

DATA ON INCREASED BICYCLE USE

- Bicycle sales trends shown in Figure 1 are a good indication of the growth in bicycle use. It could be argued that bicycle sales are not the same as bicycle use; indeed this is true over short periods, however bicycle sales taken over a 23 year period demonstrate usage trends. Figure 1 shows that the national inventory of bicycles is steadily increasing. According to the Victorian bicycle trade, bicycle sales continue to increase in Victoria.
- Over the same period bicycle accident rate figures have dropped see Figure 2.
- Figure 3 shows that bicycle use has steadily increased on the roads over the last decade in Victoria and will probably increase in the next decade to 5% of all trips, from a base of 2% of all trips made in 1983. The latest on-road data in Figure 3 are for 1981, however, this trend is confirmed by four surveys taken on the Yarra River bicycle path, Melbourne, the latest of which was taken in April 1984 and shown in the graph on the attached drawing. (Source Bike News No 4 State Bicycle Committee of Victoria.)
- Bicycle use is expected to continue to increase on the Yarra River bicycle path and if other safe routes are provided in and through the City of Melbourne, a great increase in bicycles can be expected in the next ten years.
- Bicycle usage figures compared to Melbourne are much higher in Canberra, Perth and Adelaide, but at a similar level in Sydney, Newcastle and Brisbane. However, in all places bicycle usage is increasing and the trend in Victoria and Melbourne is part of a general increase throughout Australia.





