



St Mary's Church Saffron Walden Sharing God's Love

St Mary's Eco Questionnaire

59 responses

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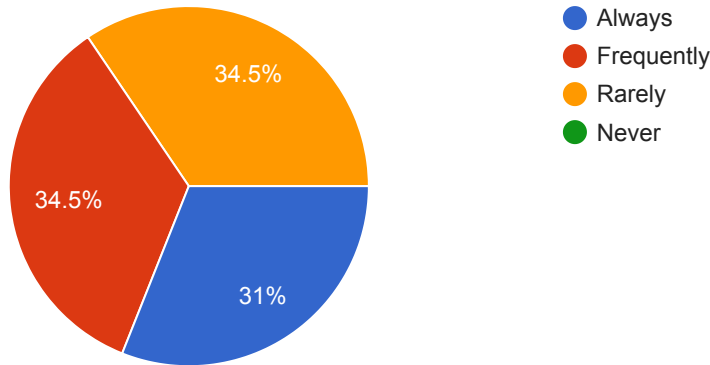
Food

Untitled Section

I try to cut down on my meat consumption.

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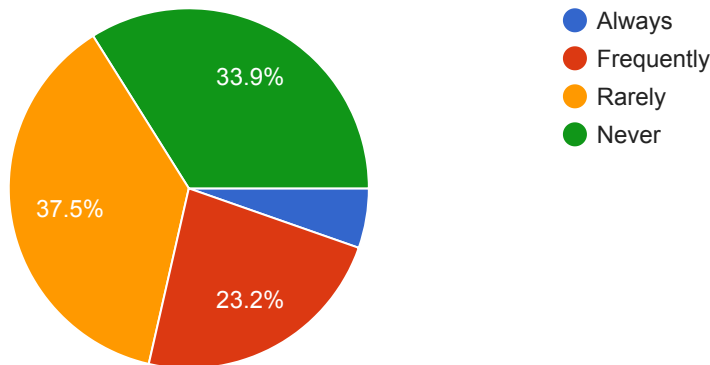
58 responses



I try to cut down on my dairy consumption.

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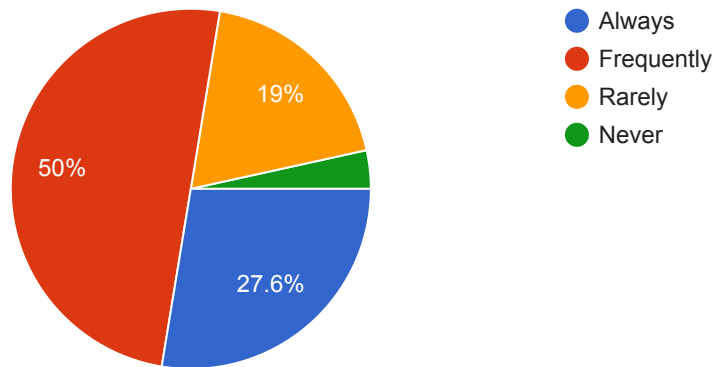
56 responses



I try to buy local food in season and avoid food air miles.

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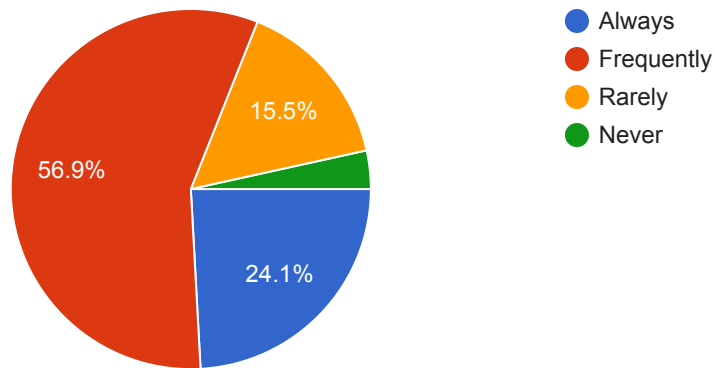
58 responses



I try to avoid food in plastic packaging.

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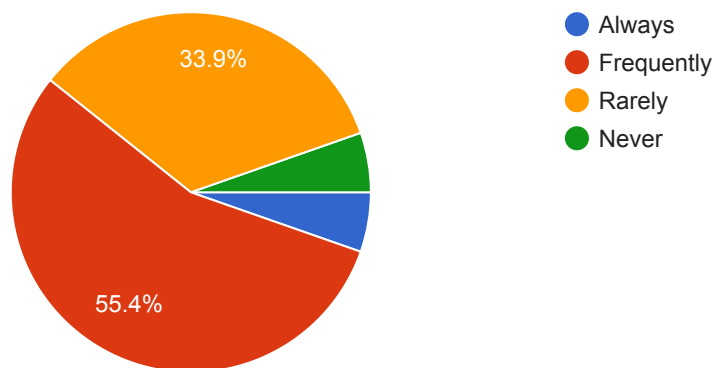
58 responses



I try to buy Fairtrade products.

 Copy

56 responses



Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the food you buy?

18 responses

I will choose Eco friendly options if they are available in the supermarket but I don't go out of my way to visit local stores (eg. farm shops) - time does not permit

I try to buy without petrol miles. Food miles is a difficult one. Is it possible some UK food has hidden miles (travelling between distribution centres)? Are some locations (loW for tomatoes) any better than produce from the Netherlands?

much depends upon place of purchase

I always try to buy locally produced vegetables

It is more difficult to buy unwrapped food in all our local supermarkets in the last year.

Do try to eat more vegetables and less meat and buy free range eggs

I try to finish the food on my plate.

I am vegan with a ? for organic veg and fruit

I do my best to buy ethically, but it is very expensive and I can't always afford to

Price is becoming the most important factor now

We mostly shop in Aldi because it is cheap and good quality. They use a lot of plastic wrapping. I am pleased that Tesco's have introduced reusable fruit bags.

I use a butcher n Keddington, twice a month. For church events, I cook the meat. You wil notice that in some supermarkets everything is packaged now.

Have never eaten much meat - almost a vegetarian.

The questions don't identify a respondent's existing benchmark. I already eat more fish and vegetarian food than meat thus my scope to 'cut down on meat' is limited.

I don't cut down on dairy - need calcium from milk particularly. We avoid processed food.

We only buy what we know we will eat.

We rarely buy processed food, nearly always cook from scratch and balance meat, fish, chicken and pasta dishes.

I look for value for money.

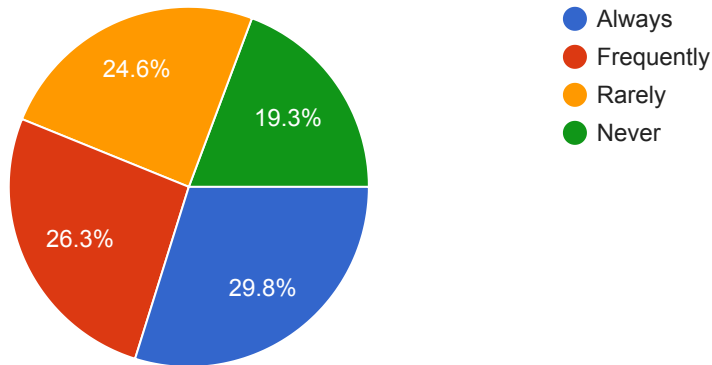


Clothing

I consider the environmental cost of the clothing I buy.

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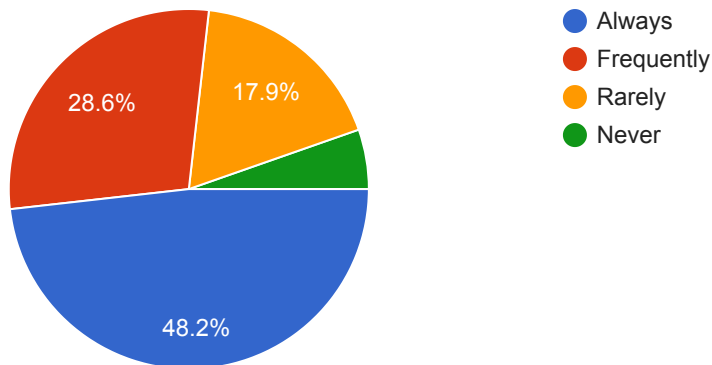
57 responses



I buy fewer clothes than I used to.

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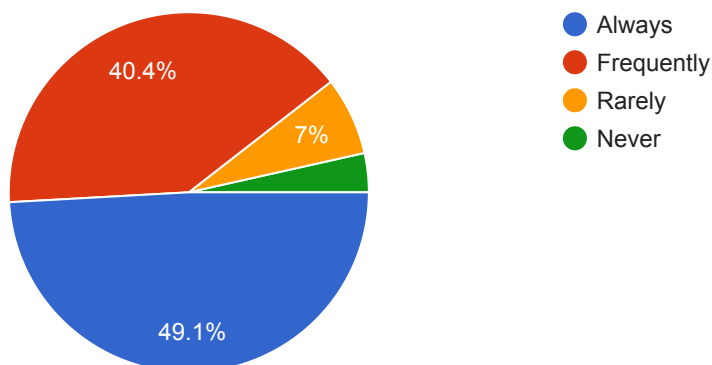
56 responses



I mend, repair or recycle garments when I can.

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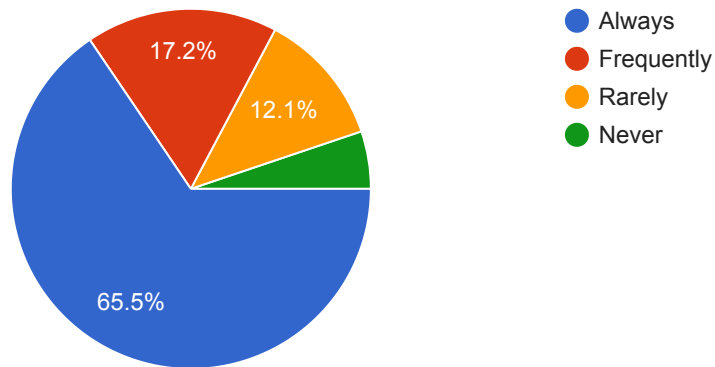
57 responses



I avoid using the tumble drier to dry my washing.

 Copy

58 responses



Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about the clothes you use?

17 responses

I buy second hand clothes rather than brand new

I will always put washing in the garden if the weather is dry. I have always tried to restrict the number of clothes I buy and to use them for a long time (eg. 5-10 years if not more) but I have not changed my behaviour recently.

Buy used from charity shops as much as possible. Rarely buy new. Unusable garments go to BHF shop in SW.

My choices are limited by budget restrictions

I make old clothes last as long as possible. I give away many garments that I find I no longer use. Normally to Salvation Army Collection site

Wash clothes less frequently

Again, a luxury I can no longer afford so not an issue!

Don't possess a tumble drier and trying to limit clothing purchases of new items. Buy infrequently and mostly second hand

I dress for warmth, not for style.

Dry washing on my line for years. Less water use, no hose pipes and collect water.

I use a hanging drying horse or outside line. Sunlight damages fibres. I launder curtains roughly twice a year and they last some almost 30 years. Good quality underwear. Skirts are handmade. At times it is possible to turn a skirt inside out and remake it! Towards the end, clothes are fit for the garden and then the bin, buttons and bits removed!

I buy more clothes from charity shops than I used to.

Don't have a tumble dryer but avoid spinning by drying washing outside.

When I buy a new item of clothing I aim to pass on a similar item to a charity shop, assuming it is reasonable condition.

No tumble drier! I wash clothes less frequently than I used to and wash by hand where possible except for large loads like bedding. We do dry washing outside whenever possible.

We 'cascade' smart clothes to working clothes i.e. gardening/conservation work.

I use charity shops. I avoid using a tumble drier since solar panels were installed!

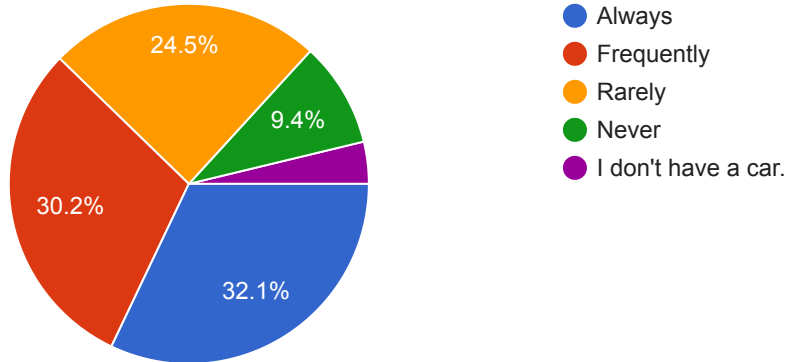


Transport

I have cut down on my use of my car.

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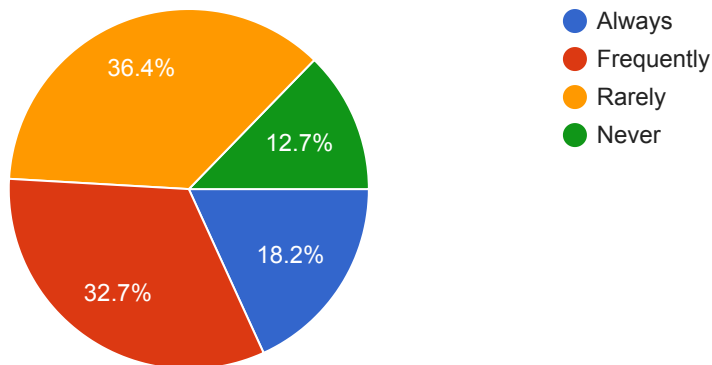
53 responses



I use public transport wherever possible.

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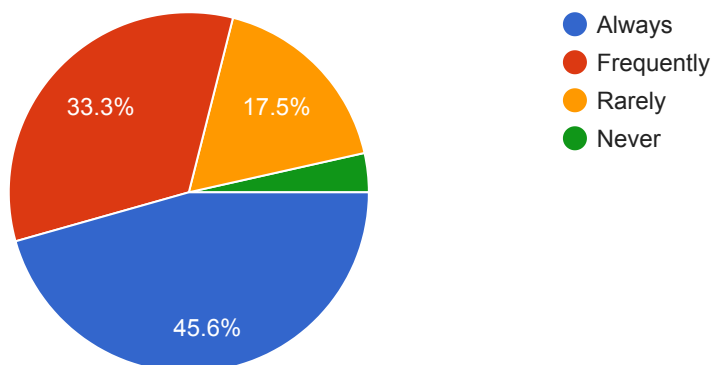
55 responses



I walk or cycle if my destination is within range.

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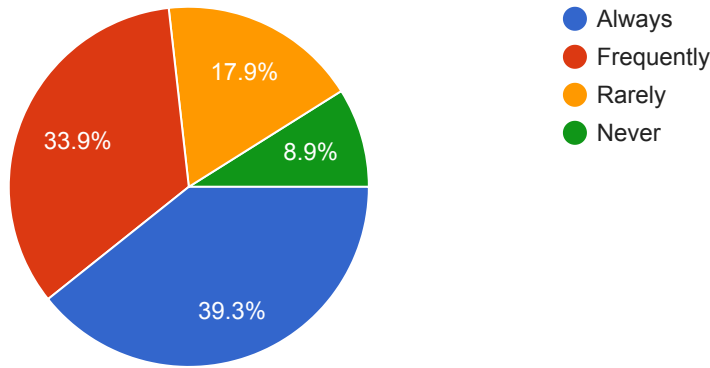
57 responses



I avoid flying if at all possible.

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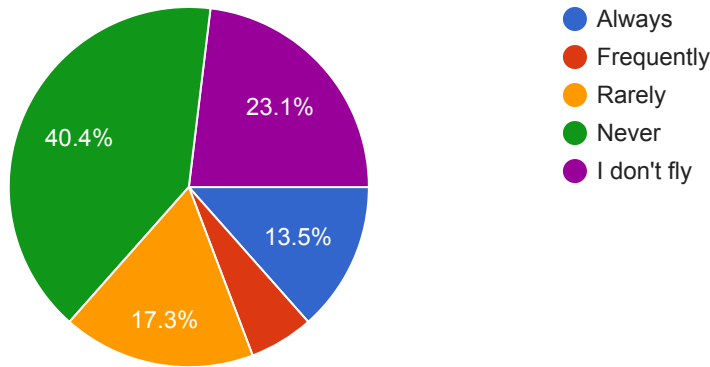
56 responses



If I fly, I compensate for my air miles by donating to environmental charities.

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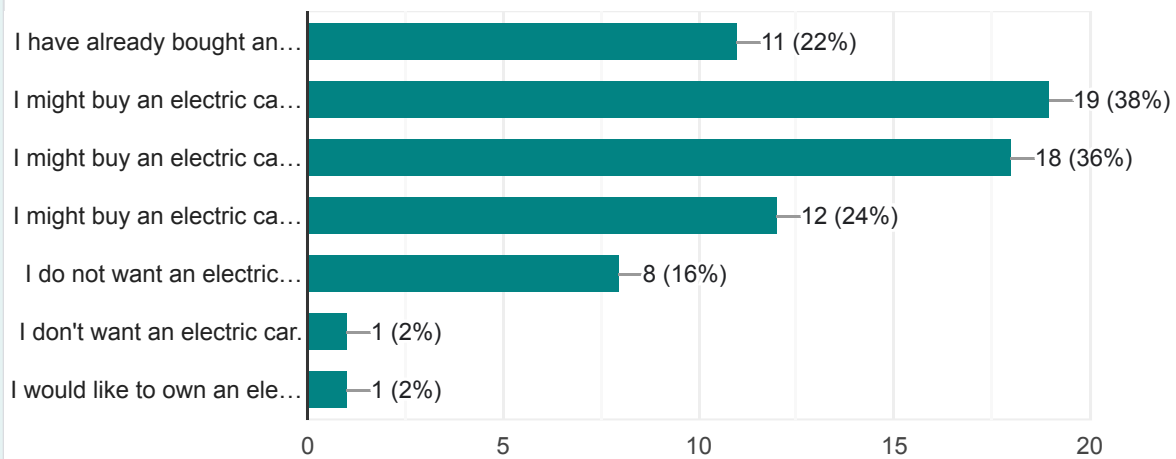
52 responses



If you own a car, would you buy an electric car next time? Tick as many options as are appropriate to you. Please ignore this question if you do not own a car.

 Copy

50 responses



Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about how you travel?

20 responses

I plan to buy an electric car when I can plug it in at home.

Living in a village with very poor public transport means I have to use the car to travel anywhere. I have cut back on flying for pleasure in recent years.

I do try to avoid driving but in this area some journeys are impossible otherwise. I haven't flown since 2016 and that's choice rather than Covid, but I can't commit to not flying at all. Electric vs petrol: the energy and build cost has to come from somewhere. Ideally I'd not own one, or join a car sharing scheme. My car sits mostly on the driveway, used max twice a week, at most 3k miles a year.

Budget restrictions leave little options for change

My annual car mileage is greatly reduced since the pandemic

Would love to see cars banned from Saffron Walden

I might buy an electric car when I need to replace my existing car - but its perfectly fine for now!

no

Walk. All the old cars will go elsewhere.

My driving days are coming to an end - I will not replace my current car

I might buy an electric car when they are safer (they are known to go up in smoke rapidly if there is a problem!) and when there are more sustainable options for powering them and maintaining them for a long period of time.

I have to fly thousands of miles to visit my son's. I have to drive a lot to ferry my grandchildren daily. But I could walk to church if I left in good time.

What is done with the old cars? In a village there is no choice. I drive generally 40--50 mph except on motorways. I drive in neutral down hills, use my gears a lot and hope to fill up every 4 weeks. I drive a Passat Estate and get almost 50mpg.

I wuld like to see government investment in public transport. Busses and trains subsidised, more frequent, affordable. Ideally public transport would be 1st choice not car.

Not convinced that electric car is right, sustainable answer. Our rural setting (no buses etc) limits out travel options.



I aim to keep my current car as long as possible!

The recharging infrastructure is totally inadequate, Re Flying - it os impossible to travel to many destinations, other than by flying, Why is the church not taking an initiative by encouraging church members to walk, cycle or car-share when attending to church? There are only 2 cycle racks, frequently hemmed in by parked cars. We need more!

I have not flown for 10 years and do not intend to fly again. This has meant deliberately rethinking holidays and accepting there are some places I will never see. We plan journeys much more than we used to (eg several errands in a single trip). Using public transport is a problem in the countryside and 'wherever possible' has to be balanced by 'wherever reasonable'. My car is now 17 years old and has done over 120,000 miles. I've decided the most environmentally friendly approach is now to run it into the ground.

use the bus

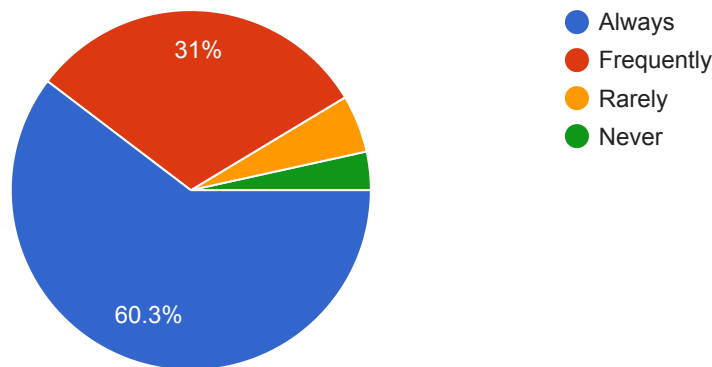
We use public transport when we can.

Home

I turn down my thermostat if possible.



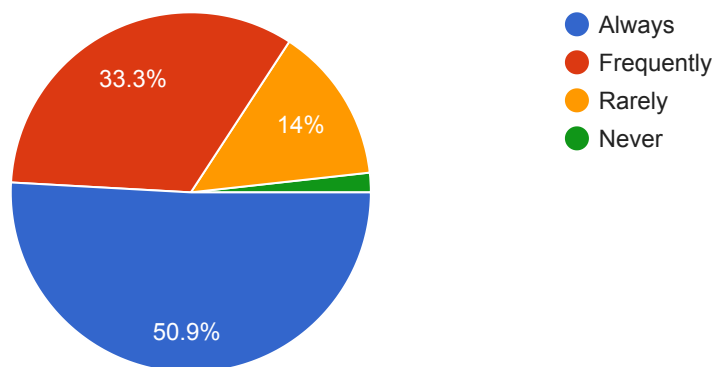
58 responses



I try to reduce how much water I use.



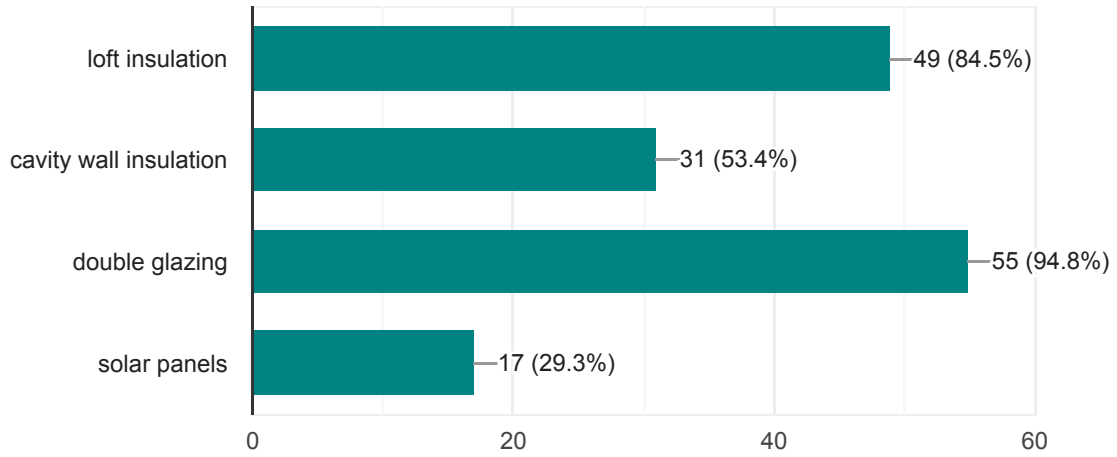
57 responses



Does your home have any of these things?

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58 responses



Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about your home?

20 responses

It's Victorian

We also have an air source heat pump. All our energy consumption is now electricity from renewable sources.

Will be moving back to a leasehold flat where solar panels not even an option. Why?

Budget restrictions mean choices are limited.

Partial double glazing

My wife and I try hard to reduce the amount of water we use.

I don't own it so have no control over insulation, it has mould so some heating is unfortunately necessary

built in 1895

Have recently installed an air source heat pump

When it gets colder, I turn my thermostat up. When it gets warmer, I turn it down again. Doesn't everyone?

My home is listed Grade 2.

wool insulation plus 'eco's'

Single brick walls

I rent so can't make any choices about insulation, solar panels etc but I would invest in them if I could

Rental so I have little control over it

Grade 2 listed so limited. Wood burning stove lit as and when. Storage heaters which can be put on if necessary. Warm clothing is a must. I have a cellar under the rooms so they can be cold. I have an aga but the kitchen needs additional heat sometimes. Electric heaters or oil heaters are used at times.

Because of the way that our old farm worker's cottage has evolved we have a mixture of wall insulation (some better than others) which would be difficult to change.

Partial cavity wall insulation where possible on older property.



part cavity wall

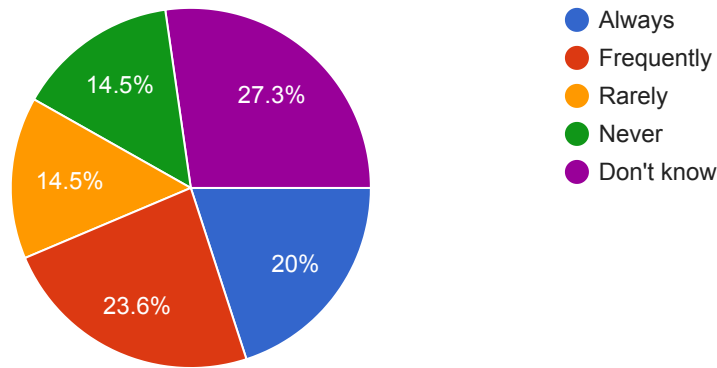
I turn off unnecessary lights and always turn off TV/computer rather than leaving on standby.

Money and savings

Where I can, I invest in ethical savings and investments.

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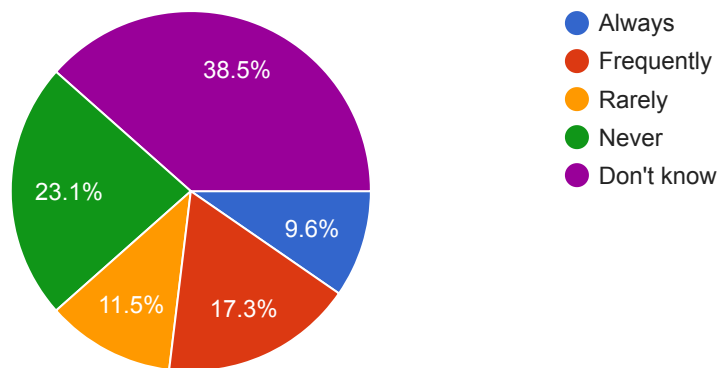
55 responses



Where I can, I invest in fossil free investments.

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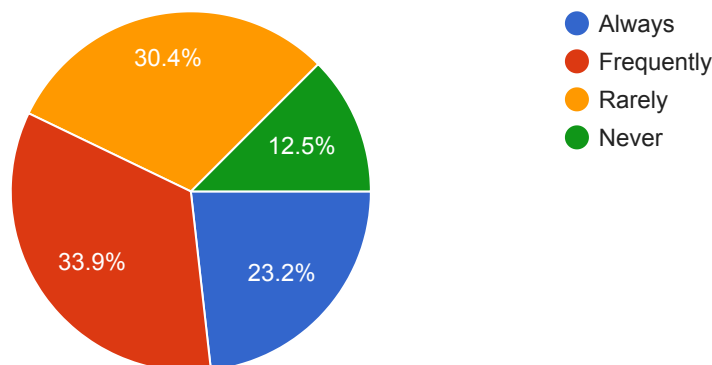
52 responses



I donate to charities which support poorer nations adapt to climate change and environmental challenges.

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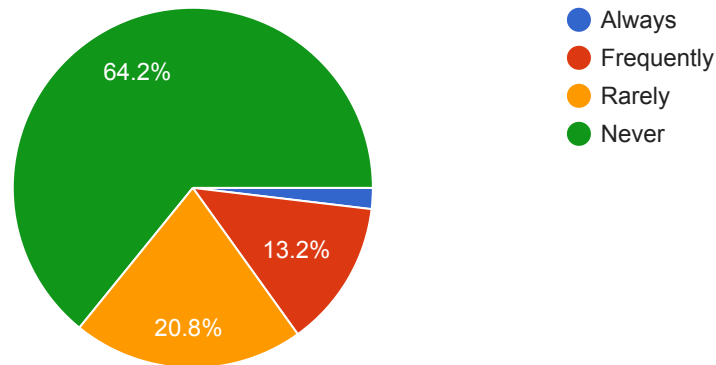
56 responses



I calculate my carbon footprint and offset it by donating to clean energy charities.



53 responses



Is there anything else that you would like to tell us about savings, investments or charitable giving.

9 responses

Budget restrictions mean little options available

We use Charities Aid Foundation, CAF, for many charities

Never had any

I have savings, but not investments.

Until completing this questionnaire I assumed ethical investments automatically excluded fossil fuels. I will now check this assumption. I've calculated my carbon foot print but havent offset - good idea, thank you.

Ain't got no savings!

Lol what savings

I don't have any savings. I support Water aid.

It's quite difficult to know where savings are invested by a savings provider without a lot of digging.

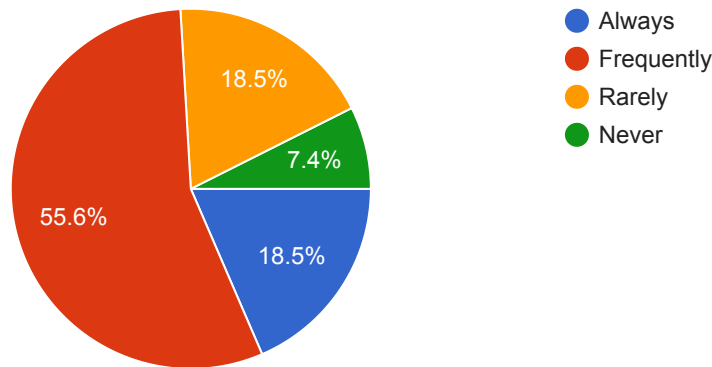
Prayer, Learning & Action



I pray for the environment and those most affected by climate change.



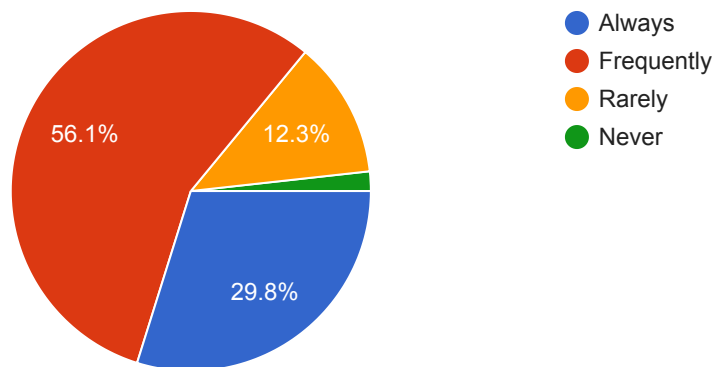
54 responses



I read articles about environmental issues and concerns.



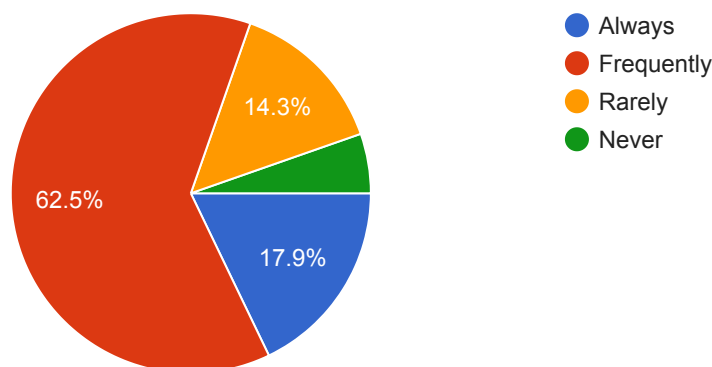
57 responses



I watch or listen to TV and radio programmes about environmental issues.



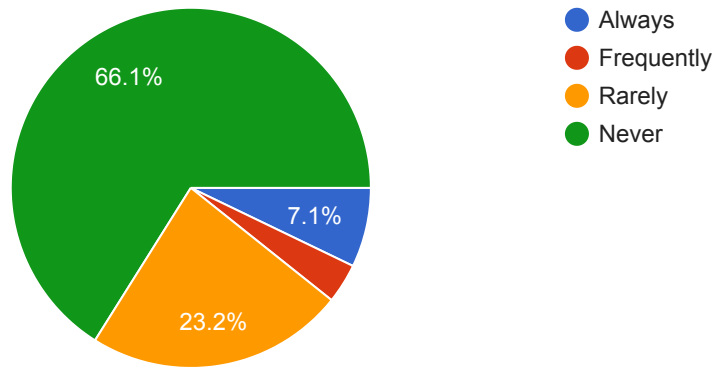
56 responses



I have written to my local politicians or MP about my environmental concerns.



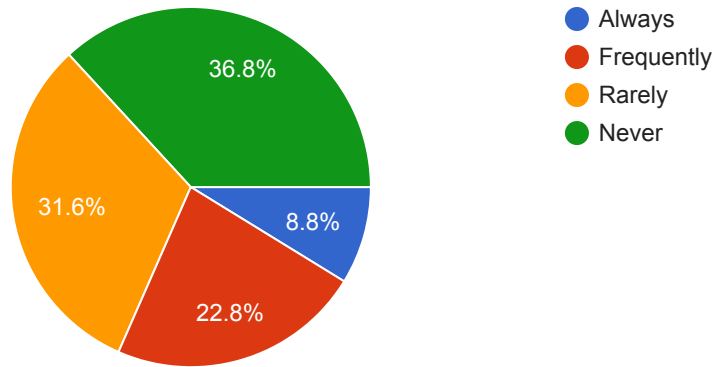
56 responses



I have joined in practical action such as litter picking or tree planting.



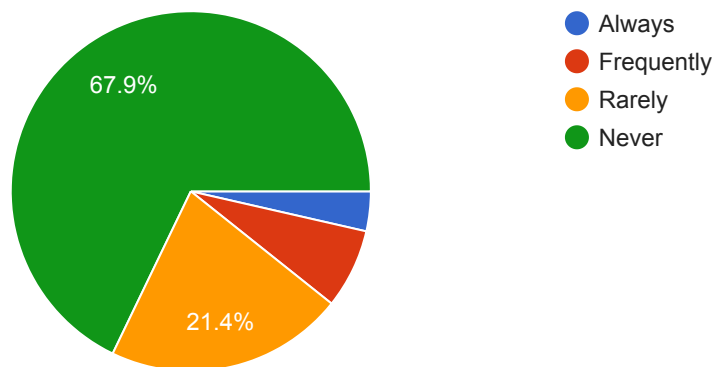
57 responses



I have participated in marches, demonstrations or protests to show my concern for the environment.



56 responses



Is there anything else that you have done because of your concerns about climate change?

14 responses

I have written to my MP but rarely had a satisfactory response. There is more we can all do individually but gov/local authority action is needed to. Public transport in this area is abysmal.

I wonder whether this is the End of the World.

I have read a couple of books to help me understand some of the issues.

Attended prayer vigil in Southwark Cathedral prior to COP 26. Attended EcoSpiritual retreat; Reconnecting to the Divine in Nature at Hilfield Friary and webinar on greening the church jointly organised by east anglian dioceses

It is extremely dishonest to pretend that "it is only through lifestyle changes that we are going to bring climate change to a halt." The climate has changed constantly since the world began. To deny the ice ages is even more ridiculous than denying climate change and brings this church into disrepute.

Our home 500 years oak wood is still here

Organised a memorial lecture this year on Antarctica research and linked to that have set up a charity page for WWF

I am concerned about the safe disposal of nuclear waste. The Oxford Centre for the future of Humanity publishes books about existential risks. Toby Orde, which I have read.

I have done my best. It is a big subject. My home is a large house on the main thoroughfare so gets filthy from passing traffic and I have 2 acres of garden which isn't tidy but kept. Debris in the stream has to be cleared sometimes. I try to do my bit. At the moment I am trying to remember to switch off plugs at the mains. Even if people get the message, they haven't the money to do anything about it. Helen, Old Fox, Ashdon.

Where appropriate have commented/objected on planning applications, road proposals, etc.

Janet Sutherland janet@sutherlandviolin.com

Opposed planning applications because of concerns about increased traffic and light pollution, among other factors.

We like to think we are 'doing our bit' but look to see if we can do more.

This looks like propaganda for the Green Party and its Extinction Rebellion siblings. C of E be careful.



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