RAC Member Priorities Tracker
Commuting & Congestion

In September 2020, 357 of our members[1] took part in a survey telling us about their daily commute, what activities they would do if their commute was shorter and their views on traffic congestion and how it could be managed more effectively.

Our commute

Members[2] show a high level of satisfaction with their daily commute, but many are still looking at ways to improve it.

Satisfaction

73% are satisfied[3] with their daily commute

58% of regular peak hour drivers[4] in Perth
77% of those living in regional WA

44% took action in the last year to improve their daily commute

The most common actions were:

Work from home **10%**
Drive more **10%**

Commuting time

89% estimated the length of their daily commute to be under one hour

30 mins was the average estimated commuting time[5]

25 minutes for regional members
38 minutes for regular peak hour drivers in Perth

14 mins was the average acceptable[6] increase in commuting time

17 minutes for regional members
4 minutes for regular peak hour drivers in Perth

42 mins is the average maximum commute time both regional members and regular peak hour drivers in Perth would be willing to travel

Top three responses[7] for how members would use additional time gained from a shorter commute:

19% Spend time with family and friends

18% Exercise (individual)

17% Jobs around the home

What we think about congestion

Congestion is an issue for our Perth and regional members.

Regional members

At least once a week:

40% experience congestion in their local area/ town centre

5 or more days a week **10%**
A few days a week **21%**

36% experience congestion on regional roads/ highways

5 or more days a week **10%**
A few days a week **16%**

[1] 265 from the Perth and Peel region, 90 from regional WA, and 2 from outside 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.
[2] Question was asked of the 220 members who commute.
[3] Results are based on members who said they were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied'.
[4] Drive in peak hour five or more days a week.
[5] Members were asked to estimate their average commuting time (i.e. one-way trip to their destination).
[6] Members were asked 'what would be the maximum time (mins) you would be willing to travel to your destination (thinking about a one-way trip)'.
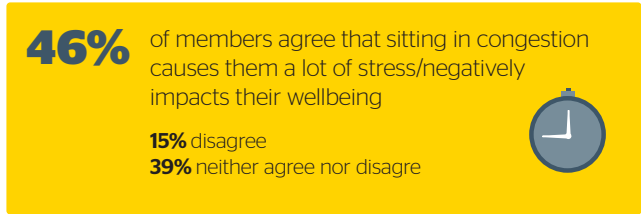[7] Prompted responses were offered and members could select their top response.
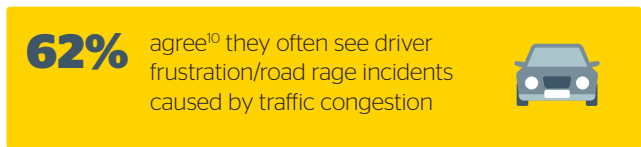
RAC

For the better

Perth members

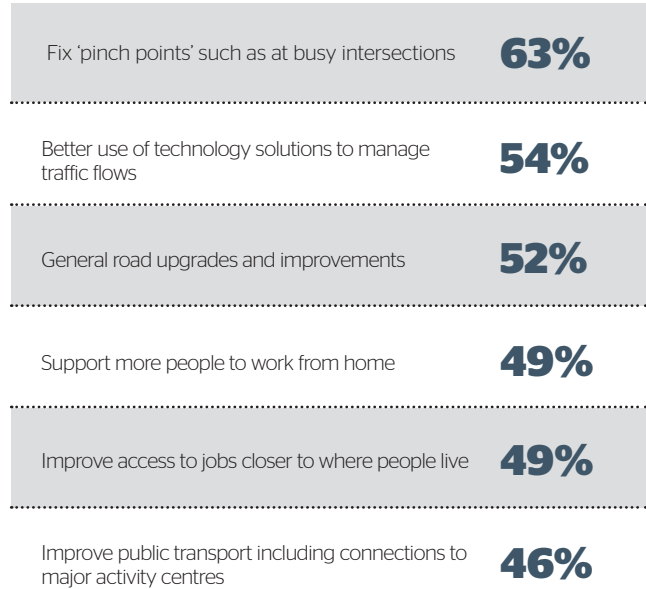In the past 12 months, members think[8] congestion on Perth roads has:

↑ **48%** Increased

28% Stayed the same

↓ **11%** Decreased

46% of members agree that sitting in congestion causes them a lot of stress/negatively impacts their wellbeing

15% disagree
39% neither agree nor disagree

Members think the main causes[9] of traffic congestion on Perth roads relate to:

19% Driver skills / behaviour

18% Road works

17% Population growth

62% agree[10] they often see driver frustration/road rage incidents caused by traffic congestion

Government action on Perth roads[11]

64% agree[12] that traffic congestion requires immediate attention by government

Top initiatives[13] to ease traffic congestion 'a lot' or 'a great deal' on Perth roads:

Initiative	
Fix 'pinch points' such as at busy intersections	**63%**
Better use of technology solutions to manage traffic flows	**54%**
General road upgrades and improvements	**52%**
Support more people to work from home	**49%**
Improve access to jobs closer to where people live	**49%**
Improve public transport including connections to major activity centres	**46%**

8   'Don't know / can't say' was selected by 14%. Numbers do not add to 100% due to rounding.
9   Prompted responses were offered and members could select their top response.
10 Results are based on members who said they 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed'.
11 Metropolitan members only.
12 Results are based on members who said they 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed'.
13 Prompted responses were offered and members were asked 'how much do you think the following initiatives would help to ease traffic congestion on Perth roads'.

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