



# FACT SHEET RAIL SAFETY WEEK 2007 STATISTICS

The Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 – S 143 quotes, “pedestrians and drivers of vehicles must give way to railway operator’s rollingstock and a railway operator’s railway vehicle.” Level crossing control measures are required to control road vehicles (not rail vehicles). This is the province of the road authority and not the rail authority.

- Every one of the 3927 railway level crossings in Queensland has traffic signage and or signalling. As with all traffic signs & signals by law, pedestrians and drivers must obey them.
- Of the level crossing collisions to occur on QR tracks in the past seven years:
  - 98% of collisions were directly attributable to the road user
  - 96% of collisions occur at public level crossings
  - 50% of collisions occur at crossings with boomgates and/or flashing lights.
  - 25% of collisions involve heavy vehicles.
- Railway level crossing incidents are among the most costly economically and are estimated to be \$180,000 per crash in urban areas and \$430,000 per crash in rural areas.
- The Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics (BTRE) estimates that these incidents cost over \$32 million per annum in 1996. This excludes the costs to rail organisations and Government for track and train repairs, which are significantly higher and can often amount to several million dollars per incident.
- With government funding, QR is implementing a program for safety assessment and improvements for all level crossings on the non-commercial rail network in Queensland. The program sponsored by Queensland Transport began in 1999 and includes a funding commitment of almost \$30 million through to 2013.
- In Queensland from 1999 to 2006 there have been 152 collisions between trains and road users, 12 of these fatal ; 14 collisions involving pedestrians or cyclists at level crossings , 2 of these fatal; and 40 incidents involving trespassing, of which 15 were fatal.

## TRESPASSING

- Overall in Queensland there have been 40 incidents involving trespassing, 15 of which were fatal.
- In Cairns there were 3 incidents, 1 of which was fatal.
- In Townsville there were 2 incidents, 1 of which was fatal.
- In Rockhampton there has been 1 incident of an injury.
- In Toowoomba there were 3 incidents, 2 of which were fatal.
- In Brisbane there were 18 incidents, 10 of which were fatal.

## LEVEL CROSSINGS (Pedestrians/Cyclists)

- Overall in Queensland there have been 14 collisions involved pedestrians or cyclists and 2 of these were fatal.
- In Cairns there were 3 incidents.
- In Rockhampton there has been 1 incident.
- In Toowoomba there were 3 incidents.
- In Brisbane there were 8 incidents.

## LEVEL CROSSINGS (road users)

- Overall in Queensland there have been 138 collisions between trains and road users, 12 of these fatal
- In Cairns there were 33 incidents.
- In Townsville there were 16 incidents.
- In Rockhampton there were 12 incidents.
- In Toowoomba there were 15 incidents.
- In Brisbane there were 20 incidents.