

Metadata: Household travel time by mode of transport

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Household travel time by mode of transport
Domain	Transport domain
Rationale	<p>This indicator focuses on the percentage of household travel time spent travelling by different modes of transport.</p> <p>The activities of walking and cycling are beneficial for our health and for the environment. These benefits include increasing our physical activity, producing less air pollution and producing no greenhouse gases (British Medical Association, 2012).</p> <p>Public transport also increases physical activity, reduces air pollution (by not taking a private vehicle), is safer than travelling by private vehicle, and can improve mental health.</p>
Indicator definition and units	The amount of time spent travelling by transport mode, as a percentage of the total time spent travelling per year.
Data source	<p>New Zealand Household Travel Survey, Ministry of Transport. The data were downloaded from the NZ.Stat website transport tables: http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/WBOS/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE7431 The indicator is based on the variable 'Hours per year (million)' and 'Mode's share of total hours (%)'.</p>
Numerator and denominator	<p>Numerator: Hours spent travelling by travel mode per year</p> <p>Denominator: Total hours spent travelling per year (for the population aged 5+ years)</p> <p>For this indicator, household travel excludes professional driver trips, that is, those trips done to transport goods or people as a professional driver.</p>
Survey question	Participants in the New Zealand Household Travel Survey completed a Travel Survey Memory Jogger, which used a diary to prompt respondents to recall when they travelled each day, for how long, by what mode and between what addresses. The addresses were then geocoded, to estimate the distance travelled.
Time periods available:	<p>July 2003–June 2006</p> <p>July 2004–June 2007</p> <p>July 2005–June 2008</p> <p>July 2006–June 2009</p> <p>July 2007–June 2010</p> <p>July 2008–June 2011</p> <p>July 2009–June 2012</p> <p>July 2010–June 2013</p> <p>July 2011–June 2014</p>

Population coverage:	<p>Participating households were chosen from a number of randomly selected Census meshblocks (for more information, see: http://www.transport.govt.nz/research/travelsurvey/travelsurvey-method/).</p> <p>The sampling frame consists of all New Zealand households, excluding some sparsely populated remote areas in Westland, East Coast of the North Island, Southland and Northland. Guests at hotels and motel were not surveyed.</p>
Reporting variables	Results are presented by travel mode, year, age group and region.
Limitations of indicator and data source	<p>This data relates to the amount of time spent travelling by different modes of travel. Limitations include the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The indicator is based on recall of survey participants. • Some people who travel often may be more difficult to contact within households, and therefore may be less likely to participate in the survey. This may slightly underestimate the amount of travel carried out. <p>In terms of time trends, the same survey methodology was used from 2003 to 2014, and the same (or very similar) questionnaires were used in 1989/90, 1997/98 and 2013-2014.</p>
Related indicators	<p>Number of motor vehicles Main means of travel to work on Census day Active transport to and from school Unmet need for GP services due to a lack of transport</p>
For more information	http://www.transport.govt.nz/research/travelsurvey/detailedtravelsurveyinformation/
References	<p>British Medical Association. 2012. <i>Health transport = healthy lives</i>. http://bma.org.uk/transport</p>