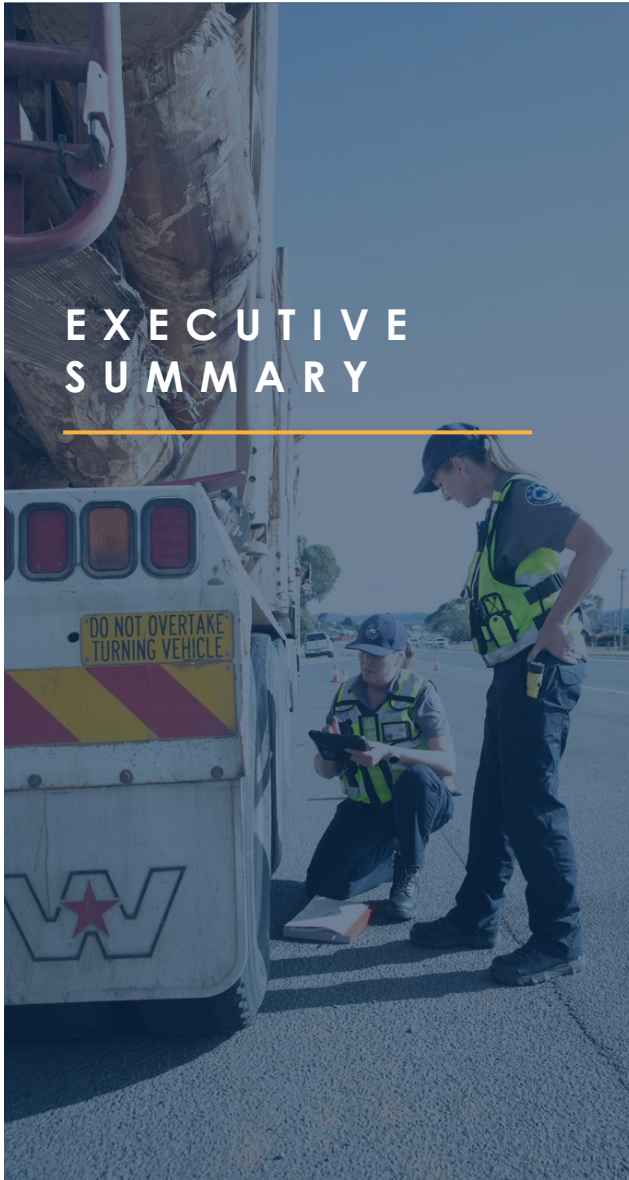


NATIONAL ROADWORTHINESS SURVEY 2024

A health check of Australia's
heavy vehicle fleet

FEBRUARY
2025





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HEAVY VEHICLE INSPECTIONS

Overall, in the NHVR Roadworthiness Survey, **9,082 vehicles and combinations** were inspected, containing a total of **14,362 units**.

The majority of vehicles were intercepted in the same jurisdiction to which they were registered.

The average age of heavy vehicles on Australian roads is **10.2 years**, with a median mileage of just **over 316,000km**.

OVERVIEW OF NON-CONFORMITIES

33% of units inspected had **at least one non-conformity**, which is a small but statistically significant increase from 31% in 2021. The incidence of non-conformity remains well below 2016 levels.

The majority of non-conformities were given at most a **minor defect notice** (i.e. the continued use of the vehicle on road poses a safety risk, but the risk is not deemed as imminent or serious). The highest level of non-conformity was minor for **21% of units**, a slight increase from 19% in 2021.

There has been a slight increase in the incidence of highest level of non-conformity being a **self-clearing defect** (i.e. the use of vehicle on road does not pose a safety risk, but a defect exists) from 6% to 8%.

Overall, **75% of units passed inspection** (i.e. the highest level of non-conformity was a self-clearing defect or the unit had no defect). This remains stable from 75% in 2021.

Non-conformity **did not differ greatly** between units inspected in their state of registration and those inspected interstate (33% and 31%, respectively).

AREAS OF NON-CONFORMITY

The **most common non-conformity** across metro and regional Australia is **brakes**, followed by **lights and reflectors**. *Structure & body, engine driveline & exhaust and steering & suspension*, are also in the top 5 most common areas of non-conformity.

Non-conformity has remained consistent across almost all areas.

NON-CONFORMITY BY VEHICLE TYPE

Incidence of non-conformity in units has also **remained stable** across most **vehicle types** since 2021, with the exception of bus/coach and plant/SPV where non-conformity has increased. Despite the increase, non-conformity remains below 2016 levels.

The highest incidence of non-conformity occurs in **rigid trucks** (39%) however this remains a significant decrease from 2016 (52%).

00:30

Average inspection time

00:20

Median inspection time

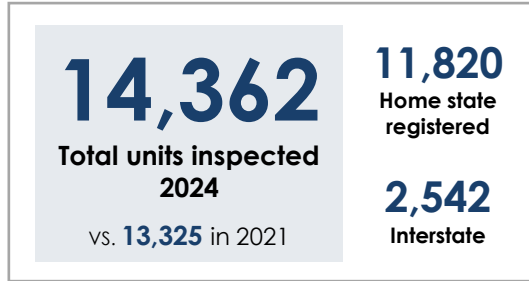
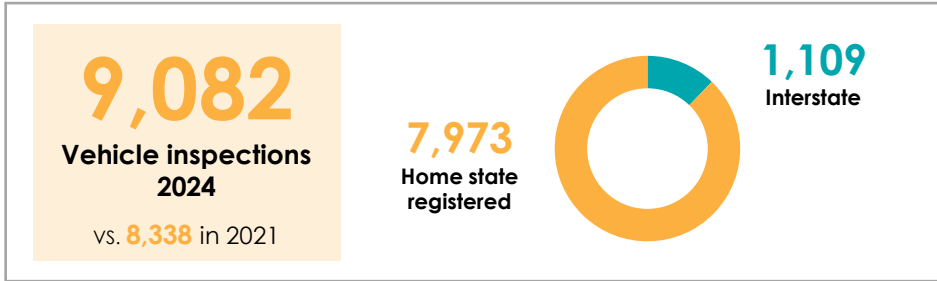
FIELDWORK DATES

15
Jul
2024

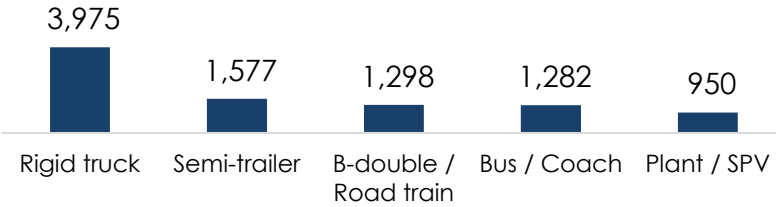
11
Oct
2024

OVERVIEW — ALL UNITS (POWERED AND TRAILERS)

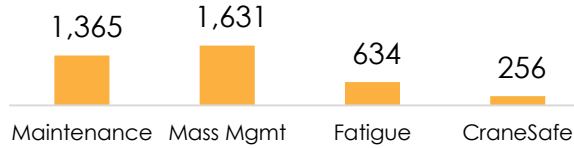
- 33% of units inspected nationally had at least one non-conformity.
- The majority of vehicles were inspected in their state of registration.



VEHICLE TYPE



SCHEME



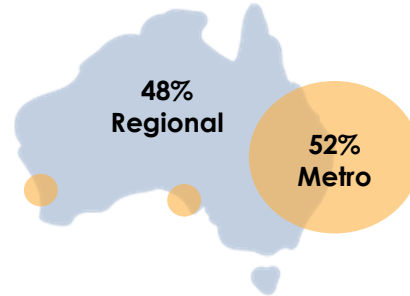
316,018km

Median mileage (of powered unit)

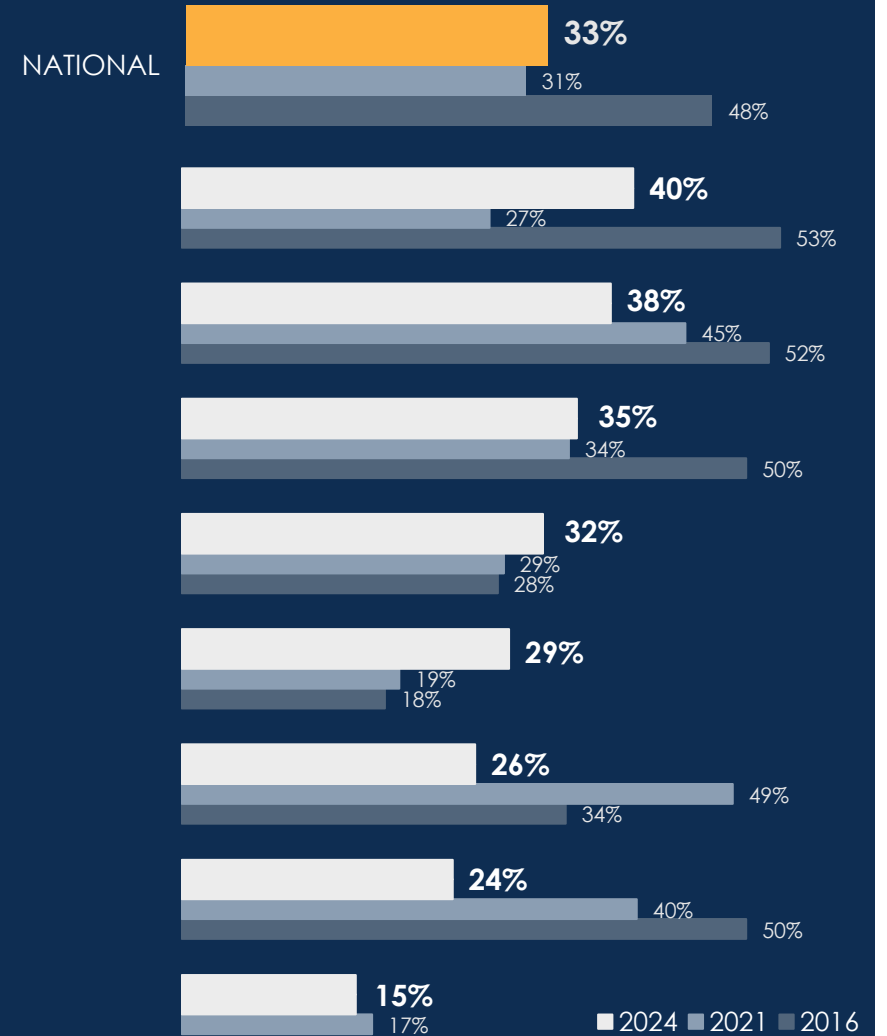


10.2 years

Average age of the fleet

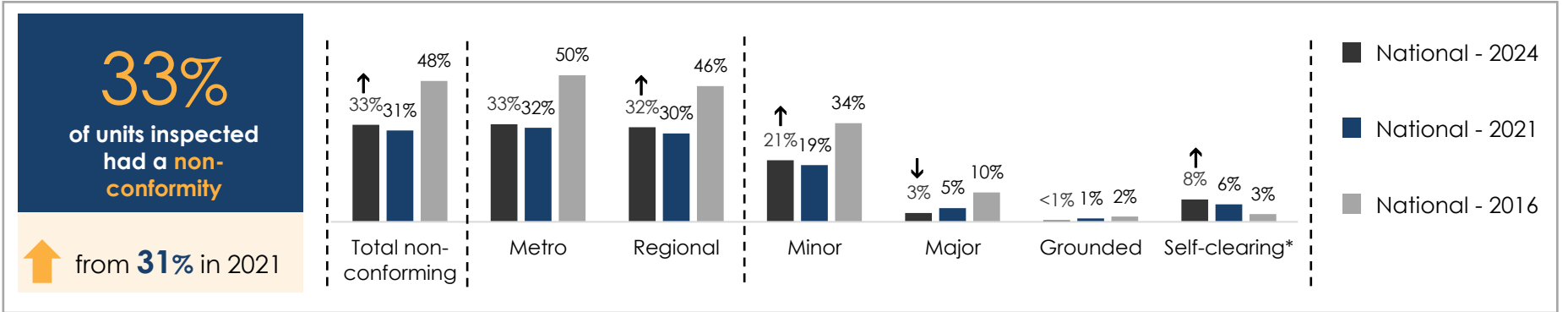


NATIONAL RATES OF NON-CONFORMITY 2024



OVERVIEW OF NON-CONFORMITIES — ALL UNITS (POWERED AND TRAILERS)

- The incidence of non-conformity has increased by 2 percentage points since 2021 (from 31% to 33%)
- Non-conformity rates for vehicles inspected in their home state are slightly higher than interstate.



	NON-CONFORMITIES			HIGHEST LEVEL OF NON-CONFORMITY			PASS	
	Non-conforming units	Multiple non-conformities	Individual non-conformities	Self-clearing*	Minor	Major	Grounded	Unit passed [^] inspection
National - 2024	4,054	3,668	11,563	955	2,601	438	60	11,263
% of units (n=14,362)	33% ↑	27% ↑		8% ↑	21% ↑	3% ↓	<1%	75%
National - 2021	3,836	2,148	8,459	707	2,414	567	148	10,196
% of units (n=13,325)	31%	18%		6%	19%	5%	1%	75%
National - 2016	4,783	2,690	10,851	363	3,298	977	146	6,646
% of units (n=11,066)	48%	29%		3%	34%	10%	2%	55%
Home state inspection	3,319	2,837	9,940	755	2,135	377	52	9,256
% of units (n=11,820)	33%	27%		7%	21%	4%	1%	74%
Interstate inspection	735	831	1,624	200	466	61	8	2,007
% of units (n=2,542)	31%	31%		8%	20%	2%	<1%	77%

Note: Counts (n) are reported unweighted, percentages (%) are weighted.

*Self-clearing defect' was known as 'Formal warning' in 2016. For analysis purposes, the two have been combined and compared.

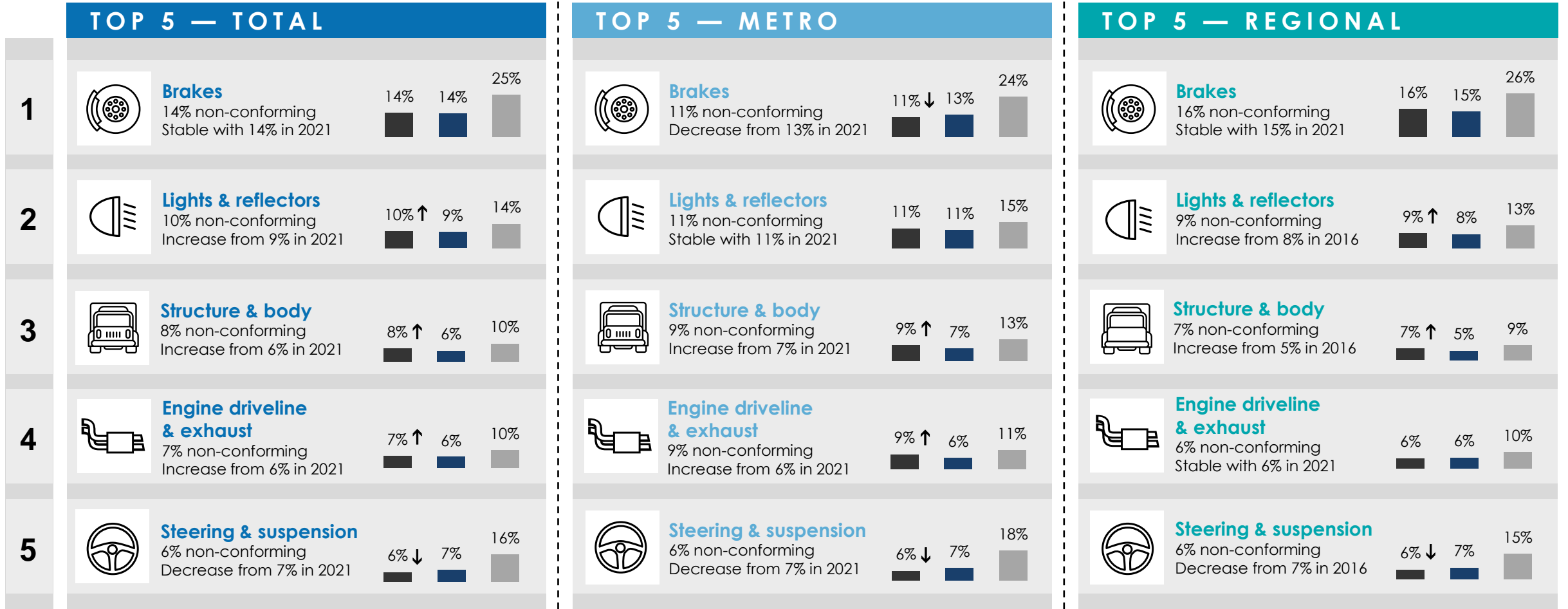
[^]A unit passes inspection if the highest level of non-conformity is self-clearing.

↑ ↓ Statistically significant increase/decrease in comparison with 2021. Absence of arrow means no statistically significant difference.

AREAS OF NON-CONFORMITY — ALL UNITS (POWERED AND TRAILERS)















- The most common non-conformity across metro and regional Australia continues to be *brakes*, followed by *lights and reflectors*.
- Of the top 5 only *steering & suspension* has improved significantly since 2021 with fewer non-conformities across both metro and regional locations. All componentry non-conformance remains significantly below 2016 levels.

National - 2024
 National - 2021
 National - 2016



AREAS OF NON-CONFORMITY SUMMARY — ALL UNITS (POWERED AND TRAILERS)

- Nationally, the incidence of non-conformity has remained relatively stable across all areas of non-conformity. Non-conformity in *structure & body*, *seats & seatbelts*, *lights & reflectors*, and *engine, driveline & exhaust* is higher in inspections carried out in their state of registration compared to interstate inspections, while non-conformity in *brakes* is higher in interstate inspections.

	AREAS OF NON-CONFORMITY													
	 Structure	 Seats and seatbelts	 Lights and reflectors	 Mirrors	 Windscreen & windows	 Coupling	 Trailers	 Brakes	 Steering & suspension	 Wheels and hubs	 Engine driveline & exhaust	 LPG & NG vehicles	 Buses	 Motorhome, campervan, caravan
National - 2024	856	238	1,057	42	436	154	42	1,907	638	487	752	1	16	1
% of units (n=14,362)	8% ↑	2%	10% ↑	<1%	4% ↑	1%	<1%	14%	6% ↓	4%	7% ↑	<1%	<1%	<1%
National - 2021	667	159	933	29	365	124	68	1,896	868	393	694	1	18	2
% of units (n=13,325)	6%	2%	9%	<1%	3%	1%	<1%	14%	7%	4%	6%	<1%	<1%	<1%
National - 2016	880	328	1,167	29	405	261	-	2,649	1,496	719	855	1	-	-
% of units (n=11,066)	10%	4%	14%	<1%	5%	2%	-	25%	16%	8%	10%	<1%	-	-
Home state inspection	745	223	941	40	360	125	32	1,484	529	397	663	-	15	-
% of units (n=11,820)	8%	3%	11%	<1%	4%	1%	<1%	14%	6%	4%	8%	-	<1%	-
Interstate inspection	111	15	116	2	76	29	10	423	109	90	89	1	1	1
% of units (n=2,542)	5%	1%	6%	<1%	4%	1%	<1%	16%	5%	4%	4%	<1%	<1%	<1%

NON-CONFORMITY BY VEHICLE TYPE SUMMARY — ALL UNITS (POWERED AND TRAILERS)

- The incidence of non-conformity has remained stable across most vehicle types since 2021, with the exception of bus/coach and plant/SPV which have increased. The highest incidence of non-conformity still occurs in rigid trucks (39%). All vehicle types remain well below 2016 level of non-conformance.
- The only vehicle type where non-conformity differs between home state and interstate inspection is B-double/road train, particularly in non-metro inspection locations where the rate of non-conformity is 13% in interstate inspections vs. 19% in same state of registration.

NON-CONFORMITY BY VEHICLE TYPE

	RIGID TRUCK			SEMI-TRAILER			B-DOUBLE / ROAD TRAIN			BUS / COACH			PLANT / SPV		
	TOTAL	Metro	Regional	TOTAL	Metro	Regional	TOTAL	Metro	Regional	TOTAL	Metro	Regional	TOTAL	Metro	Regional
National - 2024	1,700	925	775	996	406	590	1,051	299	752	127	63	64	180	90	90
% of vehicle type	39%	40%	39% ↑	32%	31%	33%	23%	23%	23%	11% ↑	8%	14%	20% ↑	21% ↑	20% ↑
National - 2021	1,618	913	705	923	412	511	1,044	303	741	116	70	46	135	84	51
% of vehicle type	38%	40%	36%	31%	29%	33%	24%	24%	24%	8%	7%	12%	13%	13%	13%
National - 2016	1,803	911	892	1,170	527	643	1,322	423	899	286	156	130	202	106	96
% of vehicle type	52%	55%	50%	50%	52%	49%	41%	42%	41%	30%	33%	26%	29%	29%	30%
Home state inspection	1,570	875	695	808	338	470	649	217	432	122	61	61	170	87	83
% of vehicle type	40%	40%	39%	33%	31%	34%	21%	24%	19%	10%	8%	13%	21%	21%	20%
Interstate inspection	130	50	80	188	68	120	402	82	320	5	2	3	10	3	7
% of vehicle type	36%	33%	38%	30%	27%	31%	28%	22%	31%	24%	18%	29%	15%	9%	19%

Further information is available in the main report.
Contact natops@nhvr.gov.au to obtain a copy.

