

RAA Member Panel

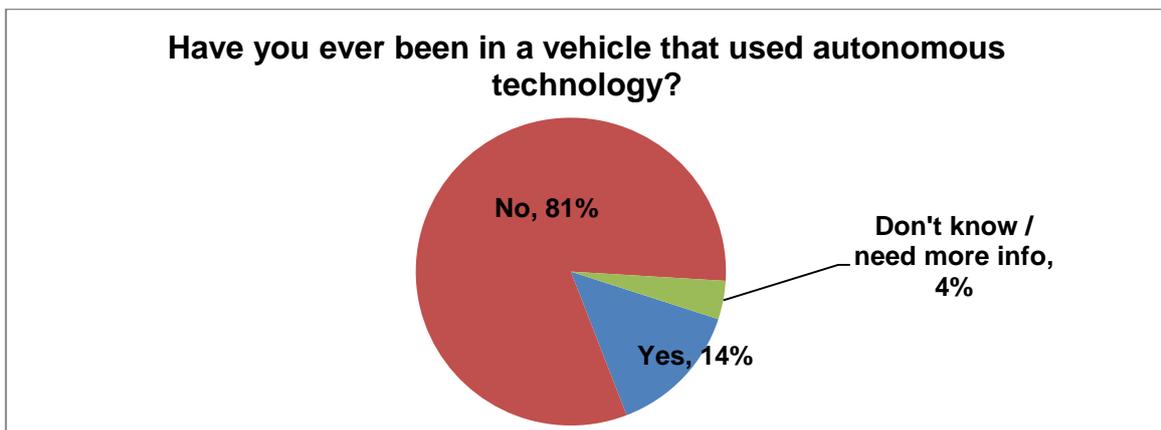
Autonomous Vehicle Technology

In September, we asked RAA's Member Panel for their thoughts on autonomous vehicle technology.

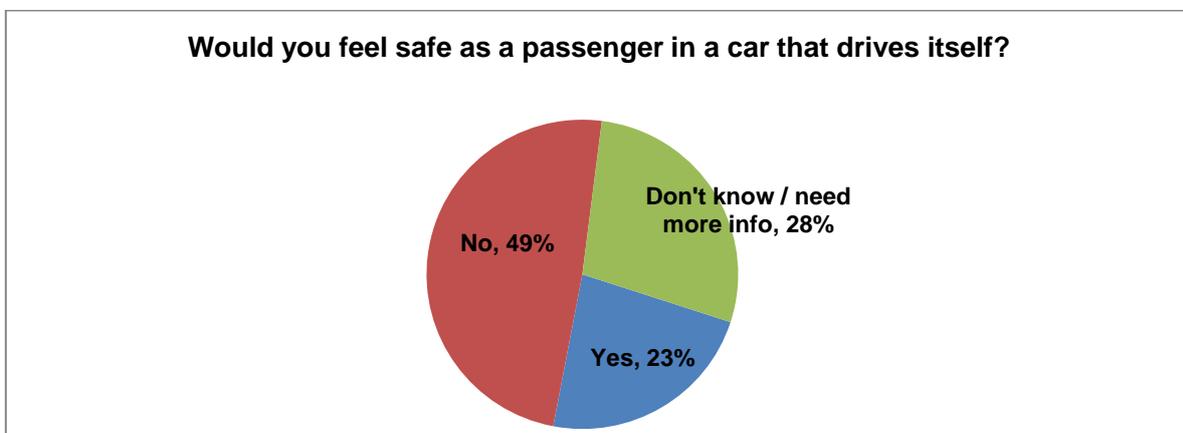
Most new cars are now built with features such as self-park and auto-braking. Each of these autonomous technologies are moving us towards creating vehicles that are completely self-drive, and the experts say driverless vehicles could be on our roads by 2020.

The survey showed that almost all respondents (95%) were aware of the overall concept of a driverless/autonomous car.

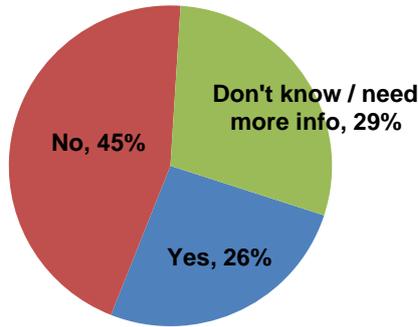
While almost all survey participants were aware of the overall concept of a driverless/autonomous car, less than 15 per cent believed they had been in a vehicle that used autonomous technology, such as park assist.



Safety was the main concern for panellists. Nearly 50 per cent said they wouldn't feel safe as a passenger in a car that drives itself, and a further 28 per cent weren't sure. Forty five per cent wouldn't feel safe sharing the road with driverless cars.

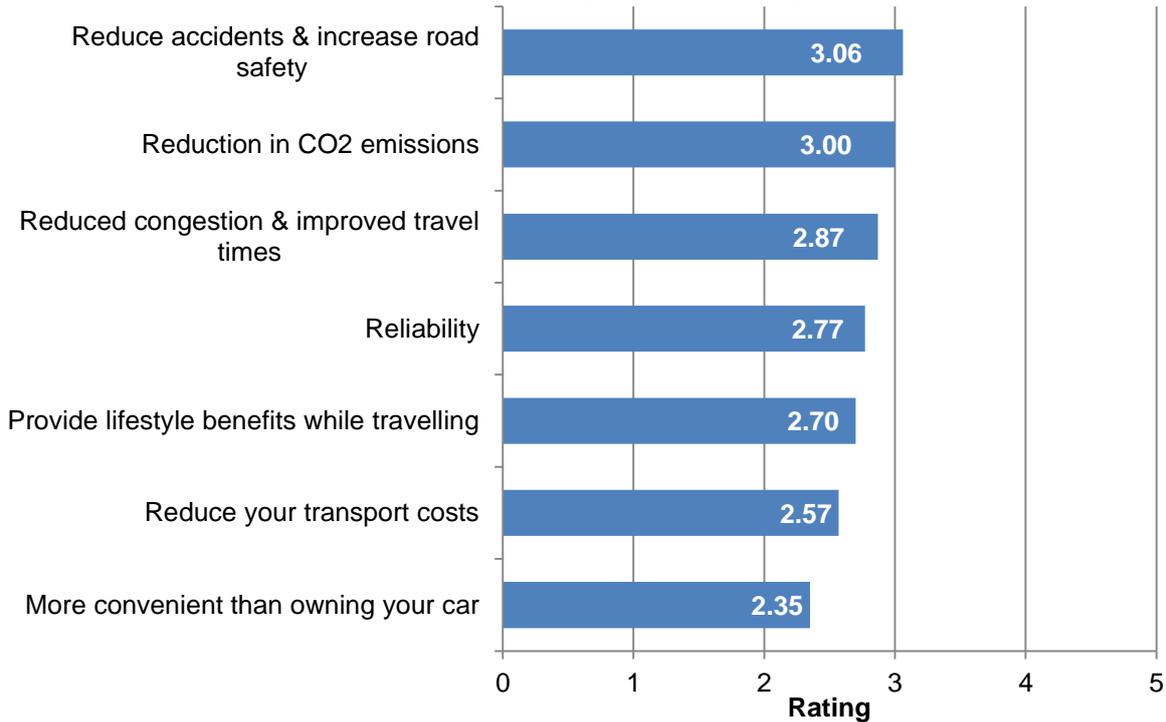


As a driver would you feel comfortable / safe sharing the road with driverless / fully autonomous vehicles?



When asked to rate some potential benefits, respondents rated both safety improvements and reduction in CO₂ emissions with three stars or above. Reducing congestion, reliability, reduced transport costs and improved lifestyle travel benefits were all rated below three stars.

How strongly do you believe a driverless / fully autonomous vehicle could provide the following benefits over a traditional car: Rate 1-5 (1 being least 5 being the most)



When asked about potential barriers to introducing driverless cars in South Australia, responses focused overwhelmingly on the poor conditions of roads, confidence in technology, legal obligations, government resistance and possible conflict between drivers in conventional vehicles coexisting with new smart technology.

General comments provided at the end of the survey showed members have great interest in how technology could support greater mobility choices. The future departure of the car industry raised concern around South Australia's ability to be progressive in this space.



To finish with a few member comments:

- It's like anything - people are unsure of new technology but we adapt and change our behaviour and then become reliant on new technology. Driverless cars will be exactly the same. Imagine what we can achieve during travel time when we're usually focused on the road!
- The sooner we bring this in the better. Good survey.
- I have a visually-impaired daughter, so I'm really hoping she can use one of these one day.
- Early adoption of this technology would demonstrate SA is progressive and enable industry to participate in development and manufacture of the next major change in transport.

Appendix 1 - Member Panel Questions and Results

Survey date: 24 September 2014

1. Please select your age group below
 - 56-75: 66%
 - 36-55: 25%
 - 26-35: 5%
 - 76 and over: 4%
 - 25 and under: 0%

2. Have you heard of the concept of an autonomous / driverless car?
 - Yes – 95%
 - No – 4%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 1%

3. Have you ever been in a vehicle that used autonomous technology?
 - No – 81%
 - Yes – 14%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 4%

4. Select which of the following technologies operate autonomously in some current model cars:
 - Self-parking – 59%
 - Auto braking / collision avoidance system – 59%
 - All of the above – 50%
 - Adaptive cruise control – 46%
 - Lane keep assist / blind spot warning – 43%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 6%
 - None of the above – 3%

5. Would you feel safe as a passenger in a car that drives itself?
 - No – 49%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 28%
 - Yes – 23%

6. As a driver would you feel comfortable / safe sharing the road with driverless / fully autonomous vehicles?
 - No – 45%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 29%
 - Yes – 26%

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7. Do you believe there are any barriers for driverless / fully autonomous vehicles to operate on South Australia's roads?
 - Yes – 66%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 25%
 - No – 95%

 8. What do you believe is the most important barrier to overcome?
 - Free text answers

 9. Would you give up your car ownership for a driverless vehicle that could guarantee you would get where you wanted, when you wanted and at a lower cost without delay?
 - No – 44%
 - Yes – 33%
 - Don't know / Need more info – 23%

 10. How strongly do you believe a driverless / fully autonomous vehicle could provide the following benefits over a traditional car: Rate 1-5 stars (1 being least 5 being the most)
 - a. Reliability – average rating: 2.77
 - 5 stars – 11%
 - 4 stars – 17%
 - 3 stars – 31%
 - 2 stars – 17%
 - 1 star – 23%

 - b. Reduced congestion and improved travel times – average rating: 2.87
 - 5 stars – 14%
 - 4 stars – 20%
 - 3 stars – 26%
 - 2 stars – 17%
 - 1 star – 23%

 - c. Reduction in CO2 emissions – average rating: 3.00
 - 5 stars – 18%
 - 4 stars – 18%
 - 3 stars – 29%
 - 2 stars – 18%
 - 1 star – 19%

 - d. Reduce your transport costs – average rating: 2.57
 - 5 stars – 11%
 - 4 stars – 12%
 - 3 stars – 27%
 - 2 stars – 22%
 - 1 star – 28%

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- e. Reduce accidents and increase road safety – average rating: 3.06
 - 5 stars – 22%
 - 4 stars – 22%
 - 3 stars – 20%
 - 2 stars – 14%
 - 1 star – 22%

 - f. Be more convenient than owning your own car – average rating: 2.35
 - 5 stars – 12%
 - 4 stars – 8%
 - 3 stars – 23%
 - 2 stars – 19%
 - 1 star – 39%

 - g. Provide lifestyle benefits while travelling – average rating: 2.70
 - 5 stars – 14%
 - 4 stars – 17%
 - 3 stars – 24%
 - 2 stars – 13%
 - 1 star – 31%

11. Do you believe South Australia should be a leader in the acceptance of driverless / autonomous vehicles?

- No – 45%
- Yes – 31%
- Don't know / Need more info – 24%

12. Would you be prepared to use a taxi type service that used driverless / fully autonomous vehicles?

- No – 44%
- Yes – 33%
- Don't know / Need more info – 23%

13. Do you have any other comments?

- Free text answers