

Australian Standard[®]

**Road and traffic engineering—
Glossary of terms**

Part 2: Traffic management

This Australian standard was prepared by Committee CE/10, Terms Used in Road Engineering. It was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 6 September 1985 and published on 6 January 1986.

The following interests are represented on Committee CE/10:

- Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia
 - Australian Asphalt Pavement Association Limited
 - Australian Road Research Board
 - Department of Motor Transport, N.S.W.
 - Local Government Engineers Association of New South Wales
 - National Association of Australian State Road Authorities
 - Quarry Masters' Association of New South Wales
 - Traffic Authority of New South Wales
 - University of New South Wales
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PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Terms Used in Road Engineering at the request of the National Association of Australian State Road Authorities. It supersedes (in part) AS 1348-1972, Glossary of Terms Used in Road Engineering.

This standard is Part 2 of a multipart standard which covers road and traffic engineering terms. The other Parts are as follows:

Part 1—Road Design and Construction

Part 3—Transport Operations*

Part 4—Transport Planning*

Part 5—Parking*

Part 6—Bicycles*

The standard lists alphabetically the terms ordinarily used in traffic management but it is not exhaustive.

The format of the glossary is as follows:

- (a) Preferred terms are printed in bold type and are accompanied by definitions. Where there is more than one definition for a preferred term, the definitions are numbered 1, 2, etc.
- (b) Non-preferred terms are printed in light type and are cross-referenced to the relevant preferred term, e.g. kilometre post *See* distance marker.
- (c) Where a preferred term is associated with another preferred term(s), a cross-reference is made. For example, the definition for 'filtering' is followed by '*See also* merging *and* weaving'. Likewise, the definition for 'merging' is followed by '*See also* filtering *and* weaving' and that for 'weaving' by '*See also* filtering *and* merging'. A list of the preferred terms is given in Appendix A.

* In course of preparation.

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STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
for
ROAD AND TRAFFIC ENGINEERING-GLOSSARY OF TERMS

PART 2-TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Term	Definition
AADT	<i>See</i> annual average daily traffic
absorption capacity	The maximum rate at which a traffic stream can absorb additional vehicles.
ADT	<i>See</i> average daily traffic
advance direction sign	A sign placed as an early indication before an intersection, junction or interchange of the direction of routes and destinations beyond the intersection, junction or interchange.
advisory speed	The recommended maximum speed at which a section of roadway should be negotiated for comfort and safety.
all-red interval all-red period	A period of time for the clearance of traffic within the controlled area, during which red aspects and no others are illuminated.
all-red period	<i>See</i> all-red interval
annual average daily traffic (Abbreviation AADT)	The total yearly traffic volume in both (Abbreviation AADT) directions divided by the number of days in the year.
approach speed	The representative speed (usually taken as the 85th percentile) of traffic approaching a site.
area traffic control	A system providing coordinated control of traffic signals over a large urban area by means of a master controller.
arrival rate	The rate at which vehicles arrive at a facility, e.g. traffic signal, parking station, or gate.
arrow aspect	A traffic signal aspect in the form of an arrow.
arterial feature	<i>See</i> local feature
arterial road	A road that predominantly carries through traffic from one region to another, forming principal avenues of communication for traffic movements.
aspect signal indication	That portion of the optical system on signal indication a traffic signal face illuminated or displayed at any one time.
automatic traffic count	A traffic count taken by an electromechanical or solid state mechanism. (<i>See also</i> recording traffic counter)
average daily traffic (Abbreviation ADT)	The total traffic volume during a stated period, divided by the number of days in that period.
average overall travel speed	The summation of the distances travelled by all vehicles or a specified class of vehicle over a given section of road during a specified period of time, divided by the summation of overall travel times for those vehicles. This may be applied to any single vehicle, group of vehicles or all vehicles.
average speed	<i>See</i> running speed
average spot speed time mean speed	The arithmetic mean of the speeds of all traffic, or components thereof, at a specified point, during a specified period of time.
average traffic density	The arithmetic mean of the traffic densities measured over a specified period of time.