



RACV Have Your Say  
**My Country Road**  
2024



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RACV Executive General Manager,  
Motoring and Mobility

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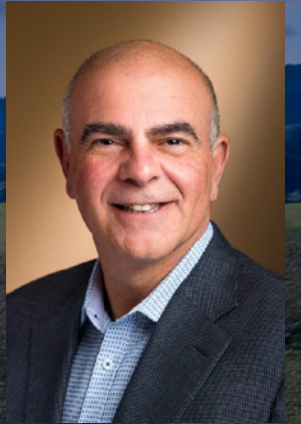
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## Foreword by Phil Turnbull

The *My Country Road* survey invited participants from across the state to have their say about the safety of Victoria's regional roads. I would like to thank the more than 7,000 Victorians who took the time to provide RACV with their invaluable feedback. As a safety advocate, it's important that RACV closely examines what Victorians think are the factors contributing to unsafe road conditions, so we can provide that information to government and encourage action.



**Phil Turnbull**  
RACV Executive General  
Manager, Motoring and  
Mobility

Inside you'll find some of the key findings taken from the more than 7,000 responses. Potholes and poor road condition was the number one issue observed by survey participants across the regions. Other issues included the dangerous behaviours of other drivers, narrow lanes, intersection safety issues and limited overtaking opportunities.

*My Country Road* was also an opportunity for participants to let RACV know what they think of electric vehicles, and barriers to uptake. Cost and the distances travelled are the top two reasons why people decided not to purchase an electric vehicle. You also told us that you would like to see greater investment in charging stations at service stations and at rest stops.

The large number of responses to this year's survey shows that Victorians care about the quality and safety of regional roads and the vital role they play in the economy, liveability and safety of our great state.





## How we listened to you

RACV's *My Country Road* survey listens to Victorians about their safety concerns regarding regional roads, so that we can share that information with governments to encourage them to improve road safety.

In May 2024, *My Country Road* invited participants to use an interactive online map to provide their feedback. By dropping a pin on a road or intersection, participants could voice their concerns about poor road conditions, speed limits, driver behaviour or any other safety issue.

58 per cent of the participants told us that they use the road they identified every day. This level of local

knowledge has been invaluable to identifying Victoria's most unsafe roads.

In 2021, when RACV conducted the first *My Country Road* survey, 16 of the 21 most dangerous roads received upgrades and improvements by government. Six of the top roads identified in the 2021 survey appear again this year, including the Melba Highway, Bass Highway, Bacchus Marsh Road, Phillip Island Road, Warburton Highway, and the junction of the Midland Highway and Howard Street in Epsom. RACV will continue to advocate for regional road upgrades that improve safety and save lives.



# What you told us

Below you'll find some of the key findings taken from over 7,000 responses.

## Road safety

64 per cent of respondents identified 'potholes or road condition' as a top issue with the road they were reporting - this has increased from 46 per cent in 2021. The dangerous behaviours of other drivers (32 per cent), narrow lanes or road (29 per cent), intersection safety issues (26 per cent), and limited overtaking opportunities (24 per cent) were also raised by respondents as concerning safety issues.

- The full length of the *Melba Highway* from Coldstream to Yea received the most responses for safety concerns. You told us that the Melba Highway road surface is in urgent need of upgrades and repairs and had limited overtaking opportunities, resulting in dangerous driver behaviours. Motorists also expressed concerns with the number of reduced speed limits in place due to roadworks.
- *Tylden-Woodend Road* from Woodend to Tylden was flagged as the second most unsafe road, followed in third place by *Kilmore Road* from Monegeetta to Gisborne.
- The most dangerous intersection in regional Victoria was identified as the junction of the *Midland Highway* and *Howard Street* in Epsom north of Bendigo.

## Speed zones

Overall, 14 per cent of respondents supported 'a lower or more appropriate speed limit' as a measure to improve road safety. That response rose to 56 per cent on the 12 worst roads, highlighting that many Victorians believe reducing the speed on highly dangerous roads is an appropriate approach.

## Electric vehicles

*My Country Road* was also an opportunity for motorists to let RACV know what they think of electric vehicles (EVs), and barriers to uptake.

- 36 per cent of participants have considered buying an EV. 7 per cent of the survey participants are current EV owners.
- The top two reasons participants gave for deciding not to drive an EV were that they are currently too expensive to purchase and have limited battery range.
- 46 per cent of participants have a preference for more charging stations at service stations and rest stops.

## Top 20 roads with safety concerns

	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Melba Hwy, Coldstream to Yea (B300)	Northern	Murrindindi Shire Council/Yarra Ranges Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
2	Tylden-Woodend Road, Woodend to Tylden (C317)	Northern	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, dangerous behaviours of other drivers, bicycle safety issues
3	Kilmore Road, Monegeetta to Gisborne (C708)	Northern	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, dangerous behaviours of other drivers, limited overtaking opportunities
4	Goulburn Valley Hwy, Nagambie to Shepparton (A39)	Northern	Greater Shepparton City Council/Strathbogie Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition and intersection safety
5	Princes Hwy, Warrnambool to Portland (A1)	Southwestern	Warrnambool City Council/Glenelg Shire Council/Moyne Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
6	Western Hwy, Trawalla to Beaufort (A8)	Western	Pyrenees Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition
7	Bass Hwy, Jam Jerrup to Leongatha (M420/B460)	Southeastern	Bass Coast Shire Council/South Gippsland Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, intersection safety issues, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
8	Princes Hwy, Colac to Stonyford (A1)	Southwestern	Colac Otway Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
9	Princes Hwy, Stratford to Bairnsdale (A1)	Eastern	Wellington Shire Council/East Gippsland Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
10	Great Alpine Road, Bairnsdale to Wangaratta (B500)	Eastern	East Gippsland Shire Council/Alpine Shire Council/Rural City of Wangaratta	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
11	Bacchus Marsh Road, Balliang to Lara (C704)	Western	City of Greater Geelong	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, narrow lanes/road
12	Phillip Island Road, Phillip Island (B420)	Southeastern	Bass Coast Shire Council	Dangerous behaviours of other drivers, intersection safety issues, limited overtaking opportunities, narrow lanes/road
13	Kilmore-Lancefield Road, Kilmore to Lancefield (C324)	Northern	Mitchell Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, poor or lack of guide posts, reflectors, signage, line marking, limited overtaking opportunities
14	Boneo Road, Mornington Peninsula (C777)	Southeastern	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Potholes/poor road condition, bicycle safety issues, objects close to edge of the road (e.g. power poles, trees)
15	Murradoc Road, between Drysdale and St Leonards (C125)	Southwestern	City of Greater Geelong	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers



## Top 20 roads with safety concerns (cont.)

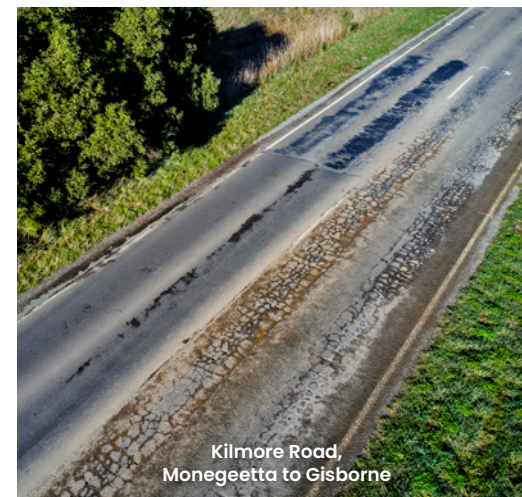
	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
16	Murray Valley Hwy, Cobram to Rutherglen (B400)	Eastern	Moira Shire Council/Indigo Shire Council	Intersection safety issues, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
17	Intersection of Midland Highway and Howard Street, Epsom (A300)	Western	City of Greater Bendigo	Intersection safety issues, potholes/poor road condition, pedestrian safety issues
18	Warburton Hwy, Seville to Woori Yallock (B380)	Northern	Shire of Yarra Ranges	Potholes/poor road condition, dangerous behaviours of other drivers, intersection safety issues
19	Frankston-Flinders Road, Hastings to Flinders (C777)	Southeastern	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Intersection safety issues, potholes/poor road condition, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
20	Midland Hwy, Tatura to Shepparton (A300)	Northern	City of Greater Shepparton	Potholes/poor road condition, intersection safety, limited overtaking opportunities



Melba Highway, Coldstream to Yea



Tylden-Woodend Road, Woodend to Tylden



Kilmore Road, Monegeetta to Gisborne

## Top 3 roads with safety concerns by region

### Southwest region

	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Princes Hwy, Warrnambool to Portland (A1)	Southwestern	Warrnambool City Council/Glenelg Shire Council/Moyne Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
2	Princes Hwy, Colac to Stonyford (A1)	Southwestern	Colac Otway Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
3	Murradoc Road, between Drysdale and St Leonards (C125)	Southwestern	City of Greater Geelong	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers

## Top 3 roads with safety concerns by region (cont.)

### Western region

	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Western Hwy, Trawalla to Beaufort (A8)	Western	Pyrenees Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition
2	Bacchus Marsh Road, Balliang to Lara (C704)	Western	City of Greater Geelong	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, narrow lanes/road
3	Intersection of Midland Highway and Howard Street, Epsom (A300)	Western	City of Greater Bendigo	Intersection safety issues, potholes/poor road condition, pedestrian safety issues

### Northern region

	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Melba Hwy, Coldstream to Yea (B300)	Northern	Murrindindi Shire Council/Yarra Ranges Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
2	Tylden-Woodend Road, Woodend to Tylden (C317)	Northern	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, reduction of speed limit to 40km resulting in dangerous behaviours of other drivers
3	Kilmore Road, Monegeetta to Gisborne (C708)	Northern	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, reduction of speed limit to 60km resulting in dangerous behaviours of other drivers

### Eastern region

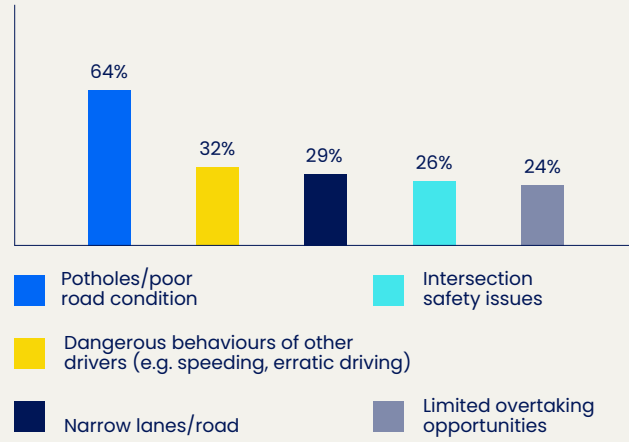
	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Princes Hwy, Stratford to Bairnsdale (A1)	Eastern	Wellington Shire Council/East Gippsland Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
2	Great Alpine Road, Bairnsdale to Wangaratta (B500)	Eastern	East Gippsland Shire Council/Alpine Shire Council/Rural City of Wangaratta	Potholes/poor road condition, limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
3	Murray Valley Hwy, Cobram to Rutherglen (B400)	Eastern	Moira Shire Council/Indigo Shire Council	Intersection safety issues (Silverwoods Blvd, Yarrowonga), limited overtaking opportunities, dangerous behaviours of other drivers

### Southeastern region

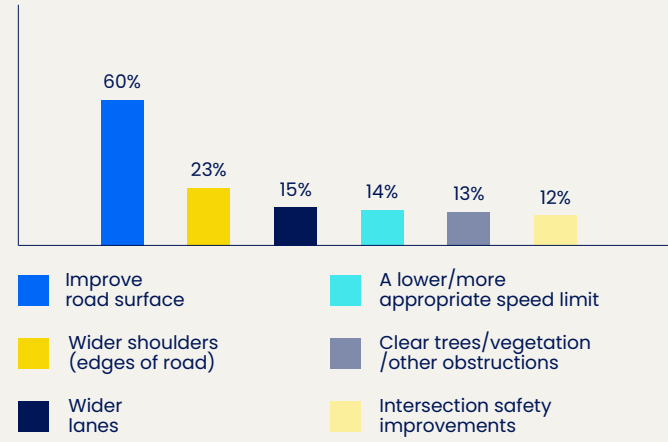
	Location	Region	Local Government Area	Factors
1	Bass Hwy, Jam Jerrup to Leongatha (M420/B460)	Southeastern	Bass Coast Shire Council/South Gippsland Shire Council	Potholes/poor road condition, intersection safety issues, dangerous behaviours of other drivers
2	Phillip Island Road, Phillip Island (B420)	Southeastern	Bass Coast Shire Council	Dangerous behaviours of other drivers, intersection safety issues, limited overtaking opportunities, narrow lanes/road
3	Boneo Road, Mornington Peninsula (C777)	Southeastern	Mornington Peninsula Shire	Potholes/poor road condition, bicycle safety issues, objects close to edge of the road (e.g. power poles, trees)

# Statewide insights

Top road issues identified



Top voted solutions

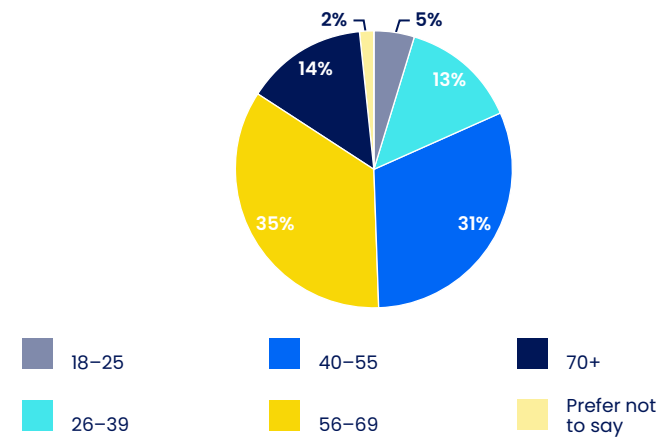


# Insights into electric vehicle uptake and infrastructure

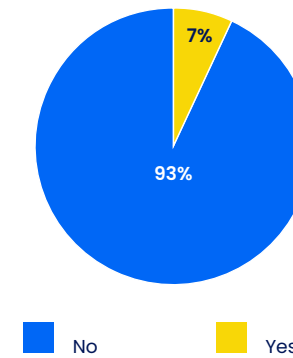


# Participant insights

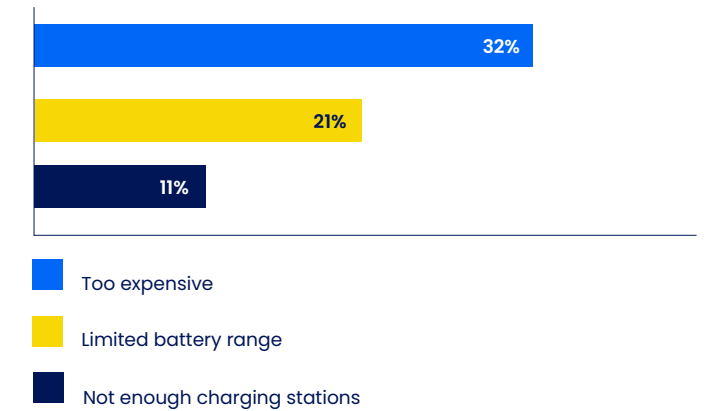
What is your age?



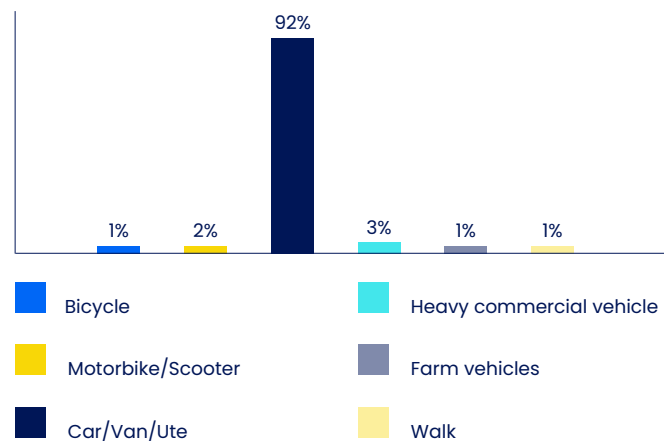
Do you own an EV?



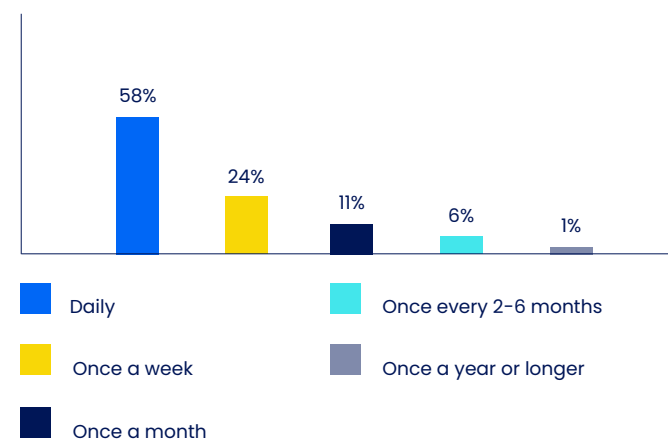
Why did you decide not to purchase an EV?



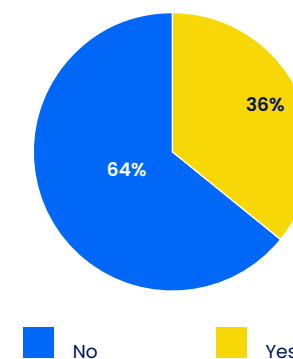
What method of travel do you typically use most on this road?



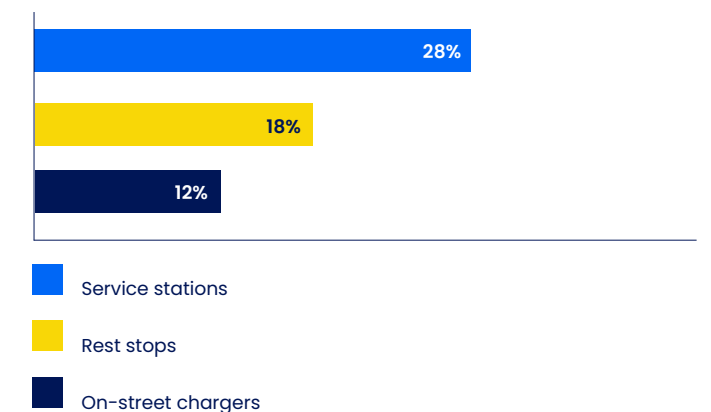
How regularly do you travel along this road?



Have you considered purchasing an EV?



Where would you like to see more charging stations?





*My Country Road* is part of the  
RACV Have Your Say survey series.

Together with the *My Melbourne Road* and *My Home* surveys, *My Country Road* helps RACV to continue to advocate for Victorians on the issues that are most important to them.

To view the RACV Have Your Say survey series visit  
[racv/haveyoursay.com.au](https://racv/haveyoursay.com.au)

