

# Justice and Community Safety Directorate

## Evaluation of the ACT Road Safety Camera Program

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ACT's road safety cameras are preventing crashes, reducing injuries and saving the community more than \$60 million each year in road trauma costs.

Minister for Road Safety Shane Rattenbury today released the findings of an evaluation of the ACT's Road Safety Camera program, conducted by an expert road safety research body, Monash University's Accident Research Centre (MUARC).

In the 12 months up to September 2017, the mobile camera program alone was found to have reduced crashes by about 22 per cent compared to if the program had not been running.

As a result of mobile speed cameras being in place for that year, this equates to:

- the prevention of some 120 casualty crashes that could have resulted in a fatality or injury;
- the prevention of some 2,900 property damage crashes (i.e a crash where there is no serious injury or death)
- More than \$60 million in crash costs (i.e. costs of road trauma in the community) saved each year, as well as untold impacts for the Canberra community.

However, the report also shows community attitudes towards road safety still needs to change. The MUARC evaluation also includes a survey of community attitudes about speeding that received more than 2,240 responses. The majority of respondents reported typically driving within the speed limit, or exceeding the limit very occasionally.

Unfortunately, others, by their own admission, continue to speed when they drive. This is of great concern as speed is highly implicated in crashes and crash severity.

Alarmingly, 31 per cent of respondents aged 18-24 years, and 80 per cent of novice motorcyclists, reported regularly exceeding the speed limit by over 10 km/h compared to 11% of 55-64 year old respondents. This means that some of the most inexperienced people on our roads are choosing to travel the fastest.

People's lax attitude towards speeding needs to change if we want to prevent the terrible trauma and costs that result from road crashes, and the risk that is posed to vulnerable road users. In 2019, we've already seen a number of excessive speeding infringements issued by the camera vans and police in school zones.

The strategic analysis supports the government's commitment to add two additional mobile speed

cameras to the roster in the next few months, an increase that will prevent an additional 11 casualty crashes and over 170 property crashes per year.

The evaluation was a commitment under the ACT's Road Safety Camera Strategy, and the camera program will be evaluated every three years.

[Report - Evaluation of the ACT Road Safety Camera Program](#)