

Member Panel Results

November 2015

Introduction

The Member Panel survey conducted in November 2015 looked at a range of topics in an effort to provide relevant topics to a wider section of Member Panel participants. The topics covered included:

- **Roadworks** – Roadworks are a necessary part of maintaining a safe and efficient transport network. However, negotiating roadworks can often feel like an inconvenience and a hassle for motorists.
- **Privacy** – Increasingly data usage and data retention are playing a larger part in our lives and this is no exception when it comes to our cars. Various phone and car based computers can gain information about how we drive, where we drive and what is happening within our cars.
- **GST** – The GST is based on the principle that a single broadly applied federal tax is more efficient than having multiple state based taxes. The GST is currently applied to a base of goods and services at a rate of 10%.
- **Long distance driving** – Long distance driving or ‘road trips’ have long been part of Australian culture. Long distance driving however carries added risks compared to regular driving, particularly relating to driver fatigue.
- **Member Panel** – We wanted to gain a greater understanding of why people have joined the Member Panel and what they would like to see from it in the future.

Results

Roadworks

The signage of speed limits around roadworks was a significant issue for survey respondents. Of particular concern was inadequate signage at the end of roadworks and altered speed limits around roadworks when there was no work taking place.

- 81% of respondents indicated that in the past 6 months they had “*Driven past roadworks when there was no sign advising motorists to return to the default speed limit at the end of the roadworks*”.
- Additionally 99% of respondents indicated that in the past 6 months they had “*Driven past roadworks when altered speed signage was displayed and there were no workers or machinery in operation*”.

It was observed that 58% of respondents indicated they would travel over a posted speed limit of 25km/h when travelling through roadworks on a 60km/h road if there were no workers or machinery in operation. This result is concerning given that reduced speed limits around roadworks are not only put in place to account for proximity to active works but also to account for a change in road conditions e.g. uneven surfaces, insufficient road markings or barriers.

Privacy

Respondents expressed reservations around the collection of private information from their vehicles computers and navigation systems. 93% of respondents agreed that they should be notified in circumstances where their personal information was being collected and 92% agreed that the government should monitor the storage, sharing and selling of numberplate data.

GST

An increase to the GST and/or expansion of the range of goods and services it is applied to was supported by over half (58%) of respondents. Despite this sentiment, 73% of respondents did not believe that GST should be applied to excise on fuel.

Long distance driving

Long distance driving appears to be quite common amongst survey respondents with 84% indicating that they had undertaken a trip of 200km or more in a day (as driver or passenger) in the past 12 months. Additionally, 80% indicated they were intending to do so in the next 6 months.

76% of respondents indicated that when undertaking long distance driving they were most likely to stop driving for a break every three hours or less (53% 2-3 hours and 26% 1-2 hours). This result is very positive as it broadly reflects the recommend maximum driving time to combat fatigue

The most common reasons for taking a break in driving were reported to be for a toilet break (29%) and food or drink (24%). Respondents were most likely to stop for a break in a town/city (54%) followed by roadside rest stop (26%).

Note: Verbatim comments indicated that respondents living in regional areas may not consider a trip of 200km to be “long distance”, country members accounted for 24% of all responses.

Member Panel

Participation in the Member Panel appears to be highly motivated by participants wanting to be engaged in the policy development process and having their personal views reflected by RAA. A combined 62% of respondents indicated they had joined the Member Panel to have their say (34%) and influence RAA’s public position (28%).

High levels of engagement were also demonstrated with 75% of respondents indicating that they would like to receive a Member Panel survey every five weeks or less with almost a quarter (23%) indicating a preference for surveys every two weeks or less. These timeframes are much more frequent than is currently in place with a survey going out approximately every two months.

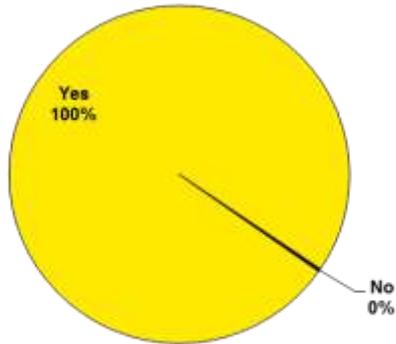
Only 2% of respondents reported they had joined the Member Panel because they were interested in a specific topic. However this statistic may be higher as it is likely that any other members who had done the same may not have completed this survey. Additionally only one respondent indicated they had joined was to be eligible for the prize draw.

The majority of participants indicated that they found out about the Member Panel either through RAA eNews (30%), RAA website (24%) or samotor (23%). These figures are somewhat unsurprising considering these channels have the greatest reach and have been used for promotion the longest. It is very encouraging to note that 15% of respondents had found out about the Member Panel via other RAA surveys as promotion via this channel has only been implemented in the past month.

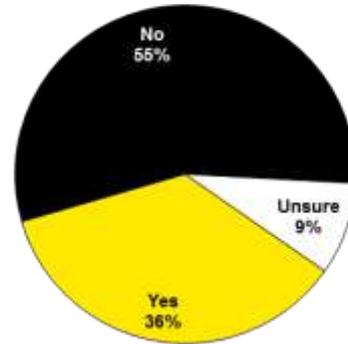
Appendix – Member Panel Questions and Results

Roadworks

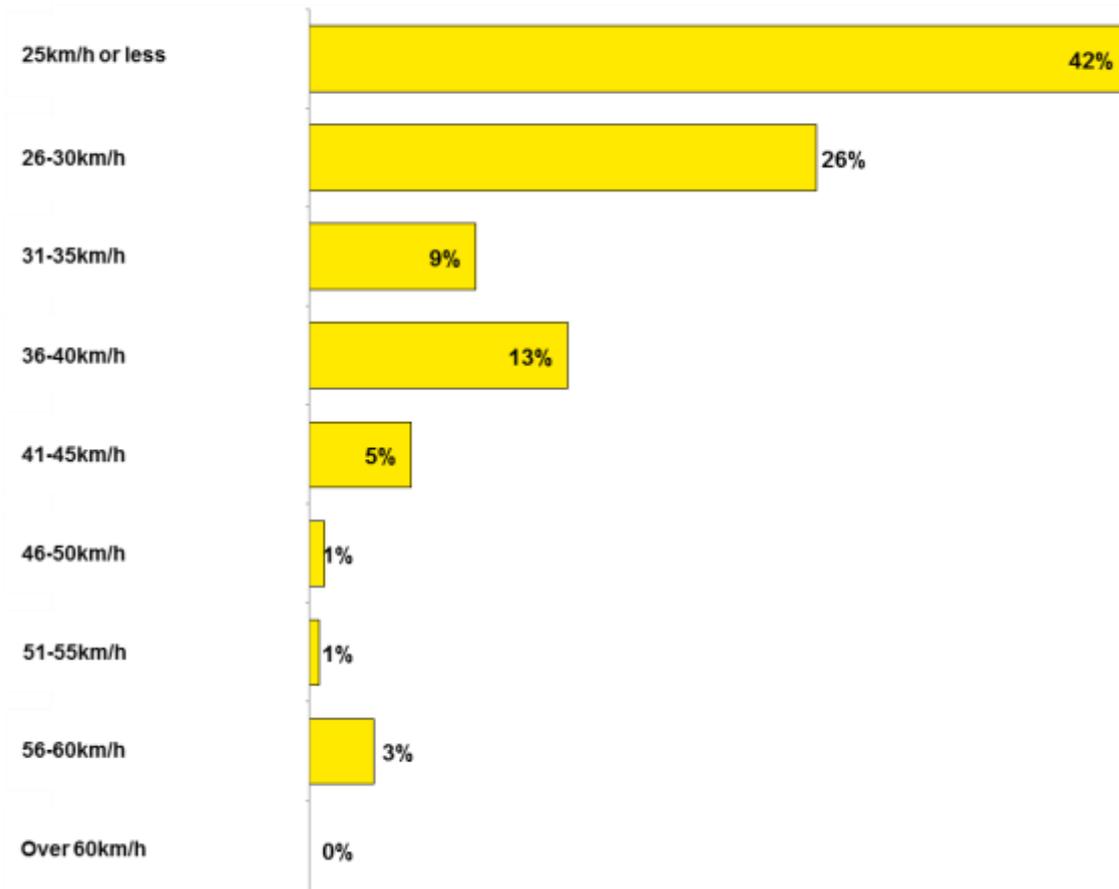
Have you driven past roadworks in the last 6 months?



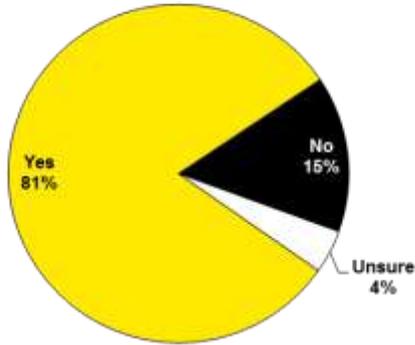
In the past 6 months have you driven past roadworks when there was no change of speed limit signage erected at the beginning of the roadworks?



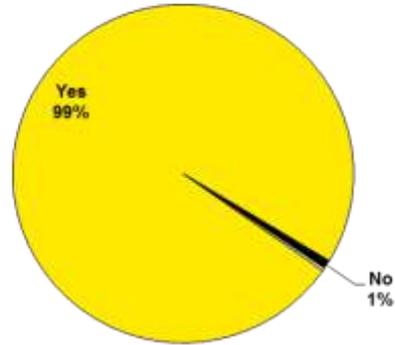
If the roadworks speed limit is posted at 25km/h on a 60km/h road and as you're travelling through you notice there are no workers or machinery in operation, what approximate speed would you travel at?



In the past 6 months have you driven past roadworks when there was no signage advising you to return to the default speed limit at the end of the roadworks?

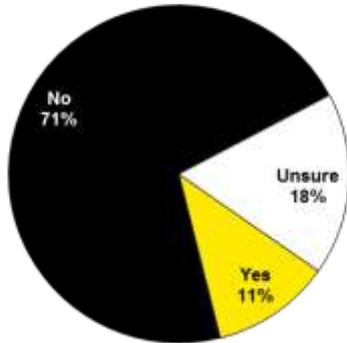


In the past 6 months have you driven past roadworks when altered speed signage was displayed and there were no workers or machinery in operation?

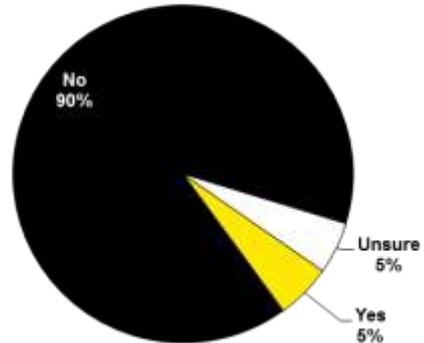


Privacy

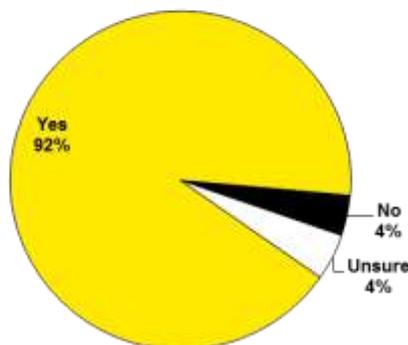
Currently some private companies have installed number plate recognition cameras that log when and where a vehicle passes in front of them. Do you support private companies collecting this info?



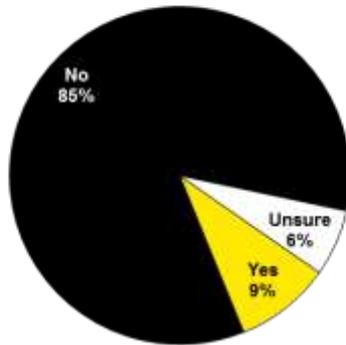
Some private companies collecting vehicle logs either share or sell this information to other private companies. Do you support the selling and sharing of this information between private companies?



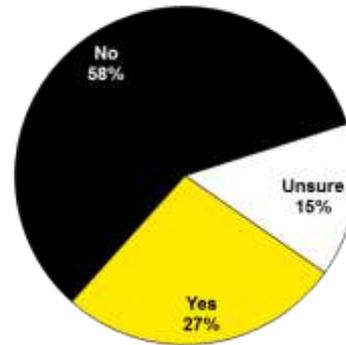
Do you believe the government should monitor and regulate how private companies store, share or sell private number plate data?



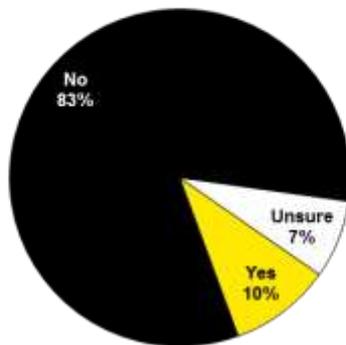
Do you believe a private company should be able to use your number plate to acquire personal details from the government for the purposes of issuing infringement notices e.g. parking fines?



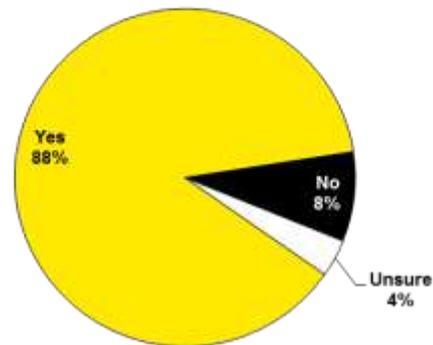
Are you comfortable with the use of number plate recognition technology by private organisations such as car parks and toll companies?



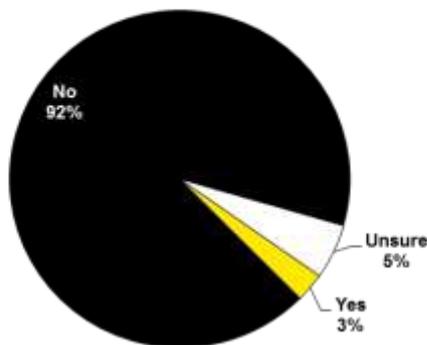
Vehicle navigation systems and smart phone based navigation applications retain information relating to users travel patterns. Do you support private companies being able to access this information?



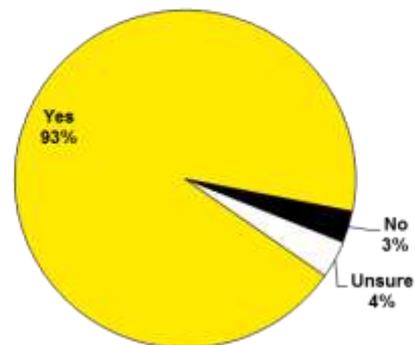
In-car computers retain information about usage, servicing intervals and fault detection but can only be sourced by certain repairers. Should this data be made available to the repairer of your choosing?



Do you support vehicle repairers being able to collect, use and retain information stored on a vehicle's computer for purposes other than repairing and servicing your vehicle?

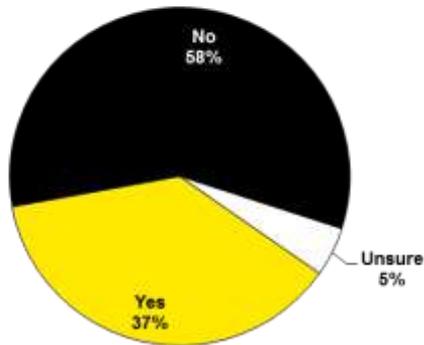


Do you believe an individual should be informed prior to any private data (including number plate data) being collected?

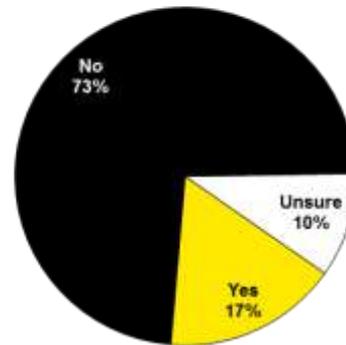


GST

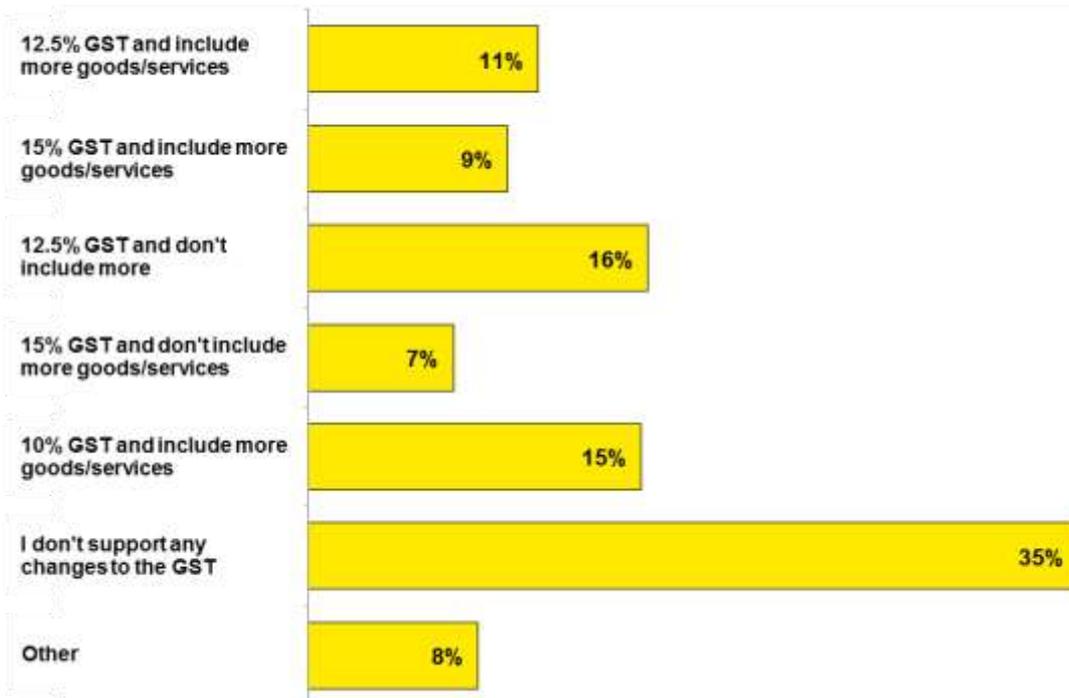
Do you believe GST impacts all people equitably?



GST is currently applied to excise on fuel and is considered to be a tax on a tax. Do you think GST should be applied to excise on fuel?

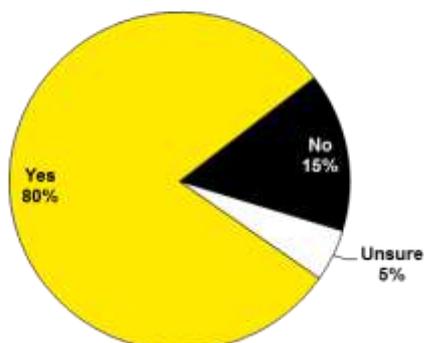


Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

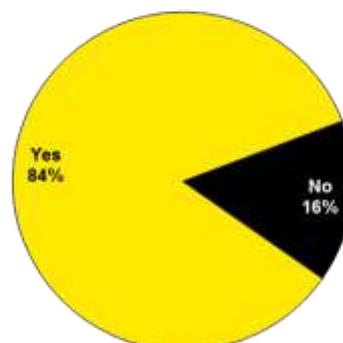


Long Distance Driving

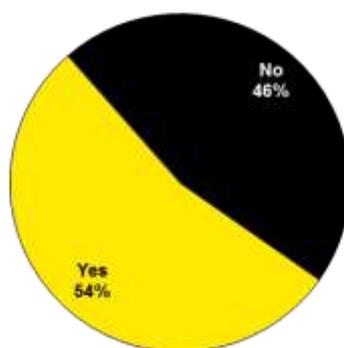
Do you intend to go on any long distance car travel in the next 6 months (i.e. travel over 200km in a day as a driver or passenger)?



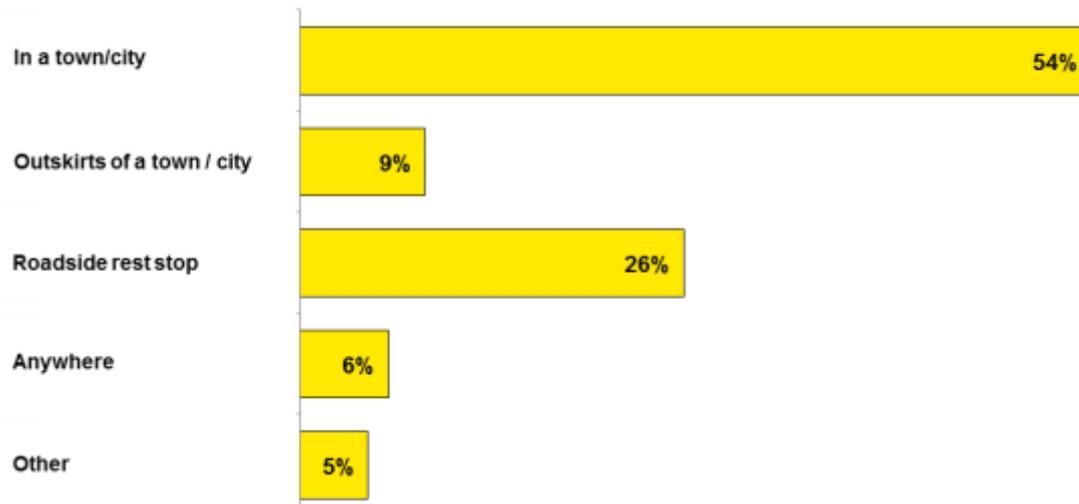
Have you undertaken any long distance car travel in the past 12 months (i.e. travel over 200km in a day as a driver or passenger)?



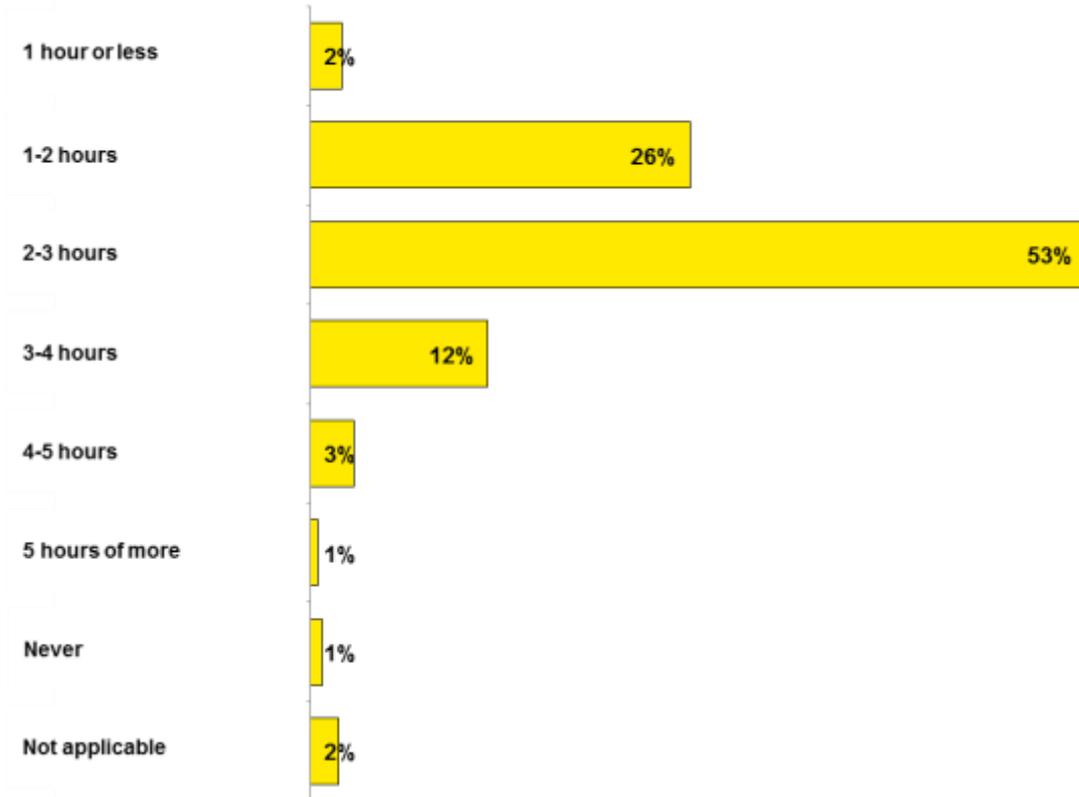
Have you used a roadside rest stop in South Australia in the last 12 months?



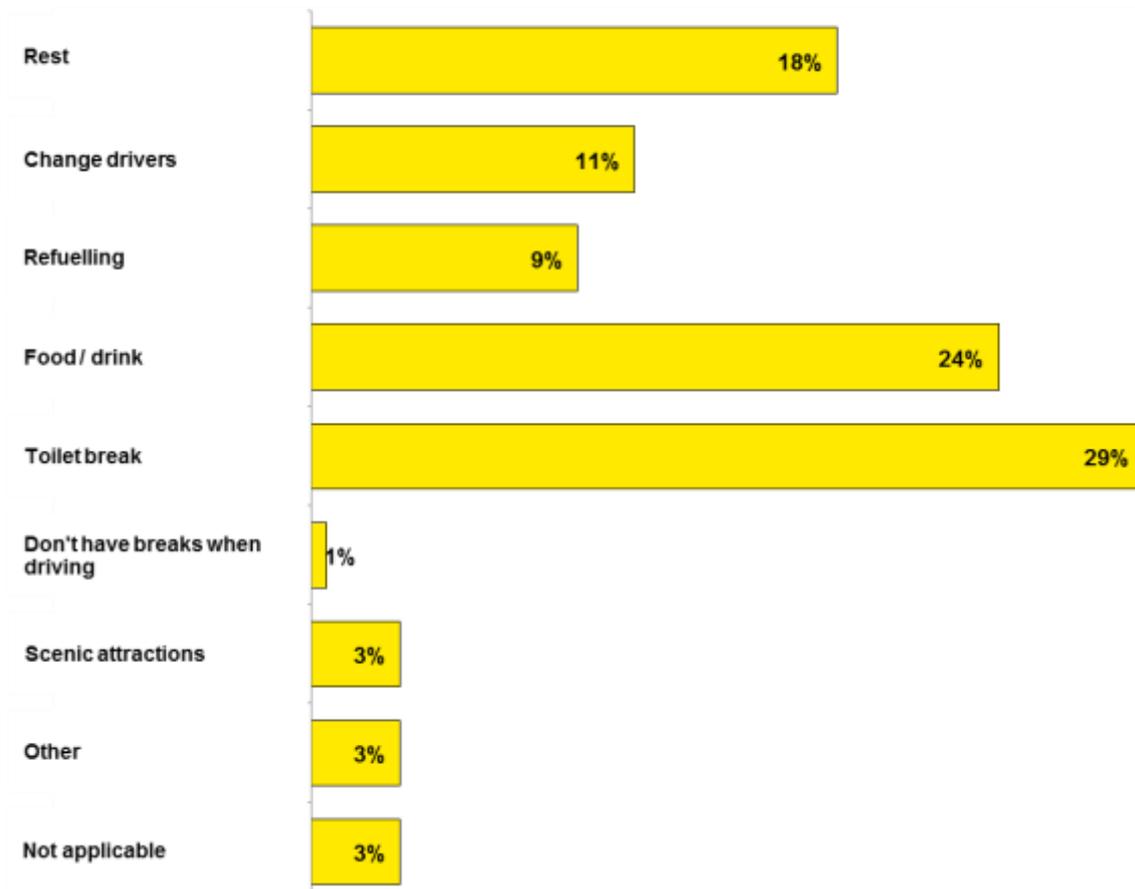
When taking a break from driving during long distance car travel (i.e. travel over 200 km in a day as a driver or passenger) where would you be most likely to stop?



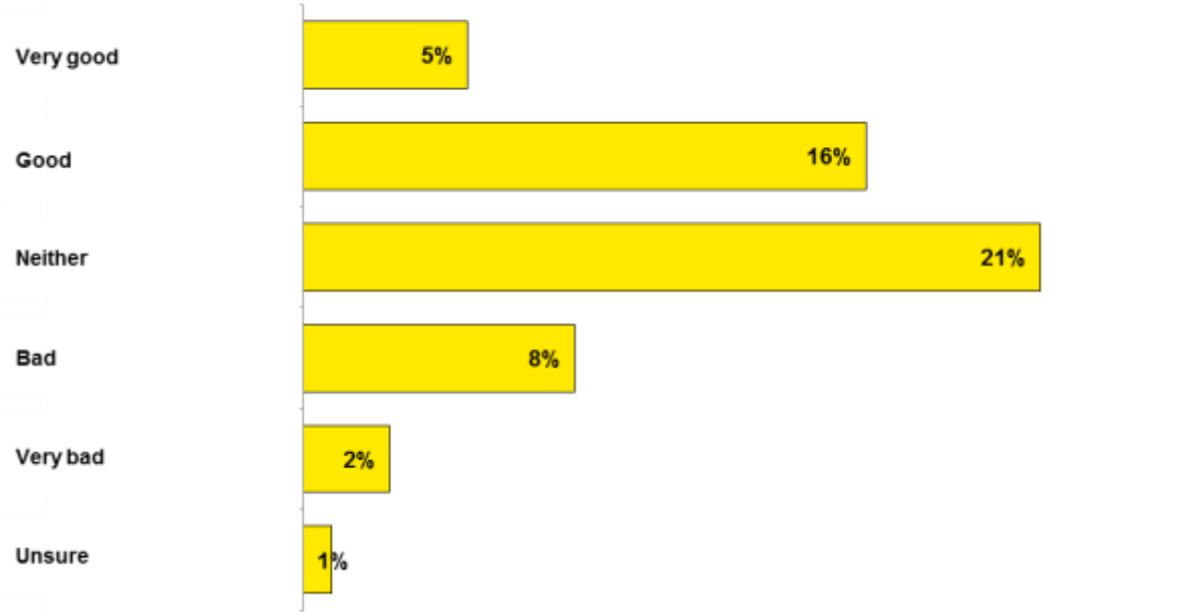
When undertaking long distance car travel (i.e. travel over 200km in a day as a driver or passenger) how often do you take breaks from driving?



When undertaking long distance car travel (i.e. travel over 200km in a day as a driver or passenger) for which of the following reasons would you most likely take a break from driving:

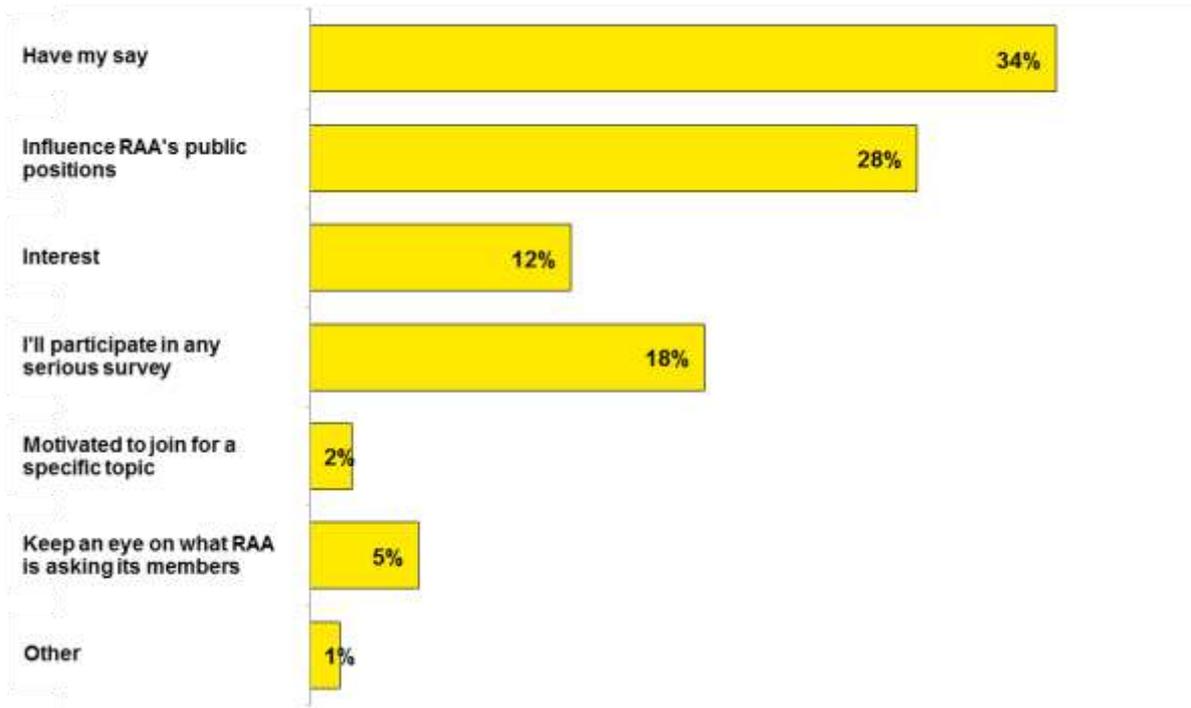


How would you rate the condition of the last roadside rest stop you used?

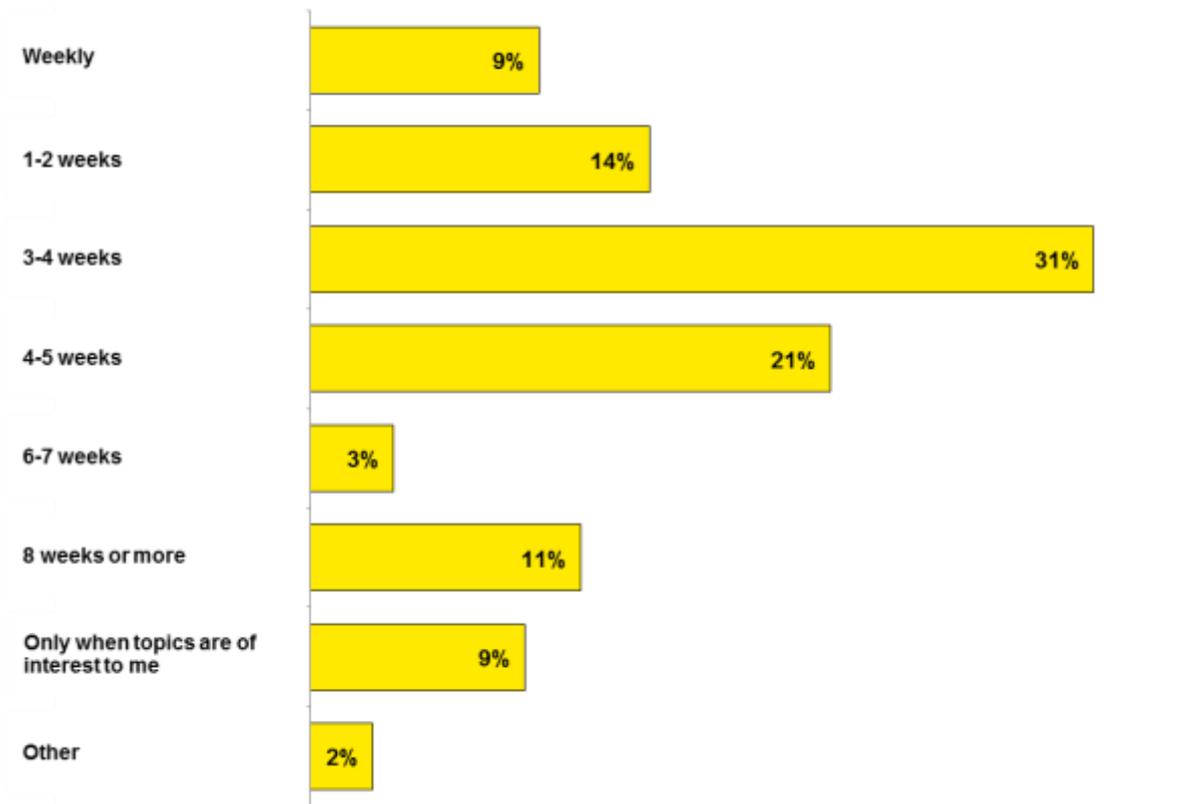


Member Panel

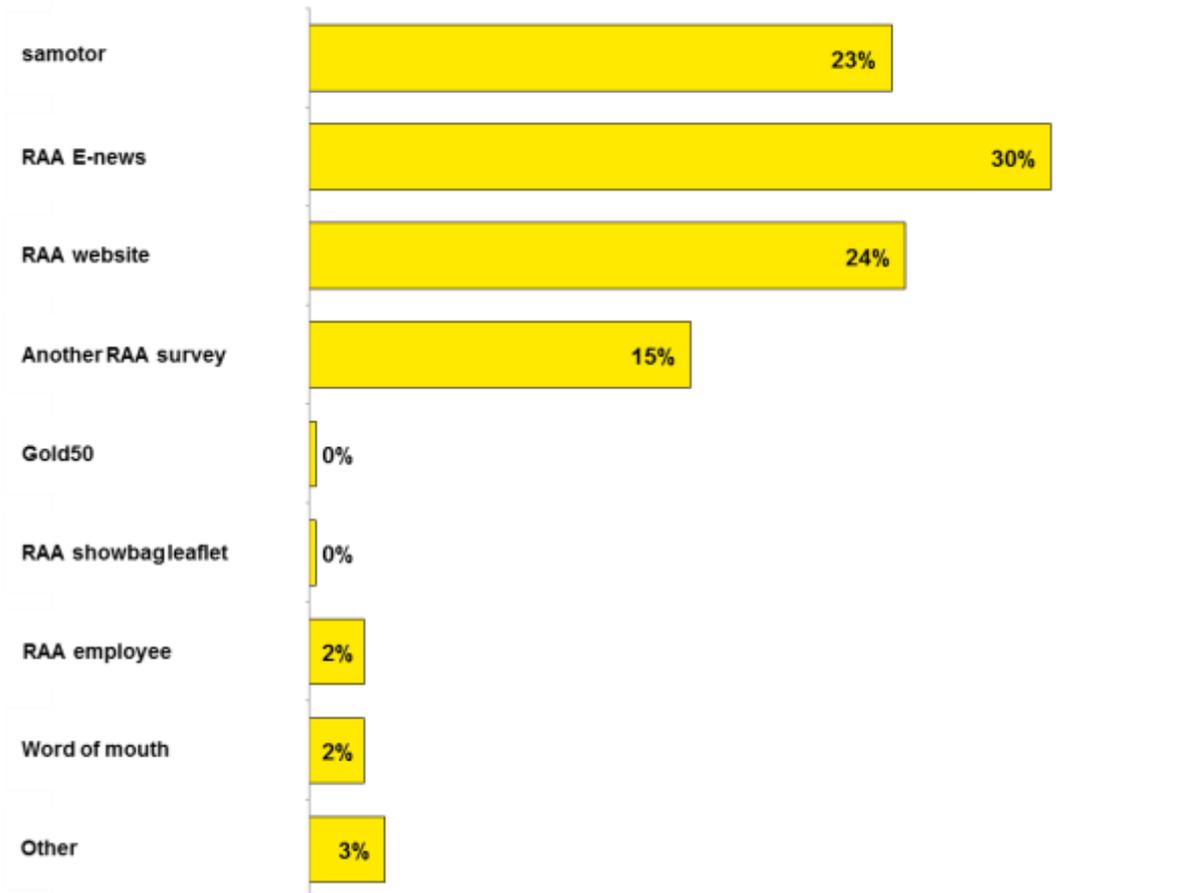
What was your primary reason for joining RAA's Member Panel?



How often would you like to receive RAA Member Panel surveys?



How did you find out about RAA's Member Panel?



RAA provides a summary of previous Member Panel survey results. Have you ever read one of these reports?

