

**AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF ROAD SAFETY INC.
ACT & Region Chapter**



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DRAFT

ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

General

This year has been another active year for the ACT and Region Chapter. The Chapter is pleased to note that latest available fatality data show that the ACT Road death rate of 5.0 per 100,000 population remains the lowest in the country and well below the national average of 7.0. The small data set for the ACT makes year on year comparisons somewhat difficult.

The Chapter has continued with its popular road safety seminar series and has continued to build strategic alliances with other road safety stakeholders in the ACT, in particular the NRMA ACT Road Safety Trust, the ACT Department of Territory and Municipal Services, and Road Safety Officers from the shires surrounding the ACT. An illustration of the strategic alliances that have been developed is an invitation for an ACRS member (Dr Jiggins) to sit on the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust's Advisory Panel for the Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine at Canberra Hospital.

SEMINARS

Road Crash Investigations and Intelligent Transport Systems

On 30 October 2007 the Chapter held a seminar in conjunction with ATSB on *Road Crash Investigations and Intelligent Transport Systems*. The Seminar had as its keynote speaker Mr Mark Rosenker, Chair of the US National Transportation Safety Board. Other speakers included Mr Jim Oellet on motorcycle crash investigation, Dr Brian Fildes from Monash University on post-crash investigation and vehicle safety technologies for the future, ACRS President Dr Raphael Grzebieta on railway crossing truck crashes, and Peter Bentley on ITS solutions and road safety. Peter Robertson from the Department of Transport and Regional Services spoke about the regulator's perspective on vehicle safety technologies. The day finished with a panel discussion involving all of the speakers.

About 20 people attended the seminar which was held in the Shine Dome at the National Academy of Science. The NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust sponsored the seminar.

National Office has prepared a booklet containing the seminar presentations.

Planning is underway for a series of seminars over the next several months.

The following were considered to be likely candidates:

Post-crash Medical Treatment

The seminar took place on 10 April and coincided with the release of an NRMA/ACT Road Safety Trust funded report on first aid and harm minimization. The seminar featured presentations by:

- Prof Paul Arbon AM, Flinders University,
- ACT Ambulance Service
- Assoc Prof Drew Richardson, Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine at The Canberra Hospital

On-road cycling

The seminar will coincide with the release of a forthcoming ARRB report to the ACT government on the effectiveness on on-road cycle lanes.

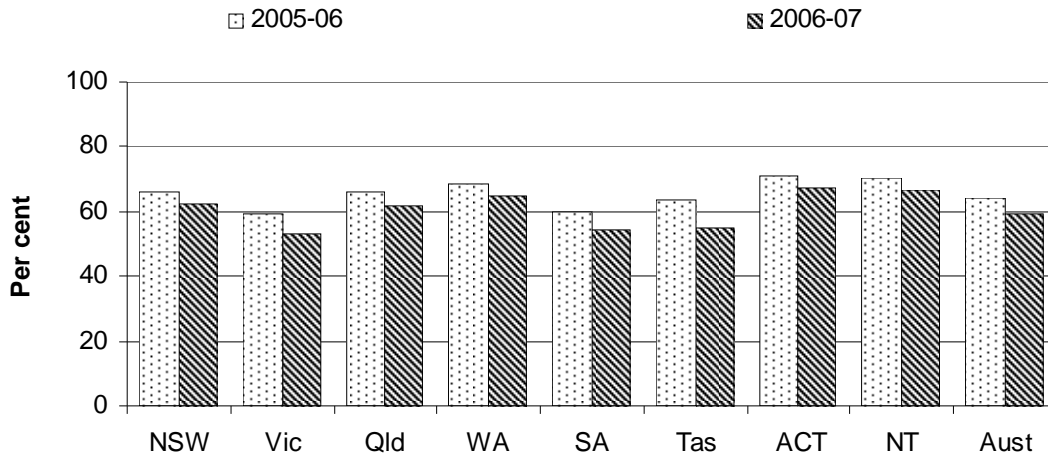
ACT Road Safety Communication Strategy

A report is being developed for the ACT Government by consultants. The seminar will provide an opportunity to bring together various parties involved in the promotion of road safety within the ACT to discuss priorities and strategies.

Speed

One of the first seminars conducted by the College was on the issue of speed – it took place during the trial of 50km default urban speed limits in the ACT and their subsequent introduction in 2003. The Chapter considered it was timely to review the issue of speed behavior in the ACT particularly in light of data contained in the thirteenth edition of the Report on Government Services (2008) that showed a worrying level of self-reported speeding behaviour in the ACT with over 60% of respondents reporting that they had driven more than 10 kilometres above the speed limit.

People who had driven more than 10 kilometres above the speed limit 'rarely' or more often in the previous 6 months^a

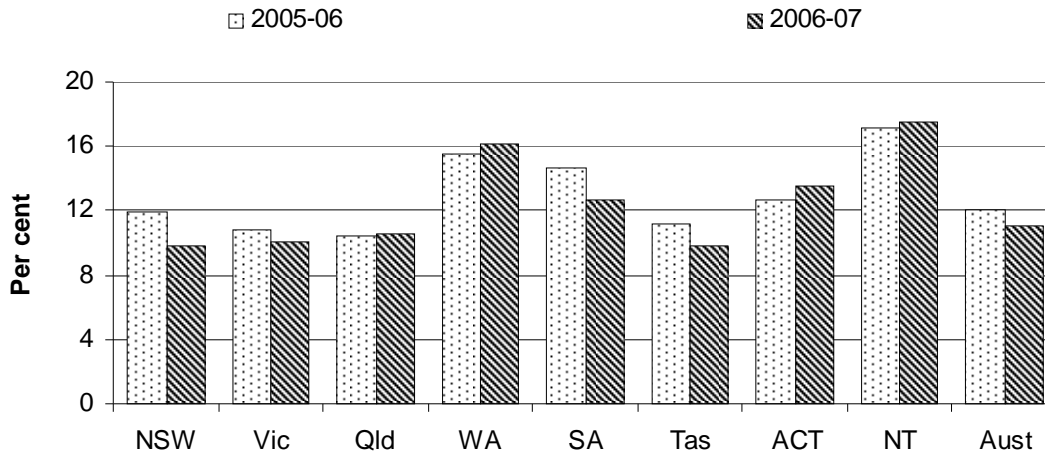


^a Data years are based on responses from people aged 15 years or over. ^b Data based on survey results and subject to sampling error. Confidence intervals are included in section 6.8.

Drink driving in the ACT

An analysis of drink driving cases before the ACT Magistrate's court in 2006–07 is being carried out for the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust and the results of this research will be presented at the seminar. The thirteenth edition of the Report on Government Services (2008) shows a worrying level of self-reported drink-driving behaviour in the ACT. Over 12% of ACT drivers reported that they had driven in the previous 6 months when possibly over the 0.05.

People who had driven in the previous 6 months when possibly over the 0.05 alcohol limit 'rarely' or more often^a



^a Data are based on responses from people aged 15 years or over. ^b Data based on survey results and subject to sampling error. Confidence intervals are included in section 6.8.

Source: ANZPAA (unpublished); table 6A.40.

Vulnerable road users

The seminar will invite representatives from the Motorcycle Riders Association, Pedal Power, the Council of the Ageing and Kidsafe to present their perspectives on road safety issues in the ACT.

Driver Distraction

Driver distraction has been identified as a strong candidate for the next in the Chapter's seminar series. The NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust has funded a research project examining the available literature and the project report could form the basis of the seminar. The Chapter is mindful the College hosted an international Conference on 'Driver Distraction in Sydney on 2/3 June 2005 attended by over 100 delegates. These papers would also be examined for possible speakers and themes. The proposed timing of the seminar is dependent on the availability of the MUARC research report.

Recidivist Drink Driving and Unlicensed Driving Seminar

This seminar is part of the National Office of the Australasian College of Road Safety seminar series. The presenters have been traveling around Australia to conduct the seminars. The ACT seminar has been postponed indefinitely due to issues associated with the availability of the presenters.

Treasurer's Report

The Chapter remains in a very strong financial position with \$11,800 in hand. Details are contained in the Treasurer's report.

Consideration is being given as to how the Chapter will spend surplus funds in 2008.

Website management

It is a requirement of the National Executive that Chapters take responsibility for keeping their page on the College web site updated. The Chapter has assigned Mr Gary McDonald to maintain the ACRS-ACT Chapter page. He will liaise with Linda Cooke of the national office accordingly. The intention of the Chapter is to place greater emphasis on the website as a communication vehicle.

AGM

The Chapter held its' AGM on 10 April 2008.

Following the AGM the Executive Committee elected the following office holders:

Associate Professor Drew Richardson	President
Stephen Jiggins	Secretary
Robin Anderson	Treasurer
Ken Smith	Member
Gary McDonald	Member
Kerry Fitzgerald	Member
Greater Southern Area Health Service	Member *

Note * The Greater Southern Area Health Service is represented jointly by Ms Rosemary White and Ms Kate Fasch

The AGM elected Mr Robin Anderson as ACT Chapter Delegate to the National Executive.

Prepared by:
Dr Stephen Jiggins
Secretary
10 April 2008