

WEDNESDAY 20 DECEMBER 2023

RACV REMINDS VICTORIANS OF ROAD RULES FOR A SAFE, STRESS-FREE SUMMER ON THE ROADS

RACV is urging everyone to keep road rules and safety at the forefront of their minds this festive season. 287 lives have been lost on Victorian roads in 2023, up 23.2 per cent (as at midnight 18 December 2023). RACV is calling on Victorian motorists to be mindful of keeping to the left on a multi-lane road (rule 130) and not stopping on a freeway (rule 177), with Victoria Police figures showing almost 10,000 infringements totalling over \$1.5 million in fines were handed out to motorists over the last 10 years for breaking these rules. Infringements for stopping on a freeway have doubled in the last four years, up from 401 in 2019 to 978 in 2022.

RACV Head of Policy James Williams said failing to keep left, stopping on freeways and [tailgating](#) were just some of the actions that frustrate drivers, are unsafe and illegal.

“We can all play our part to ensure we are safe and stress free on Victorian roads this summer – so take your time, follow the road rules and keep safety top of mind at all times when travelling,” Mr Williams said.

“Many people might not realise that failing to keep to the left on a multi-lane road and stopping on a freeway are actually illegal.

“When driving on any multi-lane road with a speed limit over 80km/h, you must keep out of the right lane unless you are overtaking or turning right, or all lanes are congested. If the right lane is a transit lane, this rule applies to the lane immediately to the left of the transit lane. Failing to comply with this rule can result in a \$192 fine and loss of two demerit points.

“You’re also not allowed to stop on the freeway unless it is an emergency and if you do need to stop, it must be in the emergency lane. This can result in a \$115 fine.”

Whether you are using roads you are familiar with, or driving to a new regional location, it is especially important that you plan and be prepared for increased traffic and different driving conditions.

“Take time to plan your trip before you depart, taking major, more well-maintained roads where possible. Stay aware of potential emergency warnings that could impact travel and utilise the VicEmergency app for real time updates about any possible fire risks for your travel route or destination,” Mr Williams said.

“Schedule breaks to ensure you’re well rested and have patience for your fellow motorists. Before you head off, make sure your roadside assistance is up to date and that the water, oil and tyre pressure are all where they should be.”

Learn some more tips here, including [essential items for your car safety and emergency kit](#) and a practical guide to Victorian [road rules](#) via the RACV website.

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Further information

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