

Australian drivers vent their frustrations

Survey confirms illegal street racing is a growing concern

71% of drivers want street window washers banned from our roads

The majority of Australians (68 per cent) have witnessed illegal street racing on public roads, with close to half (45 per cent) saying they have been encouraged to participate, according to a CARSguide.com.au survey.

Almost three in four (74 per cent) said car window washers working at intersections and stop signs are a major safety issue and should be made illegal (71 per cent).

Conducted by CoreData in partnership with CARSguide.com.au, the national survey of 1,026 respondents also found:

- South Australia proved the worst state for street racing with 72 per cent claiming they have witnessed people racing illegally, followed by Victoria (71 per cent), West Australia (69 per cent), Queensland (68 per cent) and lastly, New South Wales (66 per cent).
- Younger drivers (29 and under) are more likely to be challenged to race, with 51 per cent saying they have been encouraged by another driver to participate in a race whilst waiting at a red light or stop sign.
- More than a third (35 per cent) of respondents said they race other drivers to get ahead of them when a double lane merges into one.
- 51 per cent said that the best penalty for illegal street racing is indefinite disqualification of the offender's licence, followed by community service (36 per cent) and \$10,000 fine (28 per cent).
- Cyclists were voted the most disliked on the road, with 28 per cent of people voting them most annoying to share the road with, followed by large trucks (20 per cent), large 4WDs (15 per cent) and window washers (12 per cent).
- 52 per cent of respondents said they would report a colleague for dangerous driving if they could remain anonymous. 39 per cent would report a friend and 30 per cent would report a family member.

"People feel like there are an increasing number of tragic fatalities on our roads as a result of illegal street racing and I think our survey helps confirm that it is a major issue," CARSguide.com.au editor, Alan Jones said.

"The fact that 68 per cent of people have witnessed road racing and almost half have been enticed to engage in a street race are alarming statistics, especially for younger drivers."

"Window cleaners take a big risk when they run onto a busy intersection. It's also a distraction that drivers don't need, so I'm not surprised to see that people want them off the roads."

-ends-

About CARSguide.com.au

CARSguide.com.au is News Digital Media's national digital automotive 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 has experienced 32 per cent growth in unique browsers over the last year.*

* (Source NNR - Market Intelligence Auto - Syndicated Content Category July 06 – July07)

Jonathan Abbott – CARSguide.com.au
(02) 9288 7504
0415 138 203
jonathan.abbott@newsdigitalmedia.com.au