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VICTORIANS SUFFER POST-ELECTION DROP IN NATIONAL TRANSPORT POLL

Victoria's change of government has seen confidence in the state's transport decline, [the latest quarterly national transport survey](#) from the University of Sydney shows.

More than a third of Victorian residents think transport in their local area became worse in the last year, up from 21 per cent in the previous survey, results from the Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies (ITLS)-Interfleet Transport Opinion Survey (TOPS) show.

Victorians aren't optimistic about the short-term future either. Thirty per cent say transport in their local area will be worse in a year's time, a big increase compared with 19 per cent in the March quarter.

With about two-thirds of Victorians citing public transport as the state's highest transport priority, the drop in confidence is likely to reflect concerns about the planning and delivery of public transport projects such as the Regional Rail Link and Footscray-Caulfield Rail Tunnel, ITLS Director Professor David Hensher says.

"The Victorian result shows how difficult it can be for new governments to meet community expectations for improvements in transport."

Professor Hensher says a post-election increase in pessimism did not occur in NSW, where those who think transport will worsen in their local area in the next year stayed constant at 21 per cent after the March state election. "We will continue to monitor community confidence each quarter to see how the NSW community responds over time to the new government's transport initiatives".

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

The ITLS in the University of Sydney Business School 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.

The June 2011 quarterly report is at: <http://sydney.edu.au/business/itls/tops>.

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Next TOPS release: Mid September 2011