



MEDIA RELEASE

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Transport still considered a state government issue

The majority of Australians regard their state government as responsible for transport, but the latest quarterly Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies-Interfleet Transport Opinion Survey (TOPS) from the University of Sydney shows a small increase in respondents who believe it is a federal issue.

Professor David Hensher, Director of the Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, says this increase can be explained by the transport announcements of the Epping-Parramatta rail line in NSW and the Redcliffe rail line in Queensland during the recent Federal Election campaign, which drew attention to the role of the federal government in transport.

The results of TOPS show more than half of the 1,000 adults surveyed said improving public transport was Australia's highest transport priority, with only 20 per cent saying better roads should be the top priority.

Professor Hensher says Australians' support for private sector involvement in public transport remains high, with more residents in all states supporting more private sector involvement rather than less.

The latest survey results show only one in five Australians think transport in their local area will improve in the next year.

Australians remain confident about transport in Australia in five years time, with 47 per cent of respondents believing transport in Australia will be better five years down the track, similar to the previous quarter.

"NSW residents became more confident while Queensland residents are less confident about transport in Australia in five years" says Professor Hensher.

The quarterly TOPS, the first survey to measure transport opinions on a regular basis, is a reliable indicator of Australians' ongoing confidence about transport in their local area and transport in Australia.

The September 2010 quarterly report is at: <http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/tops>

The Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies in the Faculty of Economics and Business provides education and conducts research in transport, logistics and supply chain management. Interfleet Technology is one of the world's leading rail consultancy groups providing strategic, operational, management and technical services to the international rail industry.

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