

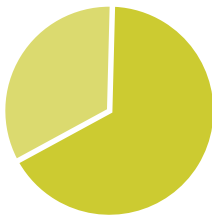
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

DRIVING IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS

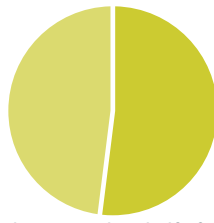
All of us need to stay alert to the road conditions and monitor our speed when driving in rural and remote areas.



Rural or remote areas can be defined as areas with a low population density and without readily accessible medical services.



Two Thirds of the Australian Population live in capital cities and metropolitan areas



but more than half of the road fatalities occur in rural or remote areas.

Source: www.mts.nsw.gov.au/geared/your_driving_skills/driving_skills/driving_safely_at_dusk.html
Source: acrs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ACRS_Rural-Remote-Road-Safety1.pdf

Common characteristics of crashes in rural and remote areas

Source: http://acrs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ACRS_Rural-Remote-Road-Safety1.pdf



Higher travel speeds



Longer travelling distances



Variations in the road environment (i.e. unsealed roads)



Variation in vehicle type (i.e. agricultural vehicles)

Risks on rural roads

- Fatigued drivers
- Flooded Roads
- Soft edges
- Dust
- Bushfires
- Mud
- Sand
- Road corrugations
- Livestock & wildlife

Source: www.budgetdirect.com.au/blog/avoid-car-accidents-5-hidden-hazards-of-driving-in-australia.html
Source: www.hpw.qld.gov.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/safety/RuralRemoteDriving.pdf

Tips for staying safe



Plan your route carefully



Obey the road rules



Reduce speed to the driving conditions not the speed limit

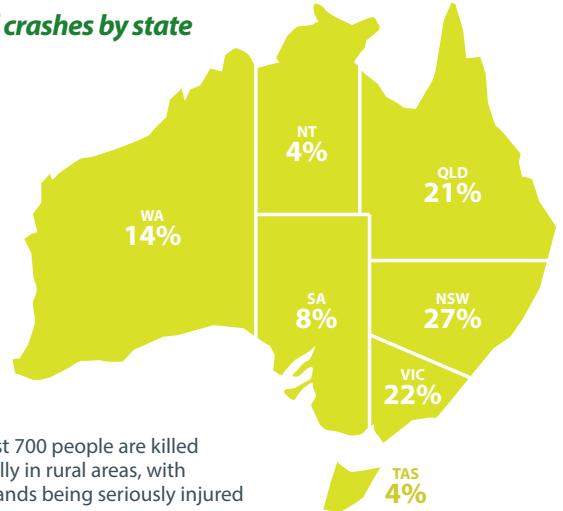


Be alert for wildlife, livestock and pedestrians especially dawn/dusk



ensure there is someone who you can check in with along the journey. i.e. when you start, finish and along the way

Rural crashes by state

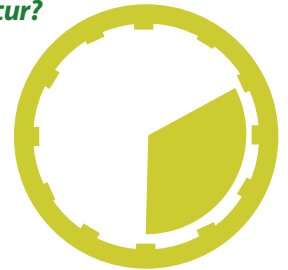


At least 700 people are killed annually in rural areas, with thousands being seriously injured

Source: acrs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ACRS_Rural-Remote-Road-Safety1.pdf

When do rural crashes occur?

- Most casualty crashes occur during daylight hours
- Highest number of crashes occur between 2pm and 6pm
- Mostly occur on weekends



Source: acrs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/ACRS_Rural-Remote-Road-Safety1.pdf



Be mindful of isolation in remote areas (ensure you have sufficient water)



Be alert for wildlife, livestock and pedestrians



Ensure your vehicle is roadworthy and well-maintained



Be mindful of isolation in remote areas



Take breaks every two hours