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Thematic investigation on collision safety in buses

The Norwegian Safety Investigation Authority (NSIA) has, after investigating three collision accidents between buses at low speeds, chosen to carry out a thematic investigation on collision safety in buses.

The thematic investigation will map collisions involving buses over a longer period of time and put this in context.

Previous investigations have clarified weaknesses in bus construction with regard to collisions between buses at low speeds. In the latest [report](#) on such an accident, NSIA has described:

"Head-on collisions where a bus is one of the involved vehicles account for 2–3% of all road traffic fatalities. The NSIA therefore believes that more knowledge is needed about the overall challenges relating to the crashworthiness of buses, and what impact this can have on other groups of road users in head-on collisions. The NSIA will therefore conduct further investigations into the crashworthiness of buses. "

The main areas of the thematic investigation will be to map the course of events, speeds and damage mechanisms in head-on accidents between buses and other vehicle groups in order to gain a greater understanding of how and why the accidents had the outcome they did. Accidents from a longer period of time, both forward and backward in time, will be included in the thematic investigation.

Based on this, the Norwegian Safety Investigation Authority will investigate areas for improving safety.

Status of investigation

The investigation is still ongoing. NSIA has mapped and collected data from accidents in the period 2012-2024. There is still work to be done with the analysis of data and conclusions before the report can be finalized and published.

Latest update: 10.03.2025

Facts

Occurrence date	11.01.2024
Accident type	Head-on collision
Vehicle type	Bus or coach
Type of Transportation	Passenger transport
Accident category	Accident with bus

NSIA conducts its investigations for the sole purpose of improving transportation safety. The object of a safety investigation is to clarify the sequence of events and root cause factors, study matters of significance for the prevention of transportation accidents and improvement of transportation safety, and to publish a report with eventually safety recommendations. NSIA shall not apportion any blame or liability. Use of information from this investigation for any other purpose than for improvements of transportation safety shall be avoided.