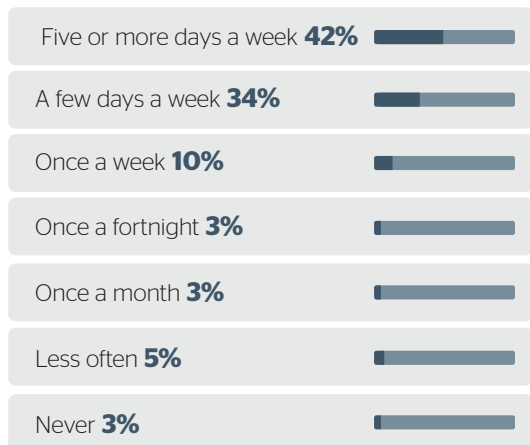


# RAC Member Priorities Tracker

## Walking

In December 2022, 234 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.

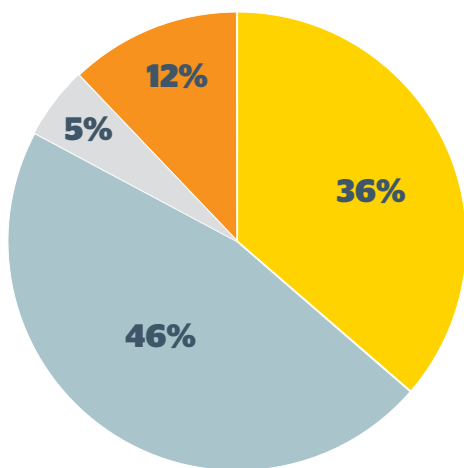
### How often do our members walk outside for at least 10 minutes?<sup>2</sup>



### Walking in our local area

Over the last 12 months, 36% 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 and using the streets and public spaces in their local area decreased in the last year.



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

<sup>1</sup> 183 from the Perth and Peel regional and 51 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 +/-6% at the 95% confidence level.

<sup>2</sup> Applies to entirety of 2022 (2,092 respondents) rather than just survey month. Data captured monthly.

<sup>3</sup> Respondents who were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.

<sup>4</sup> 'Regular walkers' are those who walk outside for more than 10 minutes

### Satisfaction with existing infrastructure

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

**48%** were satisfied<sup>3</sup> with 'footpaths'



**45%** were satisfied with 'controlled crossings (e.g. at traffic lights)' vs. **26%** 'uncontrolled crossings (e.g. without lights such as mid-block and on side roads)'



### Walking behaviour at signalised intersections



Just over half (**55%**) of all members 'wait for the green pedestrian light to cross the road' most of the time or more<sup>4</sup>.

14% - 'rarely' or 'never' wait.



Almost half (**47%**) of all members feel 'they wait too long at signalised intersections to cross the road' at least some of the time.

15% say they wait too long most of the time or more.



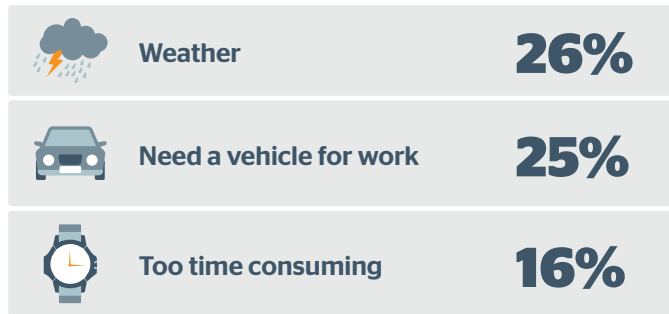
Almost two thirds (**63%**) of all members 'cross a road away from signalised intersections' at least some of the time, with more than one in four (**27%**) doing so most of the time or always.



For the better

## What stops us walking more often?

When asked what stops them from walking more often, the top three responses from men<sup>5</sup> were:



The top three responses from women<sup>6</sup> were:



### Members across different locations, stages of life and age groups<sup>7</sup> gave varied responses:

Compared with those in the North-West sub-region (4%), those living in the Central (21%) and South Metro/Peel (25%) sub-regions were more likely to be concerned about personal safety while walking than the average member (16%).

The top responses of those aged 29 and under were 'need a vehicle for work' (41%) and 'weather' (39%).

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 (28%).

1 in 4 (25%) women under 45 years of age living in Perth say concerns about 'personal safety' stop them from walking more often, compared with just 16% for all respondents.

14% of those aged 45 years or older identify 'health or physical constraints / disability' as a key barrier to walking more often, compared with just 3% under 45.



For further information please contact [advocacy@rac.com.au](mailto:advocacy@rac.com.au)

## Priorities for government action

The top priorities<sup>8</sup> to encourage people to walk more include:

**47%**

'Build on / improve the network of footpaths'



» Regional members listed this as their top priority (59%)

**46%**

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



**28%**

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



**23%**

'Better use of technologies to improve pedestrian safety and experiences'



**22%**

'Invest in improved public transport services'



<sup>5</sup> 32% said nothing stops them from walking more frequently.

<sup>6</sup> 22% said nothing stops them from walking more frequently.

<sup>7</sup> Typical sample sizes for these groups were between 20-30.

<sup>8</sup> Respondents were asked to identify their top three priorities from a prompted list.