

# Physical Distancing Weekly Poll

## Easy Read Summary



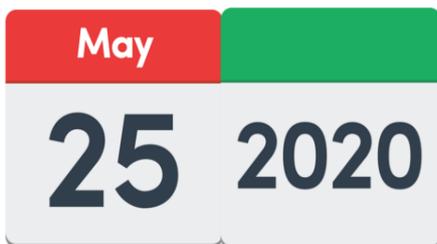


Every week, Disability Equality Scotland ask an important question to our members. This is called a poll.

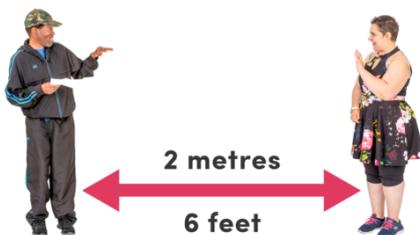


This is our report of the Physical Distancing Weekly Poll.

It is a short summary of our findings from the poll.



On 25 May 2020 we asked this question:



**When you are outside, do you find it hard staying 2 metres from other people?**

The answers were collected together.



**907 people said YES, they found it hard to stay 2 metres apart outside.**



**13 people said NO, they did not find it hard to stay 2 metres apart outside.**



920 people answered our poll.

This is a huge number and it tells us that lots of disabled people are worried about physical distancing.

# What our members told us was difficult

## 1.Pavements



People said that pavements are not good enough for disabled people.



They told us about problems like:

- Narrow pavements
- Bumpy ground
- Waiting safely at crossings
- No dropped kerbs

## 2. Street Clutter



**Street clutter** means things which block the way for people on pavements.

Our members told us their problems with things like:

- Bins
- Road signs
- Tables and chairs



Disability Equality Scotland have spoken out about tables and chairs on the pavement. This could help cafes to open but makes it difficult for people who can't see well and people in wheelchairs.

### 3. Attitudes and Behaviours



This means **how people think and act.**

Lots of people agreed that physical distancing rules were being broken.



Some disabled people said they felt worried by runners and cyclists who come too close and don't give time to get out the way.



Some people want the Scottish Government to make a special public message.

This public message should let people know the difficulties that disabled people have when they are out and about.



#### 4.Hate Crime

Disability Equality Scotland is worried by the number of disabled people who told us about hate crime.

**Hate crime** is when a person commits a crime because they hate or are prejudiced against the victim.



Some disabled people were accused of breaking lockdown rules when they were outside.

Our members told us they were asked why they were outside, even though they were making essential journeys.

## 5. Public Transport



Lots of problems happened on public transport.

**Public transport** means ways of getting around, like trains, trams and buses.



Some disabled people were not allowed onto buses by the drivers and others were given wrong information.

Disabled key workers found it harder to get to work than they should have.

This is very concerning for Disability Equality Scotland. We want more training for transport staff.

We will continue to work on hate crime, for Transport Scotland.

## 6. Passenger Assistance

Our members told us that often they are not helped on public transport.



They had problems like:

- Staff making them feel unwelcome
- Too many people travelling
- Buggies in the wheelchair spaces

## 7. Active travel



More money is being given to help make walking paths and cycling paths better.

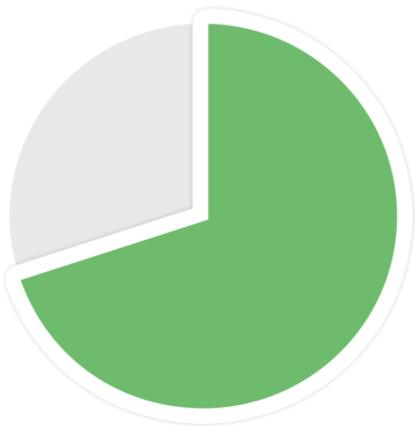


Disabled people told us they feel forgotten. They want accessible travel to get money too.



## 8. Shopping

In April, Disability Equality Scotland asked members if they had any challenges food shopping.



Nearly 7 people out of every 10 people told us that they had difficulties with shopping.

This means most people had problems with shopping.



People had trouble with things like:

- Not being able to see the new floor signs
- Food shops being too busy
- Other shoppers not staying 2 metres away
- Feeling stressed
- No help for wheelchair users

## Summary

The large number of people answering our poll tells us that disabled people have strong feelings about physical distancing.



Disabled people want to get back to normal life after lockdown. But there are lots of things worrying them.



Disability Equality Scotland is very worried about the abuse that some disabled people are getting.

These are the things we are doing about this:

- Telling our members about our Disability Safety Hub You can find out by clicking this:  
[www.disabilitysafety.scot](http://www.disabilitysafety.scot)
- Sharing government information in Easy Read

## About Disability Equality Scotland



We are a national charity. We work to make sure disabled people have better access to places and access to information.

We listen to our members and we ask the Scottish Government to do a better job for disabled people.