

Media Release

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## P-platers rated worst drivers in Australia

### Survey confirms P-platers rank as the worst drivers in Australia

#### Majority would not help a teenage driver in need

According to a survey conducted by News Limited's national online motoring website, CARSguide.com.au, provisional licence holders (P-platers) are confirmed as the worst Australian drivers.

Elderly drivers and cab drivers were also recognised amongst the worst drivers on Australian roads.

The survey also revealed that teenagers were the least popular drivers on the road, with a majority (59 per cent) of respondents said they would not pull over to help a teenaged driver and 61 per cent would not accept assistance from a teenaged passerby if they were having car trouble.

Conducted by CoreData in partnership with CARSguide.com.au, the online survey of 1,121 people (62 per cent male/38 per cent female) also found:

- Male drivers are also unpopular, with 78 per cent of respondents indicating they would not pull over to help them and 52 per cent claiming they would not allow a male driver to assist them
- A large majority (74 per cent) blame inexperience as the main reason for P-plater accidents
- The majority (51 per cent) of respondents indicated that there should be further restrictions placed on P-platers driving after dark, however they did not think they should be banned from carrying passengers (62 per cent)
- Over half (55 per cent) of Australians feel intimidated by other drivers on the road, with tailgating identified as the style of driving that intimidates them the most (73 per cent)
- 49 per cent indicated truck drivers are the most intimidating drivers, with 4WD drivers (42 per cent) and P-platers (21 per cent) considered the next most intimidating drivers
- 63 per cent of female respondents admitted they felt insecure whilst driving compared to 50 per cent of male respondents

"With the amount of P-plater related accidents over the last year, it's no surprise that P-platers have been labelled as the worst drivers in the country," CARSguide.com.au general manager, Tony Burrett said.

"This survey shows that the majority of respondents are in agreement that further restrictions should be placed on younger drivers to protect them and other people on Australian roads."

"It's concerning that 59 per cent of respondents wouldn't pull over for a teenaged driver stuck on the side of the road - I'd like to think that someone would help my kids if they were in trouble. There's understandable risk in accepting help from strangers, but it is a shame that teenagers have been singled out."

**About CARSGuide.com.au**

CARSGuide.com.au is News Limited's national online motoring brand featuring comprehensive news and reviews from Australia's leading motoring experts. Additionally, CARSGuide.com.au provides road tests, motoring tools and a marketplace for online classifieds. The site carries more than 70,000 listings and continues to grow faster than the market, proving the fastest growing automotive site from January 2006 to September 2006. CARSGuide.com.au experienced 64% growth in unique browsers within aforementioned period\*.

\* Source: Nielsen // Net Ratings Market Intelligence, Automotive Domestic - Syndicated Category Jan 06 - Sep 06.

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