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2022 AAMI Crash Index: Australia’s worst crash hot spots revealed

- **Nose-to-tail** most common type of crash at almost all top hot spots throughout country
- **Friday** most common day, and afternoons between 1:00-4.30pm most common time for accidents nationally
 - **Males** and motorists aged **35-49yrs** most likely to be involved in a crash

Leading national insurer AAMI has once again released its annual Crash Index – identifying the worst crash hot spots in every Australian capital city for 2022.

The AAMI Crash Index analysed more than 350,000 motor insurance claims¹ across Australia from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, to reveal the top crash hot spots in each capital city, the most common crash types, and who is most likely to be behind the wheel.

Top crash hotspots in each capital city

2022 #1 Hotspots	Road	Suburb	Most Common Type of Crash
Adelaide	Prospect Road	Prospect	Nose to Tail
Brisbane	Gympie Road	Chermside	Nose to Tail
Canberra	Canberra Avenue	Fyshwick	Nose to Tail
Darwin	Stuart Highway	Adelaide River	Collision with Animal
Hobart	Davey Street	Hobart	Failure to Give Way
Melbourne	Plenty Road	Bundoora	Nose to Tail
Perth	Albany Highway	Cannington	Nose to Tail
Sydney	Hume Highway	Liverpool	Nose to Tail

Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Darwin and Hobart all welcomed new leaders to the top of their ranks in 2022, while Melbourne, Perth and Sydney’s #1s all held onto their dubious titles.

This year’s Index unfortunately saw some of the biggest moves up the ‘leader board’ that have ever been recorded in AAMI’s 28-year history of the Crash Index – with the number one hot spots in both Adelaide and Darwin coming from outside the top ten in 2021 and Hobart’s Davey Street climbing seven spots to take out the unwanted title of ‘worst crash hot spot’ in their respective capital cities in 2022.

Drivers in Sydney and Melbourne didn’t need to think too hard to guess which road took out their number one spots – with Sydney’s Hume Highway at Liverpool and Melbourne’s Plenty Road in Bundoora remaining at number one for the fifth consecutive year respectively.

“On a positive note, analysis of our Crash Index data over the past five years has shown crash numbers at Plenty Road Bundoora have steadily declined.

“Our AAMI Crash Index data has played a key role in identifying the need for action to reduce the ongoing risk of collisions at this hot spot, leading to the speed reduction trial and now permanent change.

“We know that speed is undoubtably a key factor, and by sharing data insights with the Victorian Government, we’re thrilled that the trial has resulted in a permanent lowering of the speed limit from 80km/h to 70km/h. We

¹ Claims data collected from Suncorp Group’s network of brands including: AAMI, Suncorp Insurance, GIO, Apia, Shannons, CIL, Vero Insurance, Bingle and Essentials by AAI (N = 350,037)



hope the reduction in speed will continue to reduce crashes and finally knock Plenty Road Bundoora off the top of our hot spot list.”

While each state’s hotspots had their unique nuances, challenges and factors contributing to it taking out the number one crash spot, AAMI’s Head of Motor Claims Anna Cartwright said there was a common thread.

“We see that a majority of the top hot spots identified are highways or busy major arterial roads, that intersect with local streets through high traffic industrial, educational and shopping precincts, meaning they are consistently busy throughout the day.” Ms Cartwright said.

AAMI’s data identified nose-to-tail collisions as the most common type of crash at almost all top hot spots, except Darwin and Hobart, where collisions with an animal, and failure to give way reigned supreme.

“Driver distraction is a leading cause of nose to tail collisions, and to avoid them, drivers need to concentrate more on what’s happening in front of them and less on multitasking,” Ms Cartwright said.

“Tailgating is another behaviour that can lead to nose to tail collisions – especially during peak hour traffic. Maintaining a good distance between you and the car in front is one of the most effective ways of keeping yourself and others safe. It also allows additional time to stop if the car in front suddenly brakes.”

Nationally, Fridays were the worst day of the week for accidents (16 per cent), while afternoons² between 1:00pm – 4.30pm proved the most common time with almost one third (29 per cent) of accidents occurring during this timeframe. Male drivers, and drivers aged between 35 – 49yrs were the most likely to be involved in an accident according to AAMI data.

“Regardless of the day or time, or whether you’re driving through one of the identified hot spots, dropping your kids at school or popping out to the local shops, every time you get behind the wheel we urge drivers to maintain focus on the task at hand, follow the speed limit and abide by all road rules,” Ms Cartwright said.

“Most risks on the road can be mitigated if people pay attention and drive to the conditions.”

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.

“All it takes is a split second of not having your eyes on the road, for you to miss one Stop or Give Way sign or for you to divert your attention to something other than the task at hand, for things to go wrong,” Ms Cartwright said.

“We’re urging all Australians to take care behind the wheel, and help us change the Crash Index.”

For more information, head to <https://www.aami.com.au/car-insurance/crash-index.html>

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For more information, or to arrange an interview, contact:

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² 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

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