

Media Release

Thursday 19 December
For immediate release

Be Safe, Be Smart This Holiday Season

With many parts of Australia bracing for extreme weather events, including [heavy rain and flash flooding in South-east Queensland](#) and [heatwave and bushfire warnings](#) across Victoria and New South Wales, the National Insurance Brokers Association (NIBA) is urging Australian families and communities to stay safe and vigilant ahead of the upcoming holiday season.

"The festive season is a time of joy and celebration, but it's also crucial to remain vigilant about potential weather-related risks. It is important to stay informed, follow local emergency warnings, and have an action plan in place so you can make the most of the holidays with your families and loved ones," said NIBA CEO Richard Klipin.

Insurance brokers play a key role as trusted partners in ensuring that Australian businesses, families, and communities are adequately protected against the impact of challenging weather events.

The end of the year is a good time to pause, reflect, and review whether you have sufficient coverage and have a conversation with your insurance broker about a plan of action against emerging risks and severe weather events. Insurance brokers can assess your risks, ensure your coverage is up-to-date, and provide expert guidance on preparing for floods, bushfires, or heatwaves.

"As we get ready for another summer of severe conditions, now is the time to have those important conversations and ensure that you're fully protected," added Klipin.

Summer also means school holidays and many Australians are thinking about travelling in the coming weeks. A recent survey conducted by the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) highlighted that [1 in 8 Australians were not covered by travel insurance](#) when they went on their last overseas trip.

Staying protected against bill shock during an unexpected medical emergency and knowing that your valuable items are insured if you happen to lose them are some of the important things that can give you peace of mind with the right travel cover in place ahead of your next planned trip during the holiday season.

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NIBA would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. The NIBA offices shall be closed from 21 December and reopen in the new year from Monday, 6 January 2025.

If you're planning your next trip this approaching festive season, please visit Smarttraveller for the most up-to-date travel tips, [advice, and information](#).

Download the [Bureau of Meteorology \(BOM\) Weather app](#) on your phone to keep track of severe weather warnings in your area and prepare early for extreme weather events.

Media Enquiries

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About NIBA

NIBA is the peak representative body for the general intermediated insurance market. It serves as the collective voice of approximately 420 member firms and 15,000 individual brokers. Our membership encompasses a diverse range of entities, including large multinational insurance brokers, Australian broker networks, and small and medium-sized businesses located in cities and regional areas around Australia.

NIBA advocates for the interests of general insurance brokers and their clients, ensuring that the general industry operates with integrity and professionalism. Guided by our core pillars: Community, Representation, and Professionalism, NIBA's mission is to enhance the professional standing of insurance brokers through robust advocacy, education, and ethical standards. By fostering a collaborative and innovative environment, NIBA aims to elevate the quality of service provided to consumers and strengthen trust and confidence in the insurance broking profession.

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