



Media Release

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Vehicle safety ratings need to be seen on all cars

The State Government's announcement today that 5-Star Safety Ratings will be displayed at some dealerships is a welcomed first step, and it should now be expanded to make the display of new car safety ratings on all cars mandatory at the point of sale.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said increasing the visibility and display of vital vehicle safety information on new cars at the point of sale has the potential to save lives and improve the overall safety of Western Australia's vehicle fleet.

"We welcome the WA Government's announcement as a first step to again raise awareness, now expanding this initiative across all cars and highlighting their safety rating at the point of sale, has the potential to help consumers make safer choices when purchasing a new car," Mr Golsby said.

"According to the Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP) vehicle occupants have twice the chance of being killed or seriously injured in a vehicle rated 1-star compared to a 5-star rated vehicle."

"On average in 2013 Western Australia recorded one fatality nearly every two days, and vehicle safety plays a major role in helping to avoid or reduce the severity of road crashes."

ANCAP is an independent vehicle safety advocate which crash tests and rates new vehicles to provide consumers with transparent advice on vehicle safety.

Through its support of ANCAP, the RAC has been working to raise consumers' awareness of the importance of vehicle safety credentials when buying a new car. A highly effective way of doing this is through the display of ANCAP safety ratings on new cars at the point of sale.

"Unlike the energy consumption labels on refrigerators and washing machines, there is currently no mandatory requirement to display vehicle safety ratings at the point of sale – information which could save lives on WA roads.

ANCAP vehicle safety ratings at point of sale is the subject of one of the RAC's Mobility Bulletins, and seeks to demonstrate the importance of ensuring consumers have better access to vital vehicle safety information when purchasing a new car.

The full Mobility Bulletin can be accessed on the [RAC website](#).

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