



The BTRE is currently updating this information to 1996 data. For further information please contact: [btre@dotars.gov.au](mailto:btre@dotars.gov.au)

# Costs of Rail Accidents in Australia - 1993

- RAIL ACCIDENTS COST AUSTRALIA \$69 MILLION IN 1993
- THE COST TO THE COMMUNITY OF RAIL ACCIDENTS IN 1993 WAS ABOUT 40 PER CENT LOWER IN REAL TERMS THAN IN 1988
- RAIL ACCIDENT COSTS ACCOUNT FOR 1 PER CENT OF TRANSPORT RELATED ACCIDENT COSTS IN AUSTRALIA

BTCE (1992) *Social cost of transport accidents in Australia*, Report 79, p. 52, estimated the total cost of rail accidents in 1988 as \$94.5 million (in 1988 dollars). The following table provides updated estimates, including comparable figures for 1988 and 1993 that are expressed in 1993 dollars:

## TOTAL AUSTRALIAN RAIL ACCIDENT CASUALTIES AND COSTS, 1988 AND 1993

Year	Persons				Cost to the community	
	Fatalities	Injury			Nominal \$m	1993 \$m
		Hospital	Medical	Minor		
1988	96	154	61	1 111	94.5	120
1993	49	88	113	488	69	69

Source BTCE estimates based on data provided by State Rail (of NSW) including CityRail, Countrylink and Freight Rail; Public Transport Corporation (Victoria) including V/Line and The Met; Queensland Railways; Westrail; Australian National; Tasrail; and TransAdelaide rail and tram services.

### COSTS BY INJURY & PROPERTY DAMAGE

The cost of a rail fatality mainly comprises lost earnings of the victim, and family and community losses.

For victims requiring hospitalisation, the dominant costs are pain and suffering, hospital and rehabilitation.

The property damage estimate is obtained from a sample and is subject to potentially significant errors.

Rail accident costs 1993 (\$69 million) by injury and property damage



