

RAC Young Driver Survey

2017



RAC Young Driver Survey 2017

RAC regularly surveys young drivers throughout Western Australia to find out more about their behaviours and attitudes behind the wheel. The findings of these surveys help RAC raise awareness of road safety and uncover the key issues facing road users in our State.

Confidence is key

WA's young drivers rate themselves highly when it comes to driving. 76% said they rate their driving skills as better or much better than their peers.

Need for speed

Almost half (49%) of young drivers have received a speeding fine since getting their licence.



Driven to distraction

Since starting to drive, 39% of young drivers have had a near miss because they were distracted, 25% have been distracted by an electronic billboard and 23% say they find it harder to concentrate when they have friends or family in the car with them.

Risky business

Young drivers now consider sending a text

or posting on social media

to be more dangerous

than low level drinking and speeding...



Dangerous driving habits and attitudes

Mobile phones

- 53%** admit to using their phone while driving.
- 21%** have used their phone in slow moving traffic.
- 18%** have used their phone while driving on a suburban road (40 – 70km/hr posted speed limit).
- 10%** have used their phone on a freeway/ highway (80+ km/hr posted speed limit).
- 68%** have used Google Maps app, 54% have texted, 50% have used a music app, and 29% have used Snapchat while driving.
- 53%** said that if there was a device which disabled the use of their mobile while driving they would not use it.

Alcohol

- 15%** have driven while suspecting they were over the legal blood alcohol limit.

Speeding

- 41%** have spoken up when in a car where the driver was speeding.
- 22%** believe speeding is okay if it's less than 10km/h over the limit.

Driving tired

- 38%** have driven even though they were too tired to do so.

WA's deadly habit

Over half (54%) of young drivers say they see someone using their mobile phone while stopped at traffic lights at least once a week.



Older and wiser

Young motorists believe that they will become better drivers as they get a bit older. 60% believe that 17-24 year olds are responsible for most crashes on WA roads.

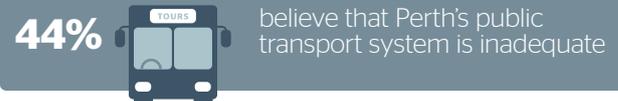


Frustrations high

35% have expressed anger at other drivers or cyclists by shouting, gesturing or driving aggressively.

Public transport blues

72% say they need a car to get around and 57% say that if they lost their license their life would be dramatically affected. 44% believe that Perth's public transport system is inadequate, while only 13% prefer public transport over driving.



Honesty is the best policy

Almost all of WA's young motorists said they were honest when it came to logging their driving hours. 81% said they didn't exaggerate any of their entries when completing the required hours of driving.

Congestion

63% say that congestion in Perth is getting worse.

For further information please
contact advocacy@rac.com.au

