



Pacific Motorway - Hexham

The M1 Pacific Motorway at Beresfield and the Pacific Highway at Hexham are linked via John Renshaw Drive and the New England Highway, forming a major north-south route. Hexham is one of four known pinch points for drivers heading from Sydney to Queensland.

Significant improvements have been made on the M1 Pacific Motorway and New England Highway since last summer, with noticeable changes in traffic flow.

Speed limits remain reduced over the holiday period, even when work is paused. This is for your safety, as conditions may include; narrow lanes, changed lane merges and altered traffic configurations.

Projects include Hexham Straight Widening, M1 Pacific Motorway to Raymond Terrace, and Rankin Park to Jesmond.



Australia Day 2026

Date	Potential impact*	Estimated peak period*
Northbound		
23 January		10am - 5pm
Southbound		
23 January		1pm - 4pm
26 January		12pm - 4pm
27 January		2pm - 4pm
28 & 29 January		2pm - 3pm
30 January		1pm - 4pm

*These predictions, including days and times, are based on historical data and observations and may vary based on a range of factors, including unplanned incidents and cumulative impacts. There may be traffic congestion on other days. The predictions should be used as a guide only. For more detailed information about predicted delay times at this location, refer to the [pinch point journey planning tool](#).

Key to travel impacts

10 - 20 min	
21 - 30 min	
30 min+	