



## Rat attack: thousands of dollars of damage done to cars by rodents

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### Winter is coming... and so are the rats.

Hundreds of drivers complain of rats chewing through wiring and other car parts each year, with winter being the peak season.

Rats are believed to crawl into cars during winter to escape the cold.



Suncorp Group, which oversees insurance brands AAMI, GIO and Apia, has paid out \$3.5 million since 2011 to about 200 yearly rodent damage claims.

Jake Krausmann, a spokesperson for Suncorp Group, said common complaints reported chewed wiring, brake and fuel lines, wiper water reservoirs and radiator hoses.

"Rodents routinely do several thousand dollars' damage, typically costing \$3000 to \$4000 to repair," he told News Corp.

"Customers have reported a wide range of symptoms including cars not starting, airbag warning lights and other warning lights going on, air conditioning not working properly, brakes not working and vehicles unable to accelerate properly."