

NATIONAL ROADWORTHINESS SURVEY 2021 SNAPSHOT

NATIONAL
HEAVY
VEHICLE
REGULATOR

A HEALTH CHECK OF AUSTRALIA'S HEAVY VEHICLE FLEET

The National Roadworthiness Survey 2021 (NRS:2021) was successfully coordinated by the NHVR from 5 May to 28 July 2021 with the final report released in December 2021.

INSPECTIONS PER STATE



NSW	3327
VIC	2766
QLD	2596
SA	1626
WA	1774
TAS	454
NT	556
ACT	226

This is the second national survey of its type following the NVHR's National Roadworthiness Baseline Survey conducted in 2016.

It was conducted by authorised officers and transport inspectors from every Australian state, inspecting 8338 vehicle combinations, consisting of 13,325 units. This was a 20 per cent increase on the number of units inspected in 2016.

During NRS:2021 officers assessed a range of vehicle types, including rigid trucks, semi-trailers, B-doubles, road trains, buses and special purpose vehicles (SPV). Each vehicle and combination were inspected at roadside check points, while some vehicle types were inspected in depots.

Each vehicle was subject to a comprehensive visual inspection and a roller brake test, based on the National Heavy Vehicle Inspection Manual (NHVIM). Integration of registration data, roadside data capture technology,

co-ordinated inspection methodologies and a team approach reduced average inspection times to 31 minutes in 2021 from 45 minutes in 2016 – equating to 2000 hours productivity gain.

The results of NRS:2021 showed a significant improvement in the roadworthiness of the Australian heavy vehicle fleet.




The NHVR is committed to the National Heavy Vehicle Roadworthiness program, which was established in late 2014 to drive safety and efficiency improvements to the mechanical condition of Australia's heavy vehicle fleet.

The NHVR thanks all authorised officers, from our own organisation and from transport agencies across Australia, for their assistance in conducting the survey, particularly with constantly changing operating conditions due to local COVID restrictions.



8338
VEHICLES AND
COMBINATIONS
INSPECTED
(7130 IN 2016)

VEHICLE TYPES

	RIGID	38% (52% IN 2016)
	SEMI-TRAILER	31% (50% IN 2016)
	B-DOUBLE/ROAD TRAIN	24% (41% IN 2016)
	BUS & COACH	8% (80% IN 2016)
	PLANT & SPV	13% (29% IN 2016)



10.2 YEARS
AVERAGE
FLEET AGE

The data collected from NRS:2021 again highlighted a strong correlation between the age of a unit and the incidence of non-conformity.

For example, freight hauling units showed the greatest increase with age (from 14% for 0<3 years up to 53% for 12+ years age). While there has been a decrease in the level of non-conformity across each age group since 2016, the fact remains that older vehicles are more likely to have defects.

The NHVR is committed to continuing to promote fleet renewal programs, such as Heavy Vehicle Safety and Environmental Technology Uptake Plan (SETUP) and further Performance Based Standards (PBS) vehicles.



13,325
UNITS
INSPECTED
(11,066 in 2016)



298,962 KMS
MEDIAN MILEAGE



31% NON-CONFORMITY
(MINOR, MAJOR AND GROUNDED)
(48% in 2016)

COMPONENTS

	BRAKES	14% (25% IN 2016)
	LIGHTS/REFLECTORS	9% (14% IN 2016)
	STEERING/SUSPENSION	7% (16% IN 2016)
	ENGINE DRIVELINE/EXHAUST	6% (10% IN 2016)
	STRUCTURE/BODY	6% (10% IN 2016)

VEHICLE TYPES

	RIGID	3835
	SEMI-TRAILER	1443
	B-DOUBLE/ROAD TRAIN	1265
	BUS & COACH	1036
	PLANT & SPV	759

MAJOR NON-CONFORMITY VS VEHICLE AGE

