TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

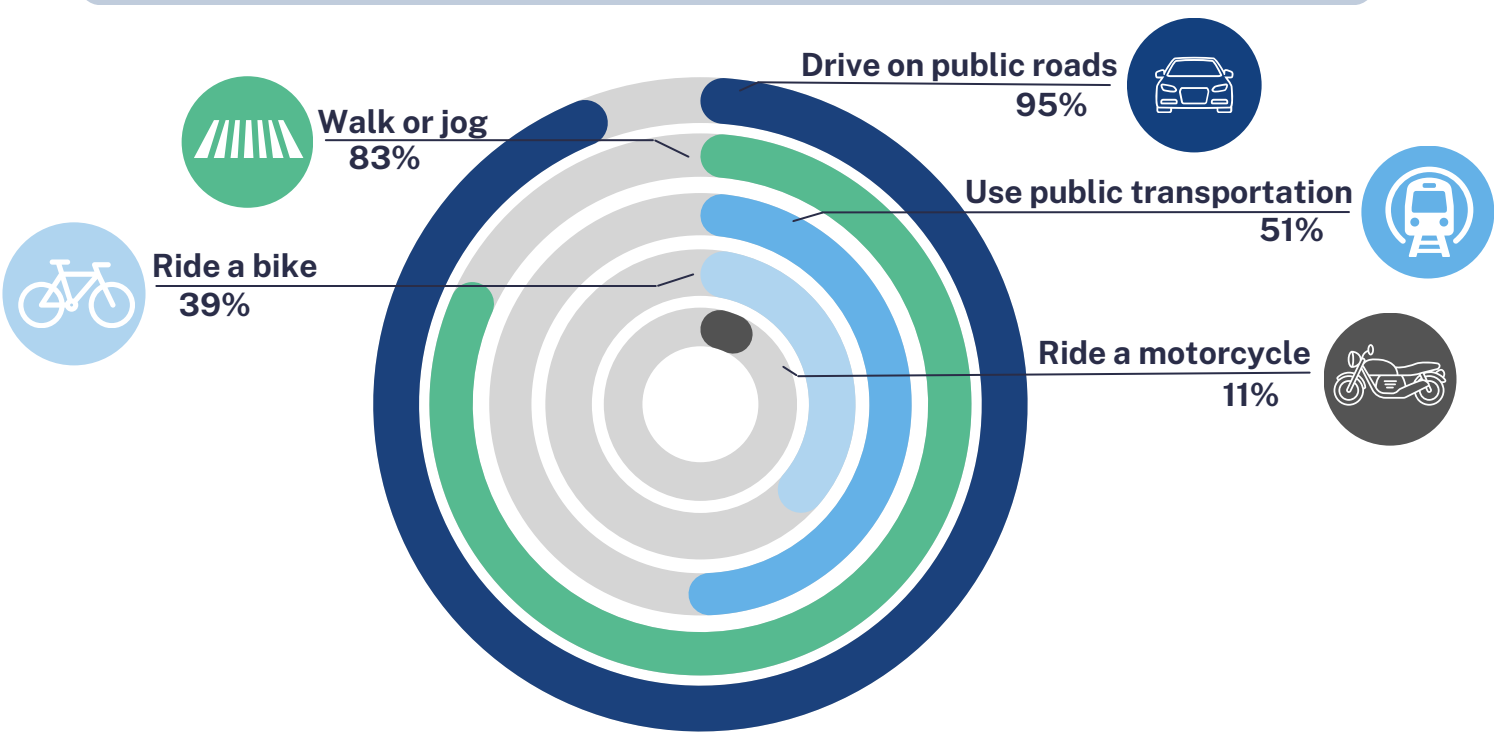
Washington Traffic Survey 2026

The Washington (WA) Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC) has conducted a statewide survey of adults aged 18 and over. This research aims to inform statewide planning and evaluation of traffic safety programs.

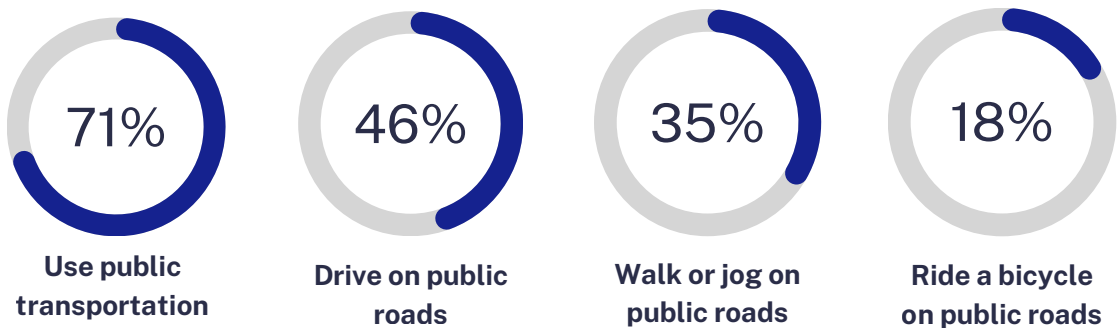
This infographic provides insight into this year's findings, covering road usage patterns, perceived roadway risks, community beliefs, and pedestrian and cyclist experiences on public roads.

ROAD USE

How do people use public roads?



Adults who feel it is safe to...



Belief in Zero Tolerance for Road Harm

The only acceptable number of deaths and serious injuries on our roadways should be zero

Public Interventions on Unsafe Driving Practices

68%
Asked someone who was not using a seat belt to use a seat belt

49%
Asked someone who was speeding or driving aggressively to slow down

53%
Asked a driver who was using their cell phone or distracted to focus on driving

44%
Took some action to prevent someone from driving impaired

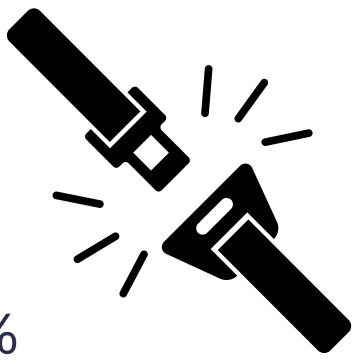
Phone Use While Driving

Have NOT held & talked on the phone while driving

MARKET DECISIONS RESEARCH

ROAD SAFETY

Where and when adults consistently buckle up



95%
Within a few miles of home

96%
Many miles away from home

87%
In the back seat of the car

Self-Reported High-Risk Driving Behavior

REPORTED BEHAVIOR

% "Yes"

80%
Drove 10+ mph over the speed limit*

4%
Drove after consuming alcohol

3%
Drove after consuming cannabis

* % "Rarely", "Sometimes", "Usually", and "Always"

Perceived Frequency of High-Risk Driving Behavior in Community

PERCEIVED BEHAVIOR

% "Sometimes", "Usually", and "Always"

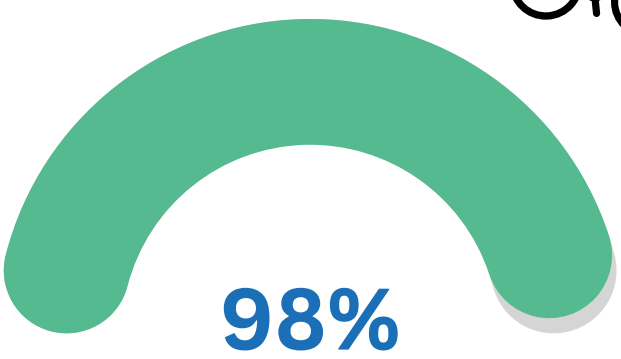
87%
Drove 10+ mph over the speed limit

68%
Drove after consuming alcohol

69%
Drove after consuming cannabis

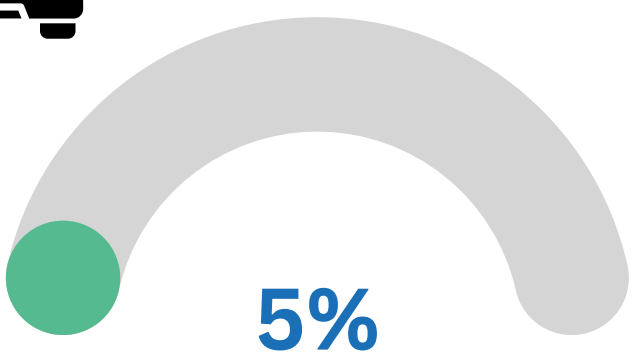
Few drivers admit to driving under the influence, yet a majority suspect it's common in their community

Pedestrian and Cyclist Traffic Safety



98%

Reported the traffic deaths of people walking, biking, or rolling as 'Extremely', 'Very' or 'Moderately Important'



5%

Reported being struck by a car in the past 12 months while walking, biking, or rolling

MARKET DECISIONS RESEARCH