



PEMCO Northwest Poll – Polite Driver Index 2025

In the past month, how many times have you been extra polite to other drivers on the road?

frequency	Overall
often	68%
occasionally	25%
rarely	5%
never	2%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	70%	66%
occasionally	23%	28%
rarely	5%	4%
never	2%	2%

In the past month, how many times have you seen other drivers be extra polite on the road?

frequency	Overall
often	37%
occasionally	34%
rarely	24%
never	5%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	37%	37%
occasionally	36%	32%
rarely	23%	26%
never	5%	6%

In the past month, how many times have you seen drivers in Washington or Oregon being rude or aggressive?

frequency	Overall
often	56%
occasionally	24%
rarely	16%
never	4%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	57%	55%
occasionally	23%	25%
rarely	16%	16%
never	4%	4%

In the past month, how many times have you driven in a way that could be considered rude or aggressive?

frequency	Overall
often	18%
occasionally	15%
rarely	38%
never	29%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	19%	17%
occasionally	14%	17%
rarely	40%	36%
never	28%	30%

Have you ever driven slower on purpose to "teach someone a lesson" after tailgating you?

frequency	Overall
often	19%
occasionally	17%
rarely	23%
never	40%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	18%	20%
occasionally	17%	16%
rarely	23%	24%
never	41%	40%

When you hear a car honk, what's your first thought?

thought	Overall
Depends on the honk.	38%
Oh no, what did I do?	18%
How rude!	13%
Completely, unnecessary.	13%
Danger! Look alive!	12%
Hey there, friend!	7%

thought	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
Depends on the honk.	38%	38%
Oh no, what did I do?	16%	19%
How rude!	13%	13%
Completely, unnecessary.	14%	12%
Danger! Look alive!	14%	11%
Hey there, friend!	6%	7%

How often have you ever sped up to stop a car from passing you?

frequency	Overall
often	16%
occasionally	19%
rarely	39%
never	26%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	16%	17%
occasionally	18%	19%
rarely	39%	39%
never	27%	25%

Since the pandemic, have you noticed an increase in drivers violating traffic laws?

frequency	Overall
often	47%
occasionally	26%
rarely	20%
never	6%

frequency	Portland Metro	Seattle Metro
often	48%	47%
occasionally	25%	28%
rarely	21%	19%
never	6%	6%

PEMCO Mutual Insurance commissioned this independent survey, conducted by Qualtrics, to explore Washington and Oregon residents’ attitudes toward current Northwest issues. The study included 436 respondents from the Seattle metro area (King, Snohomish, and Pierce counties) and 398 respondents from the Portland metro area (Multnomah, Marion, Clackamas, and Washington counties). The results have a margin of error of ±5% at a 95% confidence level. In other words, if the survey were conducted 100 times, the findings would fall within that margin of error in 95 of those instances.