

PEMCO Northwest Poll

Home Safety While Vacationing

PEMCO Mutual Insurance commissioned this independent survey, conducted by Qualtrics, that asked Washington and Oregon residents questions about attitudes toward current Northwest issues. The sample size, 489 respondents in the Seattle Metro (King, Snohomish, Pierce Counties) region, 329 respondents in the Portland Metro (Multnomah, Clark, Clackamas, Washington Counties) yields an accuracy of +/- 3.4% respectively at the 95% confidence level. In other words, if this study were conducted 100 times, in 95 instances the data will not vary by more than the associated error range.

When leaving for vacation, how concerned are you about something happening to your home?

Response options: Very concerned; Concerned; Not too concerned; Not at all concerned; I rarely travel

Data table uses bucketed categories: Concerned = Very + Somewhat; Not concerned = Not too + Not at all; Rarely travel.

Group	Base	Concerned	Not concerned	Rarely travel
Overall	818	51%	40%	9%
Washington	551	52%	38%	10%
Oregon	267	51%	42%	7%
Man	374	59%	34%	7%
Woman	425	47%	45%	9%
Age 21–34	262	53%	36%	11%
Age 35–54	355	56%	35%	9%
Age 55–64	201	43%	51%	6%
Income <\$50K	255	43%	42%	16%
Income \$50–99K	263	56%	36%	8%
Income \$100K+	284	60%	39%	1%
No children (0)	308	46%	44%	10%
Has children (1+)	328	48%	47%	5%

Which of the following actions do you typically take before leaving for a trip? (select all that apply)

Response options: Ask someone to keep an eye on the house; Pause mail / package delivery; Use timers or smart lighting; Shut off the main water supply; Activate a security system; Adjust thermostat; Lock outdoor storage/access; None of these

Data note: Select-all question. Tables show percent selecting each action.

Overall + state

Action	Overall (n=818)	WA (n=551)	OR (n=267)
Ask someone to keep an eye	57%	57%	57%
Lock outdoor storage/access	52%	52%	53%
Adjust thermostat	48%	48%	49%
Security system	44%	46%	38%
Pause mail	37%	40%	32%
Timers / smart lighting	32%	30%	34%
Shut off the water	18%	19%	16%
None	6%	6%	7%



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Gender

Action	Man	Woman
Ask someone to keep an eye	47%	65%
Lock outdoor storage/access	50%	53%
Adjust thermostat	49%	48%
Security system	52%	36%
Pause mail	35%	39%
Timers / smart lighting	33%	30%
Shut off the water	22%	15%
None	6%	6%

Age

Action	Age 21–34	Age 35–54	Age 55–64
Ask someone to keep an eye	55%	56%	64%
Lock outdoor storage/access	58%	52%	47%
Adjust thermostat	38%	52%	54%
Security system	44%	48%	35%
Pause mail	30%	36%	47%
Timers / smart lighting	20%	34%	41%
Shut off the water	20%	18%	15%
None	6%	8%	4%

Income

Action	<\$50K	\$50–99K	\$100K+
Ask someone to keep an eye	60%	60%	52%
Lock outdoor storage/access	52%	53%	54%
Adjust thermostat	42%	51%	51%
Security system	34%	41%	55%
Pause mail	33%	38%	38%
Timers / smart lighting	22%	34%	39%
Shut off the water	14%	15%	24%
None	12%	4%	4%

Children

Action	No children	Has children
Ask someone to keep an eye	60%	58%
Lock outdoor storage/access	55%	56%
Adjust thermostat	50%	49%
Security system	38%	56%
Pause mail	39%	32%
Timers / smart lighting	33%	34%
Shut off the water	14%	27%
None	6%	2%

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Before leaving, how often do you take preventative steps to reduce risks like water leaks or fire hazards (such as unplugging appliances or shutting off water)?

Response options: Always; Most of the time; About half the time; Rarely/Never

Data table uses workbook bucketed categories: More consistent = Always + Most of the time; Less consistent = About half the time + Rarely/Never.

Group	Base	More consistent	Less consistent
Overall	818	59%	41%
Washington	551	63%	37%
Oregon	267	52%	48%
Man	374	63%	37%
Woman	425	56%	44%
Age 21–34	262	61%	39%
Age 35–54	355	70%	30%
Age 55–64	201	55%	45%
Income <\$50K	255	51%	49%
Income \$50–99K	263	58%	42%
Income \$100K+	285	67%	33%
No children (0)	308	54%	46%
Has children (1+)	328	61%	39%

How often do you check security cameras or home monitoring apps while away?

Response options: Multiple times a day; Once a day; A few times during the trip; Rarely/Never; I don't use monitoring

Data table uses workbook bucketed categories: Frequent = Multiple times/day + Once/day; Occasional = A few times during the trip; Rarely/Never = Rarely/Never; Don't use monitoring = I don't use monitoring.

Group	Base	Frequent	Occasional	Rarely/Never	Don't use
Overall	818	40%	22%	6%	32%
Washington	551	43%	22%	4%	31%
Oregon	267	34%	24%	8%	34%
Man	374	45%	26%	6%	23%
Woman	425	36%	19%	6%	39%
Age 21–34	262	42%	24%	5%	28%
Age 35–54	355	45%	21%	6%	27%
Age 55–64	201	31%	22%	6%	41%
Income <\$50K	255	21%	16%	8%	55%
Income \$50–99K	263	41%	21%	3%	35%
Income \$100K+	285	52%	29%	5%	15%
No children (0)	308	33%	21%	8%	38%
Has children (1+)	328	42%	23%	6%	30%



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What concerns you most while you're away?

Response options: Break-ins; Package theft; Water leaks; Fire/electrical issues; Storm damage

Data note: Single-choice distribution.

Group	Base	Break-ins	Package theft	Water leaks	Fire/electrical	Storm damage
Overall	818	44%	17%	12%	18%	8%
Washington	551	46%	16%	12%	17%	8%
Oregon	267	41%	20%	12%	20%	7%
Man	374	43%	16%	13%	16%	12%
Woman	425	44%	18%	12%	21%	5%
Age 21–34	262	50%	19%	8%	18%	5%
Age 35–54	355	42%	16%	14%	20%	8%
Age 55–64	201	40%	18%	14%	16%	11%
Income <\$50K	255	51%	18%	8%	18%	4%
Income \$50–99K	263	44%	20%	11%	18%	7%
Income \$100K+	285	38%	11%	17%	18%	16%
No children (0)	308	49%	17%	10%	18%	6%
Has children (1+)	328	39%	17%	14%	18%	12%

Have you ever had an issue at home while away (theft, water damage, etc.)?

Response options: Yes; No

Data note: Yes/No within group.

Group	Base	Yes	No
Overall	818	24%	76%
Washington	551	23%	77%
Oregon	267	27%	73%
Man	374	24%	76%
Woman	425	24%	76%
Age 21–34	262	30%	70%
Age 35–54	355	24%	76%
Age 55–64	201	16%	84%
Income <\$50K	255	24%	76%
Income \$50–99K	263	20%	80%
Income \$100K+	285	29%	71%
No children (0)	308	20%	80%
Has children (1+)	328	31%	69%



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How comfortable are you asking neighbors to monitor your home while you’re away?

Response options: Very; Comfortable; Not very; Not at all

Data table uses bucketed categories: Comfortable = Very + Somewhat; Uncomfortable = Not very + Not at all.

Group	Base	Comfortable	Uncomfortable
Overall	818	77%	23%
Washington	551	78%	22%
Oregon	267	76%	24%
Man	374	81%	19%
Woman	425	74%	26%
Age 21–34	262	73%	27%
Age 35–54	355	78%	22%
Age 55–64	201	81%	19%
Income <\$50K	255	70%	30%
Income \$50–99K	263	75%	25%
Income \$100K+	285	81%	19%