

# Media Release

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

## **Young drivers push the limits**

RAC has released the results of its 2015 free2go Young Driver Survey, which gauged the concerns and behaviours of more than 500 RAC free2go members aged between 17-21 years.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said this age group is significantly over-represented in the State's road fatality statistics.

"Last year, 17-19 year olds made up eight per cent of WA road fatalities, with 20-24 year olds making up 14%," Mr Golsby said.

"This was 22% of all WA road fatalities in 2014, despite these age groups making up only 12% of the WA population.

"The free2go Survey provides an important opportunity to find out more about the behaviours and attitudes of our young drivers when they are behind the wheel.

"The findings of the survey will help RAC raise awareness on road safety issues and uncover the key concerns facing young road users in our State."

Mr Golsby said many young drivers would be making the road trip to WA's south west this coming week for school leavers and over the summer holidays.

"We would encourage families with young drivers to have the conversation now about staying safe on the roads and not taking any unnecessary risks," Mr Golsby said.

"Actions have consequences and the consequences on the road can be fatal."

The latest Survey found:

- 43% think driving at 10km/h over the speed limit is very or extremely risky; however almost half (44%) of respondents said they have received a speeding fine since they got their licence.
- Almost two thirds (59%) admit to seeing their parent or guardian drive while speeding at more than 10km/h over the limit.
- More than two thirds (72%) of young drivers said they have been distracted by an electronic billboard at least once over the past year.
- Almost a third (29%) of young drivers admit they have been a passenger in a car where they suspect the driver is over the legal blood alcohol limit.
- 15% admitted to driving while over the legal blood alcohol limit.
- 35% said they have been a passenger in an overloaded car where not everyone can wear a seatbelt.
- 36% admitted to driving while talking on a mobile phone.
- 55% admitted to driving while sending a text message or email.

The full survey results can be found online - [RAC free2go Young Driver Survey 2015 Results](#)

Young drivers are encouraged to stop at RAC's Leavers Pit Stop on **Forrest Highway Northbound rest stop (corner Old Bunbury Rd) Waroona** on **Friday 27 November between 10am and 4pm** for free drinks, snacks, giveaways and entertainment.

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