



Road Safety Solutions

NZ Vehicle Classes



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"The only difference between a stumbling block and a stepping stone is how you use them"
- Anonymous



NZ Vehicle Classes (NZTA 2011)

NZTA Axle Class	Sub Type	Vehicle Types in Class	Axles	Groups of axles	Criteria	NZTA EEM Class	Light or Heavy	Old Axle Class	Austroroads 1994 Class
1	1-1	oo (very short 2 ax veh = motorbike)	2	1		(PC)	Light	1	1
2	2-1	o-o (short 2 axle vehicle = car)	2	2		PC & LCV	Light	2	1
3	3-1	o-o--o (car towing 1 axle trailer)	3	3		PC & LCV	Light	3	2
	3-2	o-o--oo (car towing tandem trailer)	4	3				3	2
	3-3	o-o--o-o (car towing car)	4	4				-	2
4	4-1	o---o (truck)	2	2		MCV		4	3
	4-2	o--o--o (truck towing light trailer)	3	3				7	6
	4-3	o--o--oo (truck tow light 2 ax trailer)	4	3				-	7
	4-4	o---o (bus)	2	2		Bus		4	3
5	5-1	o--oo (truck)	3	2		HCV1	Heavy	5	4
	5-2	o--oo (tractor without semi-trailer)	3	2				5	4
	5-3	oo--o (twin steer truck)	3	2				5	4
	5-4	o--o-----o (artic e.g. bread truck)	3	3				7	6
	5-5	o--oo---o (truck tow light 1 ax trailer)	4	3				-	7
	5-6	oo--o---o (twin steer tow 1 ax trailer)	4	3				-	7
	5-7	o--oo (bus/coach)	4	3		Bus		5	4
6	6-1	oo--oo (heavy truck)	4	2		HCV1	Heavy	6	5
	6-2	o--ooo (heavy truck)	4	2				6	5
	6-3	oo--ooo (heavy truck)	5	2				-	5
7	7-1	o--o--oo (artic A112)	4	3		HCV1	Heavy	8	7
	7-2	o--oo--o (artic A121)	4	3				-	7
	7-3	o--o--o--o (truck tow heavy trailer)	4	4				8	7
8	8-1	o--oo--oo (truck tow light trailer)	5	3		HCV2	Heavy	9	8
	8-2	o--oo--oo (artic)	5	3				9	8
	8-3	o--o-----ooo (artic)	5	3				9	8
	8-4	o--oo--o--o (T+T)	5	4	3,4,5 groups			9	8
	8-5	o-o-o-o-o (mobile crane)	5	5				-	8
9	9-1	o--oo--ooo (artic)	6	3		HCV2	Heavy	10	9
	9-2	oo--oo--oo (artic)	6	3				-	9
	9-3	o--ooo--ooo (artic)	7	3	6-8 axles			11	9
	9-4	o--oo--oooo (artic)	7	3				11	9



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	9-5	oo--oo--ooo (artic)	7	3				11	9
	9-6	oo--oo--oooo (artic)	8	3				13	9
	9-7	o--ooo--oooo (artic)	8	3				13	9
10	10-1	o--oo--o-oo (T+T)	6	4		HCV2	Heavy	10	10
	10-2	oo--o--o-oo (T+T)	6	4				10	10
	10-3	oo--oo--o--o (T+T)	6	4				10	10
	10-4	o--oo--o-o-o (T+T)	6	5	4,5 groups			10	11
	10-5	o--o--oo--o-o (A train)	6	5				10	11
	10-6	o--oo--o--o-o (A train)	6	5				10	11
11	11-1	o--oo--oo-oo (T+T)	7	4		HCV2	Heavy	11	10
	11-2	o--oo--oo--oo (B train)	7	4	7 axles, not twin steer			11	10
	11-3	o--oo--oo--o-o (A train)	7	5				11	11
12	12-1	oo--oo--o-oo (T+T)	7	4		HCV2	Heavy	11	10
	12-2	oo--o--oo--oo (T+T)	7	4				11	10
	12-3	oo--oo--oo-oo (T+T)	8	4				13	10
	12-4	oo--oo--oo-ooo (T+T)	9	4	7-11 axles			14	10
	12-5	oo--oo--ooo-oo (T+T)	9	4	twin steer			14	10
	12-6	oo--oo--ooo-ooo (T+T)	10	4				-	10
	12-7	oo--ooo--oo--ooo (T+T)	10	4				-	10
	12-8	oo--oo--ooo-oooo (T+T)	11	4				-	10
	12-9	various (twin steer A train)	7-11	5				12	11
13	13-1	o--oo--ooo-oo (B train)	8	4		HCV2	Heavy	12	10
	13-2	o--oo--oo--ooo (B train)	8	4				12	10
	13-3	o--oo--ooo-ooo (B train)	9	4				-	10
	13-4	o--oo--ooo-oooo (B train)	10	4	8-11 axles			-	10
	13-5	o--oo--oo--o-oo (A train)	8	5	not twin steer			12	11
	13-6	o--oo--ooo--o-o (A train)	8	5				12	11
	13-7	o--oo--ooo--o-oo (A train)	9	5				-	11
14	14-1		any	-	Everything else			-	

Axles: Number of axles

Groups: Number of axle groups (an axle group is where axles are less than 2.1m apart)

Based on Fig: [NZTA VC from Nov 2011](#) (p. 39)



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