

Member Panel report, Aug 2021: **home**



In August 2021, we asked our members about home solar and battery, government energy initiatives, home insurance and new housing developments. 576 members responded: here's a summary of the findings.

61% of members aged 30+ have solar panels installed in their main home

The top reason for installing them is to save money on electricity bills, followed by being more environmentally friendly, making an overall financial saving and in response to high or rising energy bills. Three quarters of non-strata home owners without solar panels have considered installing them, but have chiefly been put off by installation expense. The top two solar pain points are declining feed-in tariffs and choosing a trustworthy installation company.

13% of members aged 30+ whose main home has solar panels also have a home battery

The top reasons for installing one are: to save money (on energy bills); to be more self-reliant and to use more solar energy. Three quarters of non-strata home owners with solar panels but no home battery have considered installing one, but have chiefly been put off by installation expense. The most common home battery pain points are ensuring they are working properly, installation time and upfront cost.

Two thirds think retailer feed-in tariffs are not generous enough and 4 in 10 think solar rebates and the Home Battery Scheme are not generous enough

Members are more than twice as likely to oppose as support requiring solar systems to be capable of being remotely disconnected to stabilise the grid.

We'd like to know your thoughts on key issues regarding motoring, road safety, travel and tourism. If you haven't already signed up for RAA's Member Panel, you can do so [here](#).

Half of members aged 30+ think the proportion of electricity currently generated in SA from renewable sources is lower than it should be right now

A quarter think it is about right, while 1 in 10 think it is too high. The top reasons for viewing it as too low are opportunities for greater solar and wind generation and that we should already be at 100%. The top two reasons given for viewing it as about right or too high are that non-renewables are needed for grid stability/baseload power and that renewables are not reliable enough.

Only 13% of members age 30+ know a lot about how to protect their home from risk of natural disasters, while a third know a little and 2% know nothing at all

A quarter of members aged 30+ are not very or not at all confident in estimating the rebuilding cost of their home or replacement cost of their home contents. Of the 97% of members with home insurance, half last reviewed the replacement value of their home and/or contents more than a year ago, a quarter more than two years ago and one in ten more than five years ago.

When planning new housing developments, three quarters of members aged 30+ think it is extremely important to consider risk of natural disasters

Two thirds think road capacity is extremely important, just over half public transport links, just under half footpaths, 4 in 10 solar panels, 3 in 10 cycle paths/lanes and a quarter inclusion of EV-ready charging points.