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AAMI Crash Index: Monaro Highway in Hume named most dangerous hotspot for crashes in Canberra

- **Nose to tail** crashes account for more than one third of crashes at top spot
- **Friday** is the worst day on the #1 road, **afternoons** most dangerous for crashes
- **Male drivers** in Canberra more likely than females to crash
- **Drivers aged 35-49** worst offenders across ACT
- **Two new entrants** in Canberra’s top 10

Monaro Highway in Hume has been revealed as Canberra’s most notorious crash site, with 37 per cent of crashes nose to tail, according to new data from national insurer AAMI.

The 2023 AAMI Crash Index, which analysed more than 350,000 motor insurance claimsⁱ across the country from 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023, shines a light on the most dangerous crash hotspots and encourages drivers to remain safe and vigilant while behind the wheel.

AAMI’s Head of Motor Customer Engagement, Tammy Hall, said the data revealed that interestingly male drivers in Canberra (53 per cent) were more likely than females (47 per cent) to crash, and the worst offenders were drivers aged 35-49 (29 per cent).

When looking at the number one hotspot, Fridays were the most dangerous day of the week, with most accidents occurring between 1.00pm and 4.30pm.ⁱⁱ

“Monaro Highway in Hume is a major thoroughfare, notorious for speeding, commuter traffic, and speed changes, so it’s hardly surprising it’s been ranked the worst crash hotspot in Canberra,” Ms Hall said.

“There are many traffic light intersections which are quite dangerous and a contributing factor to crashes, but thankfully a major program of works is underway which will help to improve safety and hopefully bring down the number of crashes.”

Ms Hall said while each of the top 10 hotspots had their own, individual factors which contributed to their position in the rankings, many of them share some commonalities.

“These hotspots are generally major roads, intersecting with local streets through high traffic industrial, educational and shopping centre precincts, making them consistently busy throughout the day,” Ms Hall said.

In 2023, only two new locations entered the top 10 –Pialligo Avenue in Pialligo and Majura Parkway in Majura.

“With these new locations appearing in the top 10, it shows that crashes can occur anywhere, and often when we’re close to home as that’s when we can let our guard down. Even at low speeds, crashes can cause serious injury, or worse, so it’s vital to always pay attention while behind the wheel and expect the unexpected,” Ms Hall said.



2023 AAMI Crash Index Rankings – Canberra

2023 Rank	Road	Suburb	2022 Rank	Change
1	Monaro Highway	Hume	2	↑
2	Canberra Avenue	Fyshwick	1	↓
3	Gundaroo Drive	Gungahlin	Tied 8	↑
4	Drakeford Drive	Kambah	Tied 7	↑
5 - Tied	Monaro Highway	Fyshwick	Tied 6	↑
5 - Tied	Newcastle Street	Fyshwick	4	↓
6	Gungahlin Drive	Gungahlin	3	↓
7	Pialligo Avenue	Pialligo	-	New
8	Sulwood Drive	Kambah	9	↑
9	Majura Parkway	Majura	-	New

New feature in AAMI app keeping Australians safer on the roads

To improve road safety on Aussie roads, AAMI recently launched AAMI Driver Rewards - a feature embedded in the AAMI mobile app. The new experience utilises telematics, cloud, personalisation, mobile sensors, AI and data to inspire and guide safer driving.

Using the app, customers can seamlessly monitor their driving to understand patterns and opportunities for improvement, which is achieved through smart scoring and gamification of their driving behaviours. Each customers’ safe driving view is aggregated at a trip level with further encouragement and guidance provided to drive safer. Score improvements as well as positive driving behaviours are acknowledged and celebrated in the app.

Since it launched, more than 70,000 customers have registered. Data captured found that more than 50 per cent of users who had low driving scores when they started ended up improving their score, while those starting with high scores maintained their score, indicating that strong driving patterns are consistently achieved through the app’s guidance.

Supporting this, in the first 30 days of use, telematics data showed app users maintained or improved their score in cornering (53%), speeding (60%), phone distraction (55%), hard braking (52%) and acceleration (53%).

Ms Hall said: “Through gamification and slow-but-steady behavioural changes, the app program has not only improved the on-road safety of users, but also highlighted the importance of safe driving and better understanding of the specific contributing factors to achieve this.”

2023 AAMI Crash Insights – Canberra Vs ACT

	Canberra	ACT
Most common day	Thursday (19%)	Friday (16%)
Most common time	Afternoons (24%)	Afternoons (26%)
Gender	Males 53% Vs Females 47%	Males 53% Vs Females 47%
Most common accident type	Nose to tail (29%)	Nose to tail (25%)
Most common age	35-49 (29%)	35-49 (26%)



When comparing crash statistics between drivers in Canberra and the rest of the ACT, AAMI data revealed nose to tail crashes to be the most common type of accident on Canberra and ACT roads.

“Tailgating, driver distraction and potentially road rage can lead to nose to tail collisions, and to avoid them, ACT drivers should travel at a safe distance behind the car in front and ensure they are paying attention at all times,” Ms Hall said.

“A good rule of thumbⁱⁱⁱ, is to always drive at least 3 seconds behind the car in front (often called the 3-second gap). This should be a larger gap if the driving conditions are poor, or you’re driving a heavy vehicle. This allows adequate time to react and respond to a situation safely and avoid a crash.

“Bumper to bumper collisions often happen during peak hour traffic when the roads are busy, patience is wearing thin, drivers are tired from the day, and are in a rush to get to their destination. This is when accidents most commonly occur.

“Most risks on the road can be mitigated if everyone pays attention and drives to the conditions. It’s up to all of us to do the right thing to ensure everyone’s safety on the road. All it takes is a split second of not having your eyes on the road for things to go wrong.

“AAMI is urging all ACT drivers to take care behind the wheel, and help us reduce the number of crashes in the next year’s Crash Index,” Ms Hall said.

For more information about the 2023 AAMI Crash Index, [click here](#).

To use the AAMI Driver Rewards program in the AAMI App, [click here](#).

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Notes to Editor

About AAMI Crash Index

AAMI has been tackling road safety head-on by revealing where accidents most commonly occur across Australia since 1994, to highlight to motorists the importance of driving safely and being extra vigilant, particularly at identified locations.

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ⁱ Claims data collected from Suncorp Group’s network of brands including AAMI, Suncorp Insurance, GIO, Apia and Bingle

ⁱⁱ Early morning 12 – 6am; morning peak 6 – 9.30am; morning 9.30am – 1pm, afternoon 1 – 4.30pm; evening peak 4.30 – 8pm; night 8pm – 12am

ⁱⁱⁱ [Anti-social driving | Australian Capital Territory Policing \(act.gov.au\)](#)