



Slow down. Look. Listen for trains.

Almost 1000 near misses a year – that's too many.

Every day our drivers pass through regional towns and railway crossings. Most of these don't have boomgates, lights or bells to alert us of an oncoming train.

How many incidents are there each year?

From 2016 to 2022 there were 6,572 near misses between road vehicles and trains at railway crossings.

There are 1,000 near misses every year at railway crossings. While incidents have decreased, there is an average of 33 collisions and three fatalities each year.

There are more near misses that have likely gone unreported.

Heavy Vehicle drivers and regional communities are significantly over-represented in these incidents, which take an enormous toll on those involved, their families and their broader communities.

Incidents also cause significant disruption to the movement of essential freight supplies across Australia.

What are the risks at regional railway crossings?

We know the risks at regional crossings. Trains are fast: freight trains travel between 80 and 160 kilometres per hour, and passenger trains can travel up to 200 kilometres per hour.

Trains can take up to 2 kilometres to stop once the driver has applied the emergency brakes.

What can the Heavy Vehicle Industry do about rail crossing safety?

Heavy Vehicle drivers play a vital part in helping keep Australia and its supplies moving.

As an industry, we can help demonstrate safe driving behaviours. Even if you're an experienced driver and are familiar with the route you're driving, it's important to:

1. **Slow down** to follow the Give Way or Stop sign and check your surroundings.
2. **Look** for oncoming trains. They're fast and can be hard to see. Trees, bushes and sun glare can make it even trickier.
3. **Listen** for trains. You can often hear a train before you see it. Train drivers will use their horn when approaching passive railway crossings.

Further information about how the Australian Government is making regional railway crossings safer can be found at [regionalrailsafety.gov.au](https://www.regionalrailsafety.gov.au)



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