

# RAC Member Priorities Tracker

## Walking

In December 2020, 381 of our members<sup>1</sup> took part in a survey telling us their views and experiences about walking and what could be done to make it easier and safer for them to walk more often.

### Satisfaction with existing infrastructure

When members were asked how satisfied they were with the quality and availability of dedicated walking infrastructure:

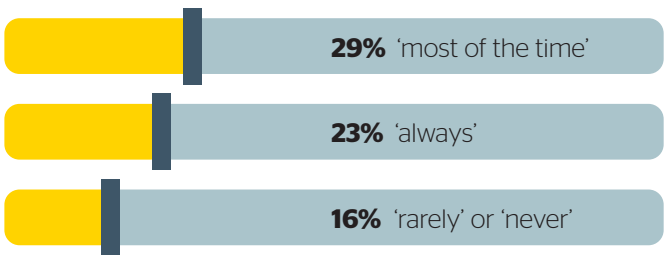


**55%** were satisfied with 'controlled crossings (e.g. at traffic lights)' vs. **31%** were satisfied with 'uncontrolled crossings (e.g. without lights such as mid-block and on side roads)'

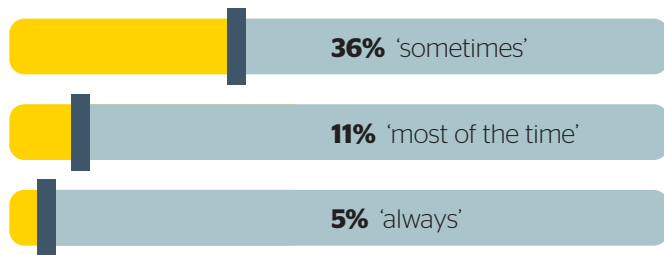
### Walking behaviour at signalised intersections



Just over half (**52%**) of all members 'wait for the green pedestrian light to cross the road' most of the time or more<sup>4</sup>



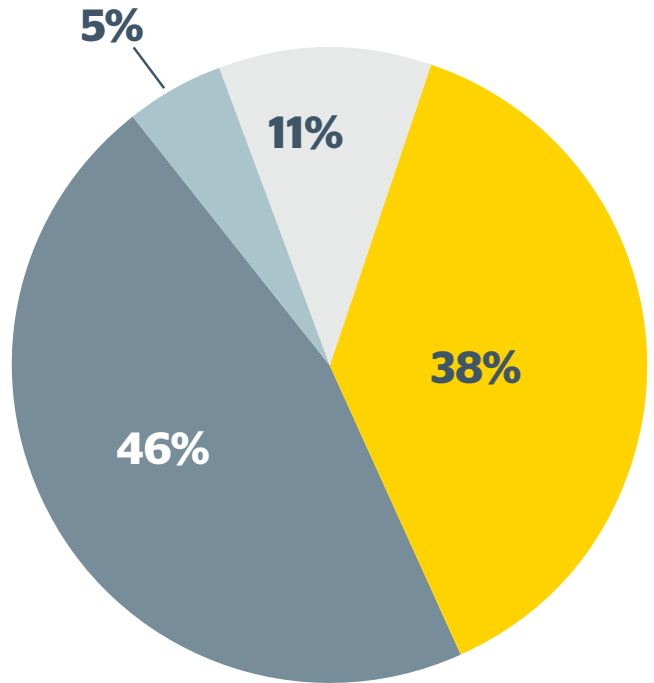
Just over half (**52%**) of all members feel 'they wait too long at signalised intersections to cross the road'



### Connection to our local area

Over the last 12 months, nearly half (**46%**) of members estimate the amount of people walking and using the streets and public spaces in their local area has increased.

Just **5%** thought that the amount of people walking in their local area declined in the last year.



■ Increased      ■ Not sure/can't say  
 ■ Stayed the same      ■ Decreased

<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> Respondents who were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.  
<sup>3</sup> Regular walkers are those who walk outside for more than 10 minutes five or more days a week (158 respondents).  
<sup>4</sup> A further 17% said 'sometimes' and 15% said 'not applicable to me'.



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## Walking

### What stops us walking more often?

When asked what, if anything, stops them from walking more often, the top three responses include:

Nothing stops me from walking more frequently **(31%)**

Weather **(23%)**

Not practical due to distance **(19%)**

#### Members across different locations, stages of life and age groups gave varied responses:

Those living in the North-east sub-region<sup>5</sup> of Perth identified a 'lack of footpaths' as their top response **(31%)**

The top response of those aged 29 and under is walking more often is 'not practical due to distance' **(41%)**

Parents under 45 years of age identified the 'need to do school drop off/pick-ups on the way to/from work' as a key barrier to walking more often<sup>6</sup> **(24%)**

Approximately 1 in 4 **(23%)** women under 45 years of age living in Perth say concerns about 'personal safety' stops them from walking more often, compared with just **11%** for all respondents

Approximately 1 in 5 **(18%)** of those aged 45 years or older identify 'health or physical constraints / disability' as a key barrier to walking more often

### Priorities for government action

The top priorities<sup>7</sup> to encourage people to walk more include:

**43%** 

Better planning of communities to provide more destinations / amenities / transport services within walking distance

**38%** 

Build on / improve the network of footpaths

Regional members listed this as their top priority **(42%)**

**29%** 

Activities to promote walking as both a viable and safe mode of transport and recreational activity

**26%** 

Invest in improved public transport services

**25%** 

Better use of technologies to improve pedestrian safety and experiences

<sup>5</sup> The Northeast sub-region consists of the City of Swan, the Shire of Mundaring and the Shire of Kalamunda.

<sup>6</sup> This was the second top response, weather was the first.

<sup>7</sup> Respondents were asked to identify their top three priorities from a prompted list.



For further information  
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