



Media release

Thursday, 20th November 2025

Flat batteries lead the charge for Tasmanian breakdowns

The number one cause of car breakdowns in Tasmania has been revealed – with flat batteries topping the list for RACT Roadside Assistance call outs.

RACT, the state's largest member owned mutual and roadside assistance provider responded to 65,000 call outs across Tasmania during the past twelve months to October, supporting their 220,000 members when they needed it most.

Head of Roadside Service Delivery Josh Dobie said more than 35 per cent of all call outs were the result of a battery related issue, making it the leading cause of vehicle breakdowns.

"Flat batteries continue to be the biggest issue for Tasmanian motorists," Mr Dobie said.

"Other common reasons for breakdowns include won't starts, engine troubles, tyre or wheel issues, lockouts, and cooling system problems.

"You just never know when your car might let you down but there are a few simple checks drivers can do to reduce the risk, especially as we're out and about more over the summer months."

Mr Dobie said regular maintenance and awareness were key to keeping vehicles running smoothly and safely.

"Simple things like checking your oil, coolant levels and tyre pressure between services don't take long but can save a lot of hassle and money down the track," he said.

RACT recommends Tasmanians follow a few easy steps to help avoid being stranded roadside:

- Stay on top of regular servicing to detect possible faults early.
- Test your battery after three years, as most last around four.
- Have battery testing done by a qualified mechanic or an RACT roadside professional.
- Check tyre pressure every six months to maintain grip and improve fuel efficiency.
- Refuel before your tank drops below a quarter full to prevent fuel system issues.
- Keep a spare tyre in your vehicle and ensure it's in good condition.
- Learn how to safely change a flat tyre in case of emergency.

"At the end of the day, even the best-maintained car can break down unexpectedly, that's why it's important to keep on top of your vehicle maintenance – not just to protect your car, but to keep yourself and others safe on the road," Mr Dobie said.

ENDS