# **Crash Tests**

### **New Car Safety**

## MAZDA 6 (LHD)

2003 on Front+side+head airbags

#### **Overall Evaluation**



Overall Score	20.27 Out 01 37	
Variant: SPORT, 5 DR H	ATCH	Eng:2.3 litre.
Kerb weight: 1370 kg	Categ	ory:MEDIUM CAR
Vehicles built: 2003	Test b	v Euro NCAP

**Important note**: The *left-hand-drive* European model was tested by EuroNCAP. Australasian specifications may vary and therefore models sold in Australasia might provide different levels of protection to those described on this page.

#### **Model History and Safety Features**

The Mazda 6 was introduced in Australia during 2003.

Dual front airbags, side airbags and head-protecting side curtains are standard equipment on all variants from December 2003. ABS brakes are also standard.

The front seat belt buckles are mounted on the seats and the upper anchorages are adjustable. These features improve the fit of the seat belt. Pretensioners are fitted to the front seat belts to reduce slack in the event of a crash. A three point seat belt is fitted to the centre rear seat. This provides better protection than a two point seat belt.

#### **OVERALL EVALUATION: 4 Stars**

The Mazda 6 (LHD) scored 11.23 out of 16 in the offset crash test. The passenger compartment held its shape well, except for footwell deformation. Protection from serious leg injury was marginal for the driver.

The vehicle scored 13.04 out of 16 in the side impact crash test. There was a moderate risk of serious chest injury for the driver. A further 2 points were scored in the optional pole test and this earned the vehicle a 4 star rating (minimum 24.5 pts).

#### FRONTAL OFFSET CRASH TEST

Body region scores out of 4 points each: Head/neck 4pts, chest 2.7pts, upper legs 2pts, lower legs 2.53pts.

The passenger compartment held its shape well except for the footwell, which ruptured. The brake pedal moved rearwards by 70mm and upwards 25mm. The steering wheel hub moved rearwards 6mm, downwards 11mm and sideways 6mm. The front ("A") pillar moved 37mm rearwards. The width of the driver's doorway shortened by 39mm. All doors remained closed during the crash. After the crash high manual effort was required to open the driver's door.

The airbag cushioned the head of the driver and contact was stable. Steering column components were a potential source of injury for the driver's knees. The passenger's head was cushioned by the airbag.

#### SIDE IMPACT CRASH TEST

Body region scores out of 4 points each: Head 4pts, chest 2.77pts, abdomen 3.39pts, pelvis 4pts. Modifier: 1.11pt deduction for backplate load of 2.67kN.

The vehicle was eligible for an optional pole impact test, since it had head-protecting side airbags and scored four points for the



Offset crash test at 64km/h

head in the side impact test. The manufacturer decided to go ahead with the pole test and the vehicle earned a further two points.

#### **INJURY MEASUREMENTS**

Refer to the information sheet "How the test are done"	Offset Crash Test at 64km/h (v4)		Side Impact Crash Test at 50km/h (v4)
	Driver	Passn	Driver
Head HIC	219.2	113.6	56
Acceleration (g for 3ms		30.18	23.88
Neck - Shear (kN)	0.32	0.58	-
Tension (kN)	0.92	0.71	-
Extension (Nm)	4.24	9.56	_
Chest Accln (g for 3ms		-	-
Compression (mm)	31.12	26.68	28.16
Viscous criterion (m/s)	0.09	0.09	0.47
Abdomen - Force (kN)	-	-	1.23
Pelvis - Force (kN)	-	-	0.86
Upper legs Force Left	0.72	0.56	
(kN) Righ	t 0.93	0.12	
Knee displ (mm) Left	0.27	0	
Righ	t 1.18	0	
Lower legs Force Left	2.09	3.16	
(kN) Righ	t 2.61	1.57	
Index (Upper/Low) Left	0.34/0.36	0.44/0.19	
Righ		0.34/0.23	

#### **Bonus points (maximum 5)**

Pole Test: 2pts Seat belt reminders: Not eligible

#### Modifiers for offset test scores

Head No deduction
Chest No deduction
Upper leg Variable & conc. loading
Lower leg No deduction
Foot score Footwell rupture

No deduction
Score 3 points

#### Pedestrian rating (v4)



6.66 points out of 36.

Child head impacts 4.01pts; adult head impacts 0.02pts; upper leg 1.91pts and lower leg impacts 0.72pts.



#### December 2003

Published by New Car Assessment Program PO Box 1555 Canberra ACT Australia 2601

MAZDA6\_03.doc issued 8-Dec-03