

# KNOW YOUR LOAD BEFORE HITTING THE ROAD

Do you know the height of your truck and load every time you get behind the wheel?  
Do you plan your route appropriately for your vehicle height?

**We are asking all motorists to do your part to prevent collisions with low clearance rail bridges.**



### THE ISSUE

**2024 saw 396 strikes at rail bridges.**

We want all drivers, especially those with high loads, to know your load height, plan your route using appropriate tools, and to stay aware of the road signs.

**Excavators are a common bit of machinery that strike rail bridges – a change of where the bucket is positioned can be the difference to clearing a bridge on the way to your job to striking it on the way home.**



Bridge strikes can be hazardous to you as the driver, train commuters and other road users. They can also cause costly damage to your vehicle, plant equipment, caravan or any high load and rail infrastructure. Also creating lengthy delays for road and rail users.



### KNOW YOUR VEHICLE AND LOAD HEIGHT

Ensure that you:

- check the maximum height of the vehicle your towing trailer or equipment before starting a journey
- check the maximum height again after any load changes
- display the correct vehicle height in your cab at all times—updating this can be a great reminder.



### PLAN YOUR ROUTE APPROPRIATELY

Every Queensland Rail bridge with a clearance below 5.4m is fitted with height clearance signage and it's up to motorists to know your maximum height and to stay clear of bridges which are too low. It's your responsibility to:

- avoid taking unplanned shortcuts to save time
- always check the vehicle height after any changes to your load
- plan routes in advance to remove the risk of bridge strikes
- not rely on a satellite navigation system designed for cars—plan your routes in advance to avoid rail and road bridges that are too low for your vehicles by visiting:



**Department of Transport and Main Roads**

[tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/heavy-vehicle-route-maps-and-restrictions](https://tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/heavy-vehicle-route-maps-and-restrictions)



**National Heavy Vehicle Regulator's Route planner tool**

[nhvr.gov.au/road-access/route-planner](https://nhvr.gov.au/road-access/route-planner)

- check alternative routes before proceeding to avoid low bridges if there are road closures or diversions on the planned route.



QueenslandRail

# CONSEQUENCES

-  **A DAMAGED TRUCK**
-  **BRIDGE REPAIR COSTS**
-  **MAJOR DEMERIT POINTS**
-  **POTENTIAL JOB LOSS**
-  **COMMUTER CHAOS**
-  **INJURY**
-  **FINES**



Queensland Rail actively pursue drivers and their employers for the cost of repairs which would otherwise be covered by taxpayers.

Businesses are further impacted by the cost of insurance and the loss of income while a vehicle is off the road. The Queensland Police Service may take enforcement action against those drivers responsible for damages to rail infrastructure, including a bridge, tunnel or overhead structure.



Did you know if you strike a rail bridge you can be fined? If the matter is taken to Court the fines can increase to over \$25,000 plus 11 demerits from your licence.

As a driver this could mean loss of your licence and employment.

## 2024'S TOP 10 MOST HIT BRIDGES

LOCATION	HEIGHT	STRIKES
1 Muriel Avenue, ROCKLEA	3.8m	66
2 Annerley Road, DUTTON PARK	3.7m	38
3 Dixon Street, WULKURAKA	3.0m	35
4 Pine Street, WYNNUM	2.8m	32
5 Allwood Street, INDOOROOPIILLY	2.8m	32
6 Alma Road, DAKABIN	3.5m	26
7 Countess Street, BRISBANE CITY	4.4m	26
8 Price Street, NAMBOUR	3.3m	22
9 Long Street, GRACEVILLE	2.9m	13
10 Margaret Street, PALMWOODS	3.9m	11



## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE OR ARE INVOLVED IN A BRIDGE STRIKE

If you are involved in or witness a rail bridge strike incident, it should immediately be reported to:

**Queensland Rail  
Emergency Network Control**  
1800 079 303

**Emergency services**  
Triple Zero (000)

## MORE RESOURCES



**List of low rail  
bridge locations**  
[qr.com.au/forcustomers/  
safetysecurity/railbridges](https://qr.com.au/forcustomers/safetysecurity/railbridges)



**Request workplace  
education sessions  
and learn more**  
[qr.com.au/  
inthecommunity/railsafety](https://qr.com.au/inthecommunity/railsafety)



**Request flyers and  
in cab height stickers**  
Email [marketing@qr.com.au](mailto:marketing@qr.com.au)  
with quantity required and  
delivery address



QueenslandRail



**RAIL BRIDGE SAFETY** 