

Press Release

Speed Radar Board Results Released

The results of traffic monitoring equipment installed in Merriwa between December 2019 and March 2020 are now available, courtesy of the Upper Hunter Traffic Committee.

The equipment included a speed radar board near Witneys Creek, and two traffic counters (cables across the road) near the fire station (Bettington Street) and near Quigley Street (King George V Avenue). This placement was as a result of a request made by the Merriwa District Progress Association.

Around three thousand vehicles per day passed through Bettington Street, five hundred of which were trucks of some type. Table 1 lists the type of vehicle passing through each location during the period.

Vehicle Type	Class	Bettington Street		King George V Avenue	
Cars	1	207,851	79 %	155,683	75 %
Car + trailer, boat or c'van	2	10,393	4 %	11,960	6 %
Truck / bus not articulated	3, 4, 5	29,764	11 %	21,461	11 %
Articulated truck	6, 7, 8, 9	8,717	3 %	8,910	4 %
B-double truck	10	7,390	3 %	8,738	4 %
Road train	11, 12	436	0 %	501	0 %
TOTAL		264,551	100 %	207,253	100 %

About one thousand vehicles per day exceeded the 50 kilometres per hour (kph) speed limit in Bettington Street, but generally only by around 10 kph. The average speed in the 50 kph zone was 53.2 kph, and 65.3 kph in the 60 kph zone.

Surprisingly, the maximum speed in the 50 kph zone was 155 kph, and 123 kph in the 60 kph zone. Table 2 lists more information on speed data at each location.

	Bettington Street	King George V Avenue
Posted speed limit	50 kph	60 kph
Average speed (85%)	53.2 kph	65.3 kph
Maximum speed	155 kph	123 kph
Average (85%) overspeed	60 - 62 kph	70 - 78 kph
Time speed highest	4:00 AM to 6:00 AM	10:00 PM to 5:00 AM
Cars (1 - 2) overspeed	65,354	66,688
Trucks (3 - 12) overspeed	12,411	15,028
Vehicles per day (Mon-Fri)	3082	2376

Vehicles per day (Sat-Sun)	2583	2120
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The MDPA would like to thank the Upper Hunter Traffic Committee for running this project, and the Upper Hunter Shire Council for it's cooperation in getting the project underway.

If you have any comments about these traffic statistics or you have ideas on local issues, you can present them to the Merriwa District Progress Association at its meetings held every third Wednesday at 6:00 PM at the Merriwa RSL Club, or email merriwaprogress@gmail.com.

**Stephen Gowlland,
Secretary
2 June 2020**

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