

# Pedestrians

ROAD SAFETY FACTSHEETS/VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

## Who is a pedestrian?

A pedestrian includes anyone travelling by foot, using a mobility aid (motorised or not), a skateboard, a pram, a wheeled toy, or a similar device (excluding bicycles). Some jurisdictions include e-scooters on footpaths in the definition.

## Who is most at risk?



### Older adults (65+)

Disproportionately represented in pedestrian fatalities, older adults are more likely to be seriously hurt or killed because of reduced physical resilience.



### Young Children

Vulnerable due to their smaller size, young children have slower reaction times, unpredictable behaviour and a limited ability to judge vehicle speeds.

## Pedestrian safety tips

- 1 **Stop, look, listen and think before crossing:**  
Always make eye contact with drivers where possible
- 2 Use pedestrian crossings and signals where provided
- 3 Stay alert
- 4 Wear high-visibility clothing at night and stay on footpaths
- 5 Be cautious at driveways and car parks
- 6 Children should be taught safe road crossing habits early
- 7 **For older pedestrians:** allow more time to cross the road and choose well-lit, safe crossing points

## Why pedestrian safety matters



Pedestrians are some of our most vulnerable road users. Without the protection of a vehicle, the probability of being killed in a collision at 50km/h is 90%.

## Risk factors for pedestrian crashes



Vehicle Speed



Driver behaviour



Traffic volume



Pedestrian distraction



Location



Risk-taking behaviour

## Pedestrian safety statistics

- In 2024, there were 174 pedestrian deaths in Australia
- 106 of these fatalities occurred in major cities
- The majority of pedestrian deaths occur in 50 km/h to 75 km/h speed zones