

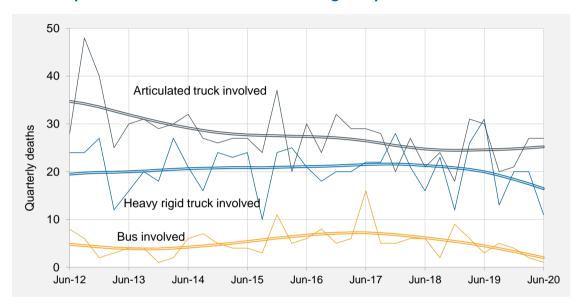
Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and CommunicationsBureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics

Fatal heavy vehicle crashes Australia quarterly bulletin

Apr - Jun 2020

Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving heavy vehicles, Australia, with trends



Key features

- During the 12 months to the end of June 2020, 157 people died in crashes involving heavy trucks. These included 95 deaths in crashes involving articulated trucks and 64 deaths in crashes involving heavy rigid trucks.
- Fatalities in crashes involving heavy trucks:
 - decreased by 17.8 per cent when compared with the corresponding 12-month period one year earlier;
 - decreased by an average of 3.9 per cent per year over the three years to June 2020.
- Fatalities in crashes involving articulated trucks:
 - decreased by 7.8 per cent when compared with the corresponding period one year earlier;
 - decreased by an average of 4.7 per cent per year over the three years to June 2020.
- Fatalities in crashes involving heavy rigid trucks:
 - decreased by 30.4 per cent compared with the corresponding period one year earlier;
 - decreased by an average of 6.0 per cent per year over the three years to June 2020.
- During the 12 months to June 2020, 12 people died in crashes involving buses.
- Counts of fatalities in crashes involving buses:
 - decreased by 40.0 per cent compared with the corresponding 12-month period one year earlier;
 - decreased by an average of 28.2 per cent per year over the three years to June 2020.

ANNUAL TRENDS

Table I Deaths

	Articulated Truck	Heavy Rigid	Any heavy	Bus involved	All road crash
	involved	Truck involved	truck involved		deaths ^a
12 Months ended					
June 2011	151	62	202	25	1,295
June 2012	126	81	202	23	1,276
June 2013	143	79	219	15	1,263
June 2014	122	86	204	13	1,155
June 2015	107	87	192	20	1,170
June 2016	111	80	186	25	1,259
June 2017	114	80	185	35	1,223
June 2018	96	87	173	22	1,213
June 2019	103	92	191	20	1,196
June 2020	95	64	157	12	1,109
Change last 12 months (%	6) -7.8	-30.4	-17.8	-40.0	-7.3
Ave. trend change p.a.(%))				
- for last 10 years	-4.6	0.8	-2.5	-1.5	-1.1
- for last 3 years	-4.7	-6.0	-3.9	-28.2	-3.0

Table 2Fatal crashes

	Articulated Truck	Heavy Rigid	Any heavy	Bus involved	All road crash
	involved	Truck involved	truck involved		deaths ^a
12 Months ended					
June 2011	129	58	176	24	1,190
June 2012	114	68	177	23	1,163
June 2013	113	71	181	13	1,150
June 2014	111	75	182	13	1,068
June 2015	90	77	165	16	1,060
June 2016	96	69	162	22	1,157
June 2017	99	77	169	30	1,142
June 2018	88	79	158	21	1,124
June 2019	92	80	169	17	1,103
June 2020	82	60	140	11	1,015
Change last 12 months (%	6) -10.9	-25.0	-17.2	-35.3	-8.0
Ave. trend change p.a.(%))				
- for last 10 years	-4.2	1.2	-2.0	-2.3	-1.0
- for last 3 years	-5.1	-7.1	-4.9	-27.5	-3.7

a All deaths, whether or not crash involved a heavy vehicle

ARTICULATED TRUCK INVOLVEMENT

Table 3 Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving articulated trucks

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Quarter ended									
Sep-17	14	6	5	2	1	0	0	0	28
Dec-17	6	4	3	1	5	1	0	0	20
Mar-18	10	3	8	3	2	1	0	0	27
Jun-18	6	4	6	1	3	1	0	0	21
Sep-18	6	3	9	0	4	0	2	0	24
Dec-18	4	4	6	2	2	0	0	0	18
<i>Mar-19</i>	8	9	4	7	2	1	0	0	31
Jun-19	6	5	5	7	6	1	0	0	30
Sep-19	6	2	7	2	1	1	0	1	20
Dec-19	3	6	2	7	2	1	0	0	21
Mar-20	8	10	6	1	1	1	0	0	27
Jun-20	11	5	9	1	0	1	0	0	27

Figure I Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving articulated trucks, with trend

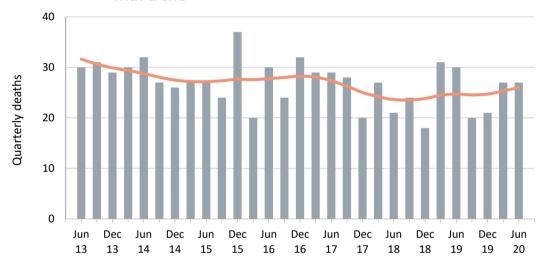


Table 4 Annual counts of deaths in crashes involving articulated trucks

-	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
12 Months ended									
June 2016	30	16	27	15	13	8	1	1	111
June 2017	42	24	24	7	11	1	4	1	114
June 2018	36	17	22	7	11	3	0	0	96
June 2019	24	21	24	16	14	2	2	0	103
June 2020	28	23	24	11	4	4	0	1	95
Change last 12 months (%)	16.7	9.5	0.0	-31.3	-71.4	100.0	-100.0	-	-7.8
Average annual % change over 3 years a	-15.0	8.0	0.9	24.4	-24.4	45.5	-	-	-4.7

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

HEAVY RIGID TRUCK INVOLVEMENT

Table 5 Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving heavy rigid trucks

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Quarter ended									
Sep-17	11	5	2	1	3	0	0	0	22
Dec-17	7	8	1	2	7	3	0	0	28
<i>Mar-18</i>	10	2	6	1	1	1	0	0	21
Jun-18	5	4	4	2	1	0	0	0	16
Sep-18	9	2	7	1	2	1	0	1	23
Dec-18	5	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	12
Mar-19	12	6	5	1	1	1	0	0	26
Jun-19	14	9	4	0	4	0	0	0	31
Sep-19	2	3	3	2	2	0	1	0	13
Dec-19	7	6	4	2	1	0	0	0	20
Mar-20	12	3	3	0	2	0	0	0	20
Jun-20	4	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	11

Figure 2 Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving heavy rigid trucks, with trend

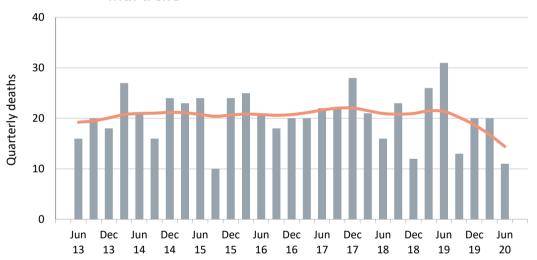


Table 6 Annual counts of deaths in crashes involving heavy rigid trucks

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
12 Months ended									_
June 2016	30	18	14	5	9	4	0	0	80
June 2017	31	16	15	4	12	2	0	0	80
June 2018	33	19	13	6	12	4	0	0	87
June 2019	40	19	19	3	8	2	0	1	92
June 2020	25	14	13	4	7	0	1	0	64
Change last 12 months (%)	-37.5	-26.3	-31.6	33.3	-12.5	-100.0	-	-100.0	-30.4
Average annual % change over 3 years a	-4.4	-3.9	-0.5	-6.7	-18.3	-	-	-	-6.0

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

Table 7 Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving buses

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
Quarter ended									
Sep-17	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Dec-17	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	5
Mar-18	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Jun-18	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	6
Sep-18	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dec-18	1	1	2	0	3	1	0	1	9
<i>Mar-19</i>	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
Jun-19	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Sep-19	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	5
Dec-19	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Mar-20	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
Jun-20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Figure 3 Quarterly counts of deaths in crashes involving buses, with trend

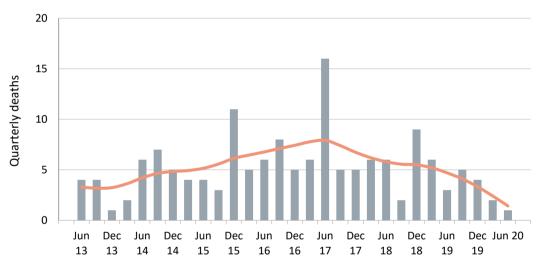


Table 8 Annual counts of deaths in crashes involving buses

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia
12 Months ended									
June 2016	6	7	4	1	3	1	3	0	25
June 2017	11	5	10	2	2	2	3	0	35
June 2018	5	9	4	0	3	0	1	0	22
June 2019	7	4	2	2	3	1	0	1	20
June 2020	6	1	0	1	3	1	0	0	12
Change last 12 months (%)	-14.3	-75.0	-100.0	-50.0	0.0	0.0	-	-100.0	-40.0
Average annual % change over 3 years a	-13.8	-43.1	-	-	12.9	-	-	-	-28.2

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

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 Tare weight (i.e. unladen weight) of the motor vehicle plus its maximum carrying capacity

(GVM) 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
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 with values for the smoothing parameter varying between 5

and 100. The application R (package pracma) is used.

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;
- Transport Canberra and City 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 For further information about data in this bulletin, contact:

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