

Summary of Results

Single vehicle heavy truck crashes (where a heavy truck was the key vehicle in a vehicle-object or vehicle rollover first impact) accounted for 17% of all heavy truck crashes during the three year period 2010 to 2012.

Compared with heavy truck crashes generally, single vehicle heavy truck crashes are more likely to involve:

- articulated trucks
- high speed rural State Highways
- early morning to early afternoons on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
- curves, particularly off to the left side of the road, as well as wet road surface
- behavioural factors such as speed or fatigue (asleep/drowsy), as well as driver distraction inside the vehicle and sudden illness
- vehicle factors such as tyre failure, insecure/projecting load, brake failure or fault or skidding
- driver errors such as loss of control or avoiding another vehicle or an animal
- articulated trucks loaded with refrigerated goods, grain or produce or building materials or heavy rigid trucks loads with garbage or gravel.