RAC Member Priorities Tracker
COVID-19, travel and social connectedness

In May 2020, 584 of our members\(^1\) took part in a survey telling us about their experiences and how they moved around in April during the COVID-19 restrictions, as well as what they expect their travel to look like once restrictions are eased.

### Travel frequency during COVID-19 restrictions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Travel</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Change from January</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drove (or were a passenger in a vehicle) 5 or more days a week</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>Down from 77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walked outside for more than 10 minutes 5 or more days a week</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>Up from 37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rode a bicycle at least once a week</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Up from 17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caught public transport at least once a week</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Down from 14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Accessing work\(^2\)

**31% worked from home**

Compared to just 5% in January

- 15% of regional and
- 35% of Perth members

The most significant changes in mode of travel to work\(^3\) were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode of Travel</th>
<th>Pre-COVID-19 Percentage</th>
<th>Current Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drove a car</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caught public transport</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Working from home in the future

Most members from Perth working from home\(^4\) would like to continue to on some basis once restrictions are lifted:

- 19% five days a week
- 3% four days a week
- 17% three days a week
- 18% twice a week
- 19% once a week
- 7% once a fortnight
- 13% never

2.2 is the average number of days per week Perth members currently working from home would like to continue to do so in the future.

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\(^1\) 444 from the Perth and Peel region and 140 from regional WA. Age, gender and location sampling quotas were applied, and data has been post-weighted to be representative of RAC’s membership (which is broadly consistent with the WA population profile) - the margin of error at total sample level is +/-4% at the 95% confidence level.

\(^2\) Respondents could nominate more than one mode of travel. For instance, some members park and ride at train stations to get to work/study. Not all travel modes used by members have been included in this graphic.

\(^3\) Figures only reflect responses from those who reported they were employed at the time of the surveys.

\(^4\) 103 Perth members responded that they were working from home during COVID-19 restrictions. Other responses nominated by 3% of members have not been included in this graphic.
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Catching public transport

45% are worried taking public transport may impact their health

In February only 2% identified hygiene as a reason for not using public transport more often

28% expect to use public transport less often

74% support discounted fares for off-peak travel to assist social distancing

Using our road space differently
Members were asked their level of support for temporary trials to improve community connection and support social distancing.

48% support converting road space to provide additional seating space for cafes and restaurants

28% oppose this

53% of regular peak hour motorists supported this

46% support limiting access to residential streets to ‘local and emergency traffic only’ to make it easier and safer to walk, cycle and play

24% oppose this

44% support converting road space to ‘pop-up’ bike paths along popular routes

29% oppose this

Social connection during social distancing

34% feel more connected to their neighbours/local community now

17% disagree with this

29% expect to attend local community events more often in the future compared with before COVID-19

20% expect to attend less often

22% expect to contact friends and family through video/phone calls more often in the future

1 Compared with their lifestyle before COVID-19
2 Remaining responses neither supported nor opposed the initiative
3 Drive in peak hour 5 or more days a week during April. More than 1 in 5 respondents were regular peak hour motorists
4 Remaining responses neither agreed nor disagreed with this statement

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Contact us