

# RAC Member Priorities Tracker

## Cycling

In December 2020, 381 of our members<sup>1</sup> took part in a survey telling us their views and experiences about cycling and what could be done to make it easier and safer to ride their bikes.



### How often do we ride bikes?

Five or more days a week	<b>2%</b>
A few days a week	<b>9%</b>
Once a week	<b>8%</b>
Once a fortnight	<b>5%</b>
Once a month	<b>7%</b>
Less often	<b>23%</b>
Never	<b>46%</b>

### Are we riding bikes more often?

Our members<sup>2</sup> and particularly regular bike riders<sup>3</sup> have noticed an increase in the amount of people riding their bikes over the last 12 months.

	All members	Regular bike riders
Decreased	3%	4%
About the same	27%	15%
Increased	49%	71%
Not sure / can't say	21%	11%

When asked whether they themselves are riding their bike more or less often than 12 months ago:

	All members	Regular bike riders
Less often	40%	19%
About the same	39%	43%
More often	20%	39%

### Regular bike riders

1 in 5 members ride their bike at least once a week.

Of regular bike riders:

# 76%

are men

# 24%

are women

### What are our main reasons for riding?

The main reasons members<sup>4</sup> identify for why they ride bikes are similar, no matter how often they ride:

	All members	Regular bike riders
For exercise	<b>68%</b>	<b>73%</b>
For leisure/fun	<b>66%</b>	<b>75%</b>
Errands/shopping	<b>9%</b>	<b>15%</b>
Travel to work/study	<b>9%</b>	<b>15%</b>

<sup>1</sup> 285 from the Perth and Peel regional and 96 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 +/-5% at the 95% confidence level.  
<sup>2</sup> All 381 members who responded to the survey. Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.  
<sup>3</sup> Regular bike riders' are those who ride their bike once a week or more (75 respondents). Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.  
<sup>4</sup> Does not include respondents who state they 'never' ride a bike.



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### How safe we feel riding

How safe<sup>5</sup> people feel while riding a bike varies considerably depending on the type of path they use.

Of those who regularly ride bikes:

**55%** feel safe when riding on 'off-road shared paths'

**27%** feel 'extremely safe'

**31%** feel safe when riding 'on the road (cycle lane)'

**9%** feel safe when riding 'on the road (sharing with vehicles)'

**24%** feel 'extremely unsafe'

**12%** feel safe when riding in bus lanes

**19%** feel 'extremely unsafe'

### What stops us from riding more often?

When members were asked what, if anything, stops them from riding more often, the top five responses include:

**Fear of sharing the roads with motorists**

**40%**

Top response by regular riders (**48%**) and non-regular bike riders<sup>6</sup> (**39%**)



**Too far to get to where I need to go**

**34%**



**Lack of safe bike routes**

**29%**

**42%** of regular riders



**Too time consuming / inconvenient**

**26%**



**Fitness or health issues**

**18%**



### Satisfaction with existing infrastructure

When all members were asked how satisfied<sup>7</sup> they were with the quality and availability of off-road and on-road cycling infrastructure, only:

**37%** were satisfied with 'off-road bike / shared path network (for pedestrians and cyclists)'

**29%** were satisfied with 'on-road bike network (e.g. bike lanes, reallocation of road space for people riding a bike)'

### Priorities for government action

Members were asked how likely they were to **ride a bike more** often<sup>8</sup> if the government funded different types of bike infrastructure<sup>9</sup>.

Regular bike riders top two priorities were:



**Building on/improving the on-road bike network**

**74%** Would ride more often



**Building on/improving the off-road bike / shared path network**

**70%** Would ride more often

Non-regular bike riders top two priorities were:

**48%** 

**Building more 'green bridges'<sup>10</sup>**

**47%** 

**Building on/improving the off-road bike / shared path network**

<sup>5</sup> Those members who said they felt 'extremely safe' and 'moderately safe'.

<sup>6</sup> Non-regular bike riders are those who ride their bike once a fortnight or less (306).

<sup>7</sup> Members who were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the infrastructure.

<sup>8</sup> A moderate amount, 'a lot' or 'a great deal' more often. Other options included 'not at all', and 'a little'.

<sup>9</sup> Top two priorities for metro and regional members were identical.

<sup>10</sup> For example across the river, major roads, etc. to make connections to/from key destinations easier and safer.



For further information  
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