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\$90 million in fines given to drivers ‘slow speeding’

Queensland drivers have been slapped with around 90 million dollars in fines for going ‘just over’ the speed limit, according to data revealed by RACQ.

More than two thirds of the speeding fines in the 12 months between 1 November 2016 and 31 October 2017 went to drivers going less than 13 km/h over the limit.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads figures revealed more than 890,000 drivers were caught speeding in 12 months, with almost 600,000 fined for low range speeding.

RACQ spokesperson Renee Smith said RACQ was shocked so many drivers were risking their lives in the vain attempt to save a few seconds on their journey.

“It’s a waste of money frankly, and it does little to get you to your destination any quicker,” Ms Smith said.

“Most of those speedsters were caught by mobile speed cameras, proving police are out in force, and will catch anyone flouting the law.

“You risk not just a \$168 fine and one demerit point, you could cause a serious crash.”

Ms Smith reminded drivers who mistakenly believed low range speeding was harmless, roads had limits for a reason.

“Speed zones are set after taking into consideration factors like road and traffic conditions and crash history,” she said.

“In a split second, the situation on the road can change, and speeding, even just a little bit, reduces the driver’s ability to safely react in time.

“We’re urging drivers to pay close attention to their speed before putting pedal to the metal.”

Queensland low range speeding fines issued 1 November 2016–30 October 2017:

1. Total speeding – 897,115
2. Fines for motorists driving 13 km/h or less over speed limit – 591,282 (or 66 percent).

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Renee Smith 0409 573 193; Media Advisor Clare Hunter 0427 261 932.

RACQ is Queensland’s largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State’s first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.