2018	95	89	173	21	194
June 2019	95	94	183	18	201
Ave. trend change p.a.(%)					
- for last 10 years	*-4.5*	*1.5*	*-2.2*	*-0.6*	*-2.1*
- for last 5 years	*-4.4*	*1.5*	*-2.4*	*6.2*	*-1.7*
- for last 3 years	*-6.3*	*6.1*	*-1.2*	*-13.9*	*-2.4*

ARTICULATED TRUCK INVOLVEMENT

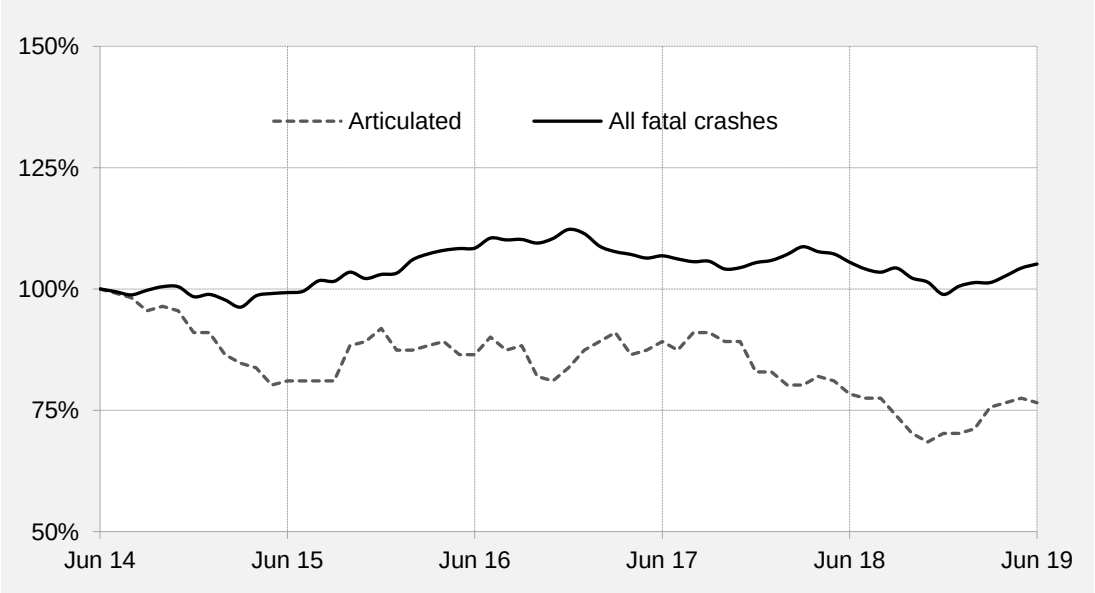
Table 3 Fatal crashes involving articulated trucks by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	28	25	26	10	6	4	0	2	101
2015	31	21	23	12	12	2	0	1	102
2016	22	20	23	10	10	3	4	1	93
2017	39	20	17	6	9	1	0	0	92
2018	23	13	25	5	9	2	1	0	78
Quarters									
2017									
June	11	3	3	1	2	1	0	0	21
September	11	6	5	2	1	0	0	0	25
December	6	4	3	1	5	0	0	0	19
2018									
March	8	3	7	3	2	1	0	0	24
June	6	4	5	1	2	1	0	0	19
September	5	3	8	0	3	0	1	0	20
December	4	3	5	1	2	0	0	0	15
2019									
March	10	6	4	7	2	1	0	0	30
June	7	0	2	6	4	1	0	0	20
12 Months ended									
June 2018	31	17	20	7	10	2	0	0	87
June 2019	26	12	19	14	11	2	1	0	85
% change	-16.1	-29.4	-5.0	100.0	10.0	0.0	-	-	-2.3
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017									
to 12 mths end Jun 2019	-1.7	-7.8	-6.0	2.2	-1.5	-18.6	-	-	-4.8

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Index of fatal crashes involving articulated trucks in Australia — five years ended June 2019

Each point shows the number of fatal crashes in the preceding 12 months expressed as a percentage of the corresponding number of fatal crashes in the 12 months to the end of June 2014.



ARTICULATED TRUCK INVOLVEMENT

Table 4 Deaths from crashes involving articulated trucks by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	31	27	32	12	6	5	0	2	115
2015	34	21	28	15	13	3	0	1	115
2016	26	22	25	11	11	5	5	1	106
2017	49	20	19	6	10	1	0	0	105
2018	26	14	29	6	11	2	2	0	90
Quarters									
2017									
June	16	3	5	1	3	1	0	0	29
September	14	6	5	2	1	0	0	0	28
December	6	4	3	1	5	0	0	0	19
2018									
March	10	3	8	3	2	1	0	0	27
June	6	4	6	1	3	1	0	0	21
September	6	3	9	0	4	0	2	0	24
December	4	4	6	2	2	0	0	0	18
2019									
March	10	6	4	7	2	1	0	0	30
June	7	0	3	7	5	1	0	0	23
12 Months ended									
June 2018	36	17	22	7	11	2	0	0	95
June 2019	27	13	22	16	13	2	2	0	95
% change	-25.0	-23.5	0.0	128.6	18.2	0.0	-	-	0.0
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017 to 12 mths end Jun 2019	-4.6	-9.2	-6.8	2.0	0.0	-29.3	-	-	-6.3

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Table 5 Deaths from crashes involving articulated trucks by State/Territory and road user — 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Driver [a]	18	7	17	12	6	2	0	0	62
Passenger [a]	3	3	2	1	5	0	0	0	14
Pedestrian	5	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	9
Motorcyclist [b]	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	4
Pedal cyclist [b]	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
All road users [c]	27	13	22	16	13	2	2	0	95

a Includes drivers/passengers of light and heavy vehicles.
b Includes pillion passengers.
c Includes road users not separately specified.

Table 6 Deaths from crashes involving articulated trucks by State/Territory and crash type — 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Single vehicle crash	6	0	3	1	3	1	2	1	16
Multiple vehicle crash	16	12	19	14	8	1	0	0	70
Pedestrian crash	5	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	9
All crash types	27	13	22	16	13	2	2	0	95

Table 7 Fatal crashes involving heavy rigid trucks by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	21	23	8	10	11	3	0	0	76
2015	22	18	15	2	9	5	1	0	72
2016	30	17	12	4	11	1	0	0	75
2017	31	19	11	5	16	5	0	0	87
2018	25	10	15	5	5	4	0	1	65
Quarters									
2017									
June	7	3	6	1	4	1	0	0	22
September	9	5	2	1	3	0	0	0	20
December	6	7	1	2	7	3	0	0	26
2018									
March	7	2	5	1	1	2	0	0	18
June	5	4	4	2	1	1	0	0	17
September	8	2	4	1	2	1	0	1	19
March	5	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	11
2019									
December	10	6	4	1	1	2	0	0	24
June	11	7	4	1	3	2	0	0	28
12 Months ended									
June 2018	27	18	12	6	12	6	0	0	81
June 2019	34	17	14	4	7	5	0	1	82
% change	25.9	-5.6	16.7	-33.3	-41.7	-16.7	-	-	1.2
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017 to 12 mths end Jun 2019	5.6	3.0	2.4	28.2	0.0	19.3	-	-	5.8

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Index of fatal crashes involving heavy rigid trucks in Australia — five years ended June 2019

Each point shows the number of fatal crashes in the preceding 12 months expressed as a percentage of the corresponding number of fatal crashes in the 12 months to the end of June 2014.

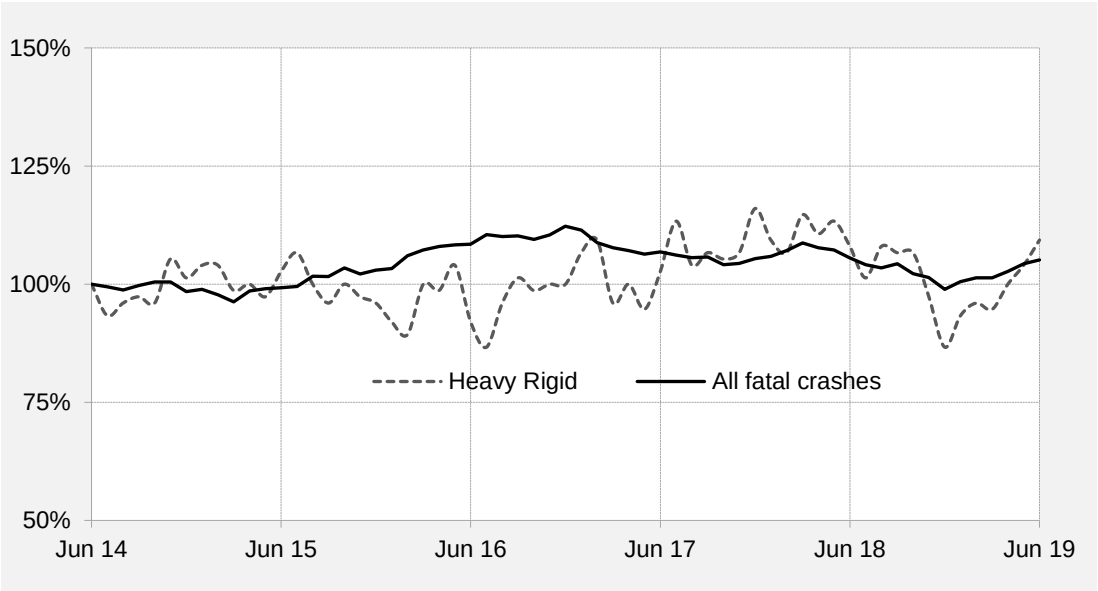


Table 8 Deaths from crashes involving heavy rigid trucks by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	21	29	8	15	12	3	0	0	88
2015	25	20	16	3	11	5	1	0	81
2016	32	19	13	7	12	1	0	0	84
2017	35	20	11	5	16	5	0	0	92
2018	29	10	20	5	5	4	0	1	74
Quarters									
2017									
June	7	3	6	1	4	1	0	0	22
September	11	5	2	1	3	0	0	0	22
December	7	8	1	2	7	3	0	0	28
2018									
March	10	2	6	1	1	2	0	0	22
June	5	4	4	2	1	1	0	0	17
September	9	2	7	1	2	1	0	1	23
December	5	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	12
2019									
March	12	6	5	1	1	2	0	0	27
June	13	8	4	1	4	2	0	0	32
12 Months ended									
June 2018	33	19	13	6	12	6	0	0	89
June 2019	39	18	19	4	8	5	0	1	94
% change	18.2	-5.3	46.2	-33.3	-33.3	-16.7	-	-	5.6
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017 to 12 mths end Jun 2019	8.9	1.7	8.0	-2.6	-3.5	19.3	-	-	6.1

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Table 9 Deaths from crashes involving heavy rigid trucks by State/Territory and road user — 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Driver [a]	19	5	12	2	4	5	0	0	47
Passenger [a]	8	5	3	1	1	0	0	1	19
Pedestrian	6	5	1	0	3	0	0	0	15
Motorcyclist [b]	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	7
Pedal cyclist [b]	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
All road users [c]	39	18	19	4	8	5	0	1	94

a Includes drivers/passengers of light and heavy vehicles.
b Includes pillion passengers.
c Includes road users not separately specified.

Tabel 10 Deaths from crashes involving heavy rigid trucks by State/Territory and crash type — 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Single vehicle crash	5	4	4	0	1	2	0	0	16
Multiple vehicle crash	28	9	14	4	4	3	0	1	63
Pedestrian crash	6	5	1	0	3	0	0	0	15
All crash types	39	18	19	4	8	5	0	1	94

BUS INVOLVEMENT

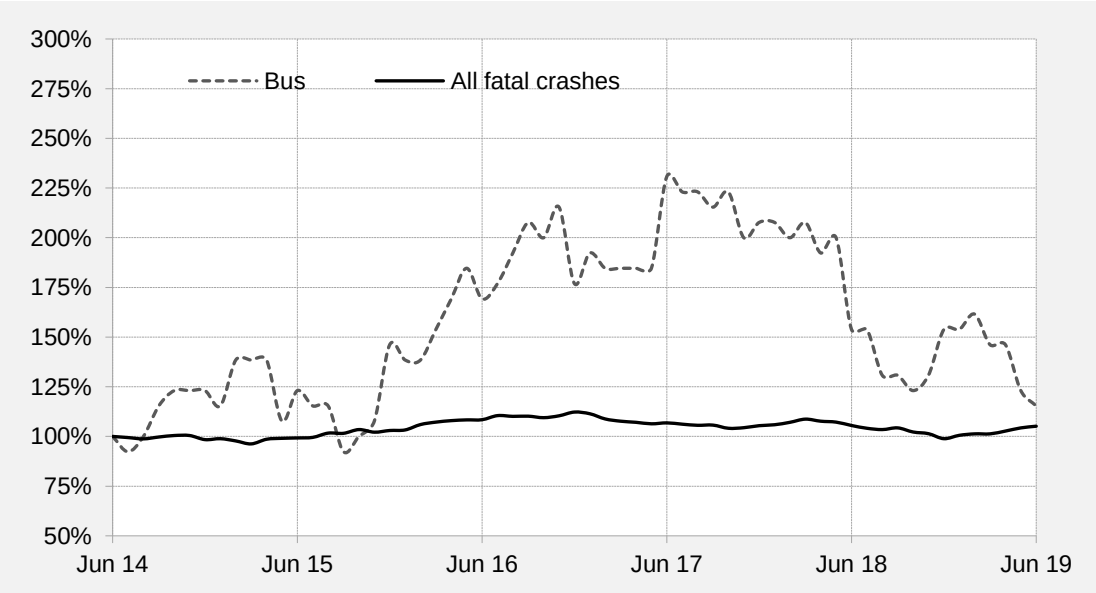
Table 11 Fatal crashes involving buses by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	6	3	1	1	4	0	0	1	16
2015	5	6	2	1	2	1	1	1	19
2016	10	2	3	3	3	1	1	0	23
2017	6	7	8	0	3	1	2	0	27
2018	7	4	5	0	2	1	0	1	20
Quarters									
2017									
June	4	2	3	0	1	1	1	0	12
September	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
December	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
2018									
March	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
June	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
September	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
December	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	7
2019									
March	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	5
June	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12 Months ended									
June 2018	5	7	4	0	3	0	1	0	20
June 2019	6	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	15
% change	20.0	-71.4	-50.0	-	-66.7	-	-100.0	-	-25.0
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017 to 12 mths end Jun 2019	-7.6	-21.7	-24.2	-	-25.1	-	-	-	-14.4

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Index of fatal crashes involving buses in Australia — five years ended June 2019

Each point shows the number of fatal crashes in the preceding 12 months expressed as a percentage of the corresponding number of fatal crashes in the 12 months to the end of June 2014.



BUS INVOLVEMENT

Table 12 Deaths from crashes involving buses by State/Territory

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Calendar Years									
2014	6	4	1	1	7	0	0	1	20
2015	5	7	2	1	2	1	3	1	22
2016	10	2	3	3	3	1	2	0	24
2017	6	10	10	0	3	1	2	0	32
2018	7	4	5	0	4	1	0	1	22
Quarters									
2017									
June	4	4	5	0	1	1	1	0	16
September	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
December	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	5
2018									
March	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
June	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
September	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
December	1	1	2	0	3	1	0	1	9
2019									
March	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
June	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12 Months ended									
June 2018	5	8	4	0	3	0	1	0	21
June 2019	7	2	2	2	3	1	0	1	18
% change	40.0	-75.0	-50.0	-	0.0	-	-100.0	-	-14.3
Average annual % change over 3 years [a]									
12 mths end Jun 2017 to 12 mths end Jun 2019	-3.2	-28.0	-25.9	-	4.1	-	-	-	-13.9

a Average annual percentage change based on the exponential trend for the last three 12-month periods.

Table 13 Deaths from crashes involving buses by State/Territory by road user – 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Driver [a]	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Passenger [a]	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	4
Pedestrian	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	8
Motorcyclist [b]	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Pedal cyclist [b]	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
All road users [c]	7	2	2	2	3	1	0	1	18

a Includes drivers/passengers of light and heavy vehicles.
b Includes pillion passengers.
c Includes road users not separately specified.

Table 14 Deaths from crashes involving buses by State/Territory by crash type - – 12 months ended June 2019

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	**Australia**
Single vehicle crash	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple vehicle crash	5	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	10
Pedestrian crash	2	2	1	2	0	0	0	1	8
All crash types	7	2	2	2	3	1	0	1	18

APPENDIX

Glossary

Note. The following definitions are general explanations only. The precise definitions vary across the organisations that provide the source data. These differences may result in minor inconsistencies between jurisdictions for some variables.

Articulated truck — A motor vehicle primarily for load carrying, consisting of a prime mover that has no significant load carrying area but with a turntable device which can be linked to one or more trailers.

Heavy rigid truck — A motor vehicle of GVM greater than 4.5 tonnes constructed with a load carrying area. Includes a rigid truck with a tow bar, draw bar or other non-articulated coupling on the rear of the vehicle.

Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) — Tare weight (i.e. unladen weight) of the motor vehicle plus its maximum carrying capacity excluding trailers.

Bus — A motor vehicle constructed for the carriage of passengers which has at least 10 seats, including the driver's seat.

Crash — Any apparently unpremeditated event reported to police, or other relevant authority, and resulting in death, injury or property damage attributable to the movement of a road vehicle on a public road.

Road Death or Fatality — A person who dies within 30 days of a crash as a result of injuries received in that crash.

Fatal crash — A crash for which there is at least one death.

Preliminary data

Data for recent months are preliminary and subject to revision.

Estimation of three year trends

In this bulletin, the figures for the 'Average annual per cent change over 3 years' are calculated by fitting an exponential trend line to the last four data points (years 0 to 3). The Excel function LOGEST performs the fit. The resulting trend line represents a constant annual percent change over the period. (Note: when fitted to a series containing small numbers, this may not be a reliable indicator of a stable trend.)

Smooth trend lines

Whittaker-Henderson smoothers are used with value of 80 for the smoothing parameter.
The application R (package pracma) can be used for such trend lines.

Data Sources

The data presented here are obtained from the following sources:

- Transport for New South Wales;
- Department of Transport, Victoria;
- Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads;
- Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure South Australia;
- Western Australian Police;
- Department of State Growth, Tasmania;
- Department of Transport, Northern Territory;
- Territory and Municipal Services Directorate, Australian Capital Territory;

An online version of the database used to produce this bulletin is available from:
< http://www.bitre.gov.au/statistics/safety/fatal_road_crash_database.aspx >

Inquiries

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