

Transport and Mobility Research and Policy

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RACV's role...

- Policy development
- Advocacy on behalf of members
- Research undertaken by RACV and commissioned by RACV



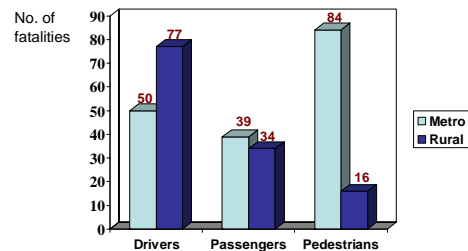
Older road user crash involvement

- On average each year, 51 people aged over 70 are killed on Victoria's roads
- Older drivers represent approximately 14% of the Victorian road toll
- 43% of all older road user fatalities occur on rural roads
- 470 older people are seriously injured each year in road crashes
- 36% of all older persons serious injuries occur on rural roads



Older road user crash involvement

Victorian Fatalities in 70+ age group (2000-2005)



Older road user activities

1998	Safety of Older Drivers in Rural Victoria
2000	Rural Safety and Mobility Report
2001/2	Submission to Older Road User Safety Inquiry
2003	Survey of Retired Drivers
2004/5	Survey of local Government and review of other jurisdictions
2006	Transport and Mobility: Challenges, Innovations and Improvements Report



Rural Road Safety Report - 1998

Methodology

- Qualitative research among drivers aged 65yrs+ to develop rural program for older drivers

Key findings

- Older men in rural areas are over-represented in crashes as drivers; older women in passenger crashes
- Most older people do not raise the issue of fitness to drive with their health professionals
- Alternative transport a key issue in decision about stopping driving



Rural Transport and Mobility Report - 2000



Rural Transport and Mobility Report - 2000

Methodology

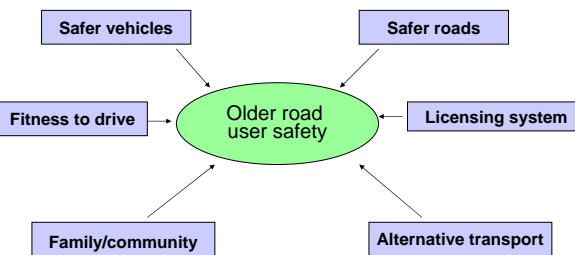
- Telephone survey of 400 people aged 65+yrs living in rural Victoria

Key findings

- Transport services for people who are unable to drive are inadequate
- Many older people do not plan for a time when they can not drive
- The Government needs to develop a more comprehensive and integrated approach



2001/2 - Submission to Older Road User Safety Inquiry



Study of Retired Drivers - 2002



Retired Driver Survey 2002

Aim

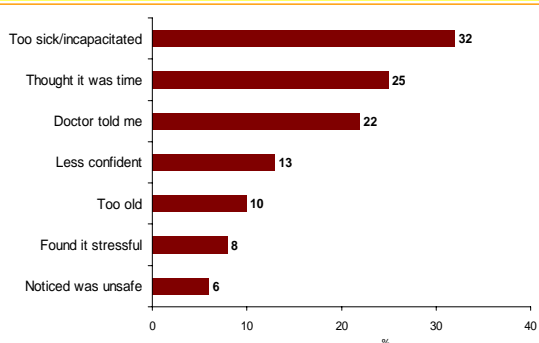
- To investigate why older people stop driving and how they adjust to not driving

Methodology

- 125 face-to-face interviews with recently retired drivers aged over 65 years old
- Metropolitan and rural respondents
- Located using RACV membership database



Why older drivers stop driving?



Adjustment to driving cessation

High

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Low

At ease with not driving (25%)

- Have family and friends to drive them, so feel okay about stopping
- For some, stopping was a relief
- Have ownership of decision
- Most live with at home with family

Hard to get used to (45%)

- Feel in control, but having trouble adjusting
- Feel disconnected from people because of a lack of transport
- Most live alone in own home

What will be will be (9%)

- Are accepting of not driving – fatalistic about it
- Most made decision to stop themselves
- Most live with other family members

Doing it tough (21%)

- Frustrated, don't like being dependant
- Many did not make decision to stop themselves
- Can't use other forms of transport without assistance
- More likely to live in supported accom.

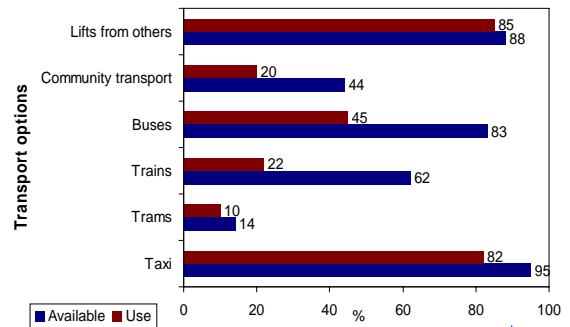
Easy

Adjustment

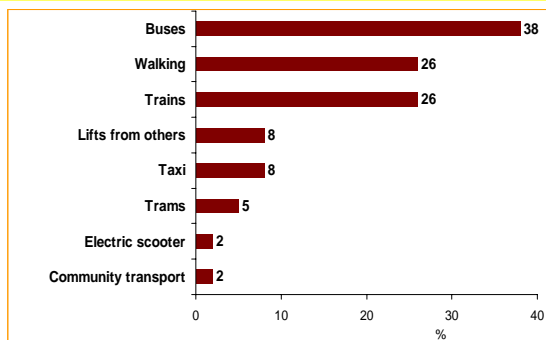
Hard



Alternative transport used



Transport too difficult to use



Those who stop driving miss out

Main activities non-drivers have trouble doing are:

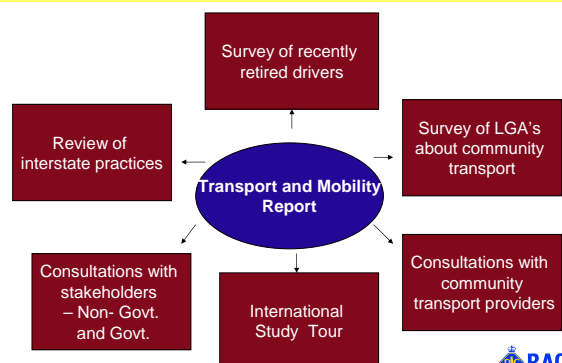
- Visit family 57%
- Visit friends 50%
- Attend functions 44%
- Go shopping 35%
- Holidays 32%
- Visit doctors/hospitals 31%
- Go to corner store 30%



Transport and Mobility: Challenges, Innovation and Improvements Report



Transport and Mobility Report - 2006



Key Findings

- A lack of transport in Victoria is creating isolation among many older Victorians
- Victoria does not approach transport for non-drivers in a systemic way
- Rural and outer metropolitan areas have the least options
- RACV is calling on the State Government to develop an integrated approach to mobility services
- Victoria needs a long-term strategy to address current short-comings and to ensure the problem won't worsen with an ageing population.



From research to policy



Research into policy: RACV process

- Research completed
- RACV Board approval of reports and policies
- Briefing other relevant stakeholders
- Briefing political stakeholders
- Research published
- Media launch
- Ongoing correspondence with stakeholders



Some lessons....

- Need strategies to overcome report completion fatigue
- Summaries and simplified versions of research are needed for non-academic stakeholders
- Even simpler versions needed for media and politicians
- Timing is important
- Follow-up after launch with key stakeholders



Discussion

Questions?
Comments?
Feedback?

