



# ROAD MATTERS

## THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PROVIDING COMMUNITY EDUCATION THAT CREATES RESPONSIBLE ROAD USERS AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.

### 2023 In Review: Road Fatality Recap

In 2023, the overall number of road deaths increased nationwide compared to 2022. However, Western Australia, the Northern Territory, Tasmania, and the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) saw a decline in road fatalities. Queensland also reported a decrease in annual road deaths.

Despite having fewer road deaths, Tasmania, South Australia, and Western Australia have a higher ratio of road deaths to population compared to other states or territories.

From January to December 2023 1,266 people were killed on Australian roads.

This is a 7.3 per cent increase compared to the previous year.

### No. of fatalities in each state by year\*

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	5 year average per 100,000 (2019-2023)	Change in rate per 100,000 population between 2019 and 2023
AUS	1266	1180	1130	1097	1186	4.58	+0.1
NSW	351	281	275	284	353	3.78	-0.2
VIC	294	240	231	211	266	3.74	+0.2
QLD	277	297	277	278	219	5.14	+0.8
SA	117	71	99	93	114	5.48	-0.2
WA	158	175	166	155	163	5.92	-0.6
NT	31	47	35	31	36	14.46	-2.3
TAS	34	51	36	38	29	6.64	+0.6
ACT	4	18	11	7	6	2.04	-0.5

\*Data is based on information from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics.

### FATIGUE FREE FEBRUARY

In February, our attention turns to fatigued driver awareness.

While many drivers are vigilant about not drinking before driving, keeping their phones silent, and using seatbelts or helmets, the impact of fatigue on driving ability often goes unnoticed. However, it's crucial to understand that being tired behind the wheel can impair driving just as severely as alcohol or distractions.

Our aim this month is to highlight the risks of driving while fatigued, emphasising that it's equally hazardous as other well-known driving dangers.



### MONTHLY ROAD FACT

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that only a minority of the world's countries drive on the left-hand side of the road?

*Of the 239 countries and territories, how many drive on the left?*

- a) 80
- b) 76
- c) 68
- d) 63



ANSWER: B

#### TRAFFIC OFFENDER INTERVENTION PROGRAM

ONE-DAY \$185 BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE PROGRAM

BOOK TOIP HERE

#### DRIVE IT HOME

WHS PROGRAM FOR OCCUPATIONAL DRIVERS

FIND OUT MORE

#### STAY HYDRATED WHEN DRIVING!

### ROAD TIP OF THE MONTH

Driving while drowsy can be made worse by heat exhaustion!

In the warmer months, it's advisable to carry a chilled drink with you on your drives, take regular breaks to rest if you start feeling too warm, irritable, or sleepy, and stay alert to your physical condition. Ensuring you feel alert and refreshed is key to reaching your destination safely.

FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

It's Fatigue Free February

#### KEY DATES + EVENTS TO REMEMBER

11th: International Day of Women and Girls in Science

13th: World Radio Day

14th: Valentine's Day

20th: World Day of Social Justice

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