

Vehicle Safety Features

9.1 How often do you use lane assist, automatic braking, or other safety features?

- Always**—these features are essential every time I drive. 22.1%
- Often**, but I still stay alert and in control. 21.7%
- Occasionally**, depending on the situation. 17.2%
- Rarely**—I prefer to rely on my own driving skills. 11.6%
- Never**—I turn these features off or don't have them. 27.5%

Statistically relevant differences:

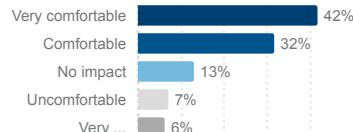
- Reported use of safety features skews strongly toward younger drivers, men, and those with kids.
- 59% of parents vs. 27% of non-parents use these features frequently
- 55% of men vs. 31% of women, men report using safety tech more often
- younger drivers use safety tech more
 - 57% <35 vs. 23% 55+

Total 688		has children? 579		by gender 675			
frequency	2025	frequency	has kids	no kids	frequency	Man	Woman
Always / Often	44%	Always / Often	59%	27%	Always / Often	55%	31%
Occasionally	17%	Occasionally	17%	17%	Occasionally	18%	17%
Rarely / Never	39%	Rarely / Never	24%	55%	Rarely / Never	27%	52%
Sum	100%	Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

by metro 688			by age group 688		
frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro	frequency	< 35	35 - 54
Always / Often	42%	45%	Always / Often	57%	44%
Occasionally	17%	17%	Occasionally	16%	19%
Rarely / Never	41%	37%	Rarely / Never	27%	37%
Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

9.2 If you had to drive a vehicle without safety or technology features, how comfortable would you be relying on your own skills?

- Very comfortable**—I feel safer and more confident on the road.
- Comfortable**—helpful, but I still rely on my skills.
- No impact**—my driving hasn't changed.
- Uncomfortable**—I worry I'm depending on them too much.
- Very uncomfortable**—I feel like they make me a lazier driver.



Statistically relevant differences:

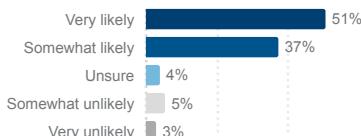
- Parents and men feel slightly more confident driving without tech, but the majority of all groups are comfortable.
 - 79% parents vs 69% not parents comfortable
 - 78% men vs 70% women comfortable

Total 833		has children? 668		by gender 811			
comfort_lvl	2025	comfort_lvl	has children	no children	comfort_lvl	Man	Woman
Very Comfortable / Comfortable	73%	Very Comfortable / Comfortable	79%	69%	Very Comfortable / Comfortable	78%	70%
No impact	13%	No impact	9%	16%	No impact	9%	17%
Uncomfortable / Very Uncomfortable	13%	Uncomfortable / Very Uncomfortable	11%	15%	Uncomfortable / Very Uncomfortable	13%	13%
Sum	100%	Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

by metro 833			by age group 833		
comfort_lvl	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro	comfort_lvl	< 35	35 - 54
Very Comfortable / Comfortable	74%	73%	Very Comfortable / Comfortable	73%	73%
No impact	14%	12%	No impact	13%	14%
Uncomfortable / Very Uncomfortable	12%	15%	Uncomfortable / Very Uncomfortable	15%	13%
Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

9.3 In an emergency, how likely are you to trust your own driving skills more than your car's safety technology?

- Very likely —I'd rather rely on my instincts.
- Somewhat likely —I trust myself but appreciate backup from tech.
- Somewhat unlikely —I think the vehicle's systems probably react faster than I can.
- Very unlikely —I have no doubt the vehicle's technology is safer than human reaction.
- Unsure—it depends on the situation.



Statistically relevant differences:

- Strong trust in own driving skills across the board; men & parents slightly more so.
 - 91% men vs 85% women
 - 90% parents vs 85% no kids

Total 688

has children? 579

by gender 675

trust_self	2025	trust_self	has kids	no kids	trust_self	Man	Woman
Very/Somewhat Likely	88%	Very/Somewhat Likely	90%	85%	Very/Somewhat Likely	91%	85%
Unsure	4%	Unsure	1%	7%	Unsure	1%	7%
Very/Somewhat Unlikely	8%	Very/Somewhat Unlikely	9%	7%	Very/Somewhat Unlikely	8%	9%
Sum	100%	Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

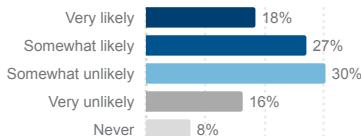
by metro 688

by age group 688

trust_self	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro	trust_self	< 35	35 - 54	55+
Very/Somewhat Likely	88%	88%	Very/Somewhat Likely	87%	91%	84%
Unsure	3%	4%	Unsure	3%	2%	10%
Very/Somewhat Unlikely	9%	8%	Very/Somewhat Unlikely	10%	8%	6%
Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%	100%

9.4 How likely are you to trust other drivers' skills over their car's safety technology?

- Very likely — I believe human skill is more reliable.
- Somewhat likely — I trust other drivers but think tech is a good backup.
- Somewhat unlikely — It depends on the situation.
- Very unlikely — I think safety tech reduces human error.
- Never — I'd rather trust automated systems than another driver.



Statistically relevant differences:

*combined Never with Unlikely answers

- More respondents lean *against* trusting other drivers over their tech.
- Parents, younger drivers, and men are significantly more likely to trust other drivers' skills.
- Non-parents, older drivers, and women tend to put

Total 833

has children? 668

by gender 811

trust_others	2025	trust_others	has kids	no kids	trust_others	Man	Woman
Very / Somewhat Likely	46%	Very / Somewhat Likely	59%	34%	Very / Somewhat Likely	53%	38%
Very / Somewhat Unlikely	47%	Very / Somewhat Unlikely	34%	57%	Very / Somewhat Unlikely	42%	52%
Never	8%	Never	8%	8%	Never	5%	9%
Sum	100%	Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%

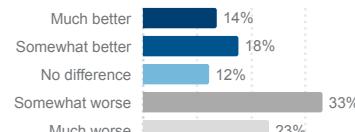
by metro 833

by age group 833

trust_others	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro	trust_others	< 35	35 - 54	55+
Very / Somewhat Likely	44%	47%	Very / Somewhat Likely	55%	41%	38%
Very / Somewhat Unlikely	49%	45%	Very / Somewhat Unlikely	38%	50%	55%
Never	7%	8%	Never	7%	9%	7%
Sum	100%	100%	Sum	100%	100%	100%

9.5 How do you think driver skill levels today compare to those who learned before modern safety technologies (e.g., lane assist, automatic braking) became common?

- Much worse—newer drivers rely too much on technology.
- Somewhat worse—safety tech helps, but they lack basic skills.
- No difference—driving skills have remained the same.
- Somewhat better—technology provides useful support, but skill still matters.
- Much better—technology has made driving safer and more effective.
- I'm not sure.



Statistically relevant differences:

- Majority see skills as declining.
- Parents, men, and younger drivers give modern drivers' skills more credit.
 - 42% parents vs 20% non-parents say "better"
 - 38% men vs 25% women say "better"
- Older and child-free groups tend to see skills as declining.

Total 807

skills	2025
Much / Somewhat Better	31%
No difference	12%
Much / Somewhat worse	57%
Sum	100%

has children? 652

skills	has kids	no kids
Much / Somewhat Better	42%	20%
No difference	10%	13%
Much / Somewhat worse	48%	66%
Sum	100%	100%

by gender 786

skills	Man	Woman
Much / Somewhat Better	38%	25%
No difference	10%	15%
Much / Somewhat worse	52%	61%
Sum	100%	100%

by metro 807

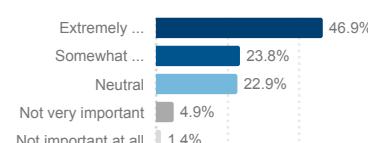
skills	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
Much / Somewhat Better	27%	35%
No difference	12%	12%
Much / Somewhat worse	61%	52%
Sum	100%	100%

by age group 807

skills	< 35	35 - 54	55+
Much / Somewhat Better	39%	29%	23%
No difference	11%	15%	9%
Much / Somewhat worse	51%	56%	67%
Sum	100%	100%	100%

9.6 How important is it to be able to navigate without GPS?

- Extremely important—everyone should know how to read a map.
- Somewhat important—it's a useful skill, but not essential.
- Neutral—it depends on the situation.
- Not very important—GPS is more efficient.
- Not important at all—I've never needed to read a map and have no issues.



Statistically relevant differences:

- A clear gender gap, modest parent gap, limited age variation.
 - parents 76% vs 64% non-parents
 - 79% men vs 61% women

Total 833

gps	2025
Extremely / Somewhat Important	71%
Neutral	23%
Not very / Not Important	6%
Sum	100%

has children? 668

gps	has kids	no kids
Extremely / Somewhat Important	76%	64%
Neutral	18%	28%
Not very / Not Important	5%	8%
Sum	100%	100%

by gender 811

gps	Man	Woman
Extremely / Somewhat Important	79%	61%
Neutral	16%	31%
Not very / Not Important	5%	8%
Sum	100%	100%

by metro 833

gps	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
Extremely / Somewhat Important	72%	69%
Neutral	23%	23%
Not very / Not Important	5%	8%
Sum	100%	100%

by age group 833

gps	< 35	35 - 54	55+
Extremely / Somewhat Important	73%	72%	64%
Neutral	20%	22%	29%
Not very / Not Important	7%	5%	7%
Sum	100%	100%	100%