

Key Northern Ireland Statistics Data Sheet

Travel mode

- Between 2006-2008 and 2011-2013 there has been no significant modal shift ⁽¹⁾
- 72% of all journeys per year between 2011-2013 were made by car driver/passenger, an increase from 69% in 2001-2003; 17% walk, 5% bus, 4% other private transport, 1% taxi, 1% bicycle and 1% train ⁽²⁾
- In 2011-2013, of journeys under 5 miles: 65% by car (driver/passenger), 26% by foot, 1% by bike, 4% by bus, 2% by taxi and 3% by other private transport ⁽¹⁾
- In 2011-2013 the number of journeys to work by bicycle was 4% in Belfast, compared to just 1% in eastern area and 0% in western area of N.Ireland ⁽¹⁾

School Journey

- In 2011-2013, the most commonly used main method of travel to or from school for the 4-11 age group was the car (60%), followed by walking or cycling (27%) and then the bus (13%) ⁽²⁾
- In 2011-2013, the most commonly used main method of travel to or from school for the 12-18 age group was the bus (52%), followed by the car (32%), and then walking or cycling (15%) ⁽²⁾
- In 2011-2013 the proportion of school journeys which were walked for 4-11 year olds was 26% and 15% for 12-18 year olds ⁽²⁾
- In 2011-2013 42% of households with one or more school-aged child used a vehicle to take someone to school ⁽¹⁾

Travel to work in 2011-2013

- Main mode of travel to work: 83% car/van, 8% walk, 4% bus, 2% other 1% bicycle and 1% train ⁽¹⁾
- 57% of people who currently travel to work by car/van said it would be quite difficult or very difficult to travel by another mode – of these 60% said it was not possible by public transport, 25% said poor connections would make it difficult and 25% said it was too far/journey too long ⁽¹⁾

Reasons to travel

- Percentage of journeys by purpose in 2011-2013: 23% leisure, 18.5% shopping, 18.8% commuting & business, 6.5% education; 15.6% escort, 13% personal business and 4.2% other ⁽¹⁾

Distance travelled 2012

- Over 2011-2013 residents travelled on average 5,932 miles and made 901 journeys ⁽²⁾
- The average journey length was 6.6 miles in 2011-2013, similar to 2010-12 of 6.5 miles ⁽²⁾
- The average journey length by mode in 2011-2013: walk 1 mile, bicycle 4.8 miles, car driver/passenger 7.4 miles ⁽³⁾
- 62% of journeys in 2011-2013 were under 5 miles ⁽¹⁾
- 14% of journeys were less than 1 mile long ⁽¹⁾
- The distance travelled by those in the Belfast area (4,024 miles per person per year) was 32% lower than the Northern Ireland average (5,932 miles per person per year) ⁽¹⁾
- Eleven percent of the distance travelled by Belfast respondents was on public transport, higher than for Eastern and Western respondents (both 7%) ⁽¹⁾
- On average, Belfast residents travelled further on foot (6%) compared to Eastern and Western residents (both 2%) ⁽¹⁾
- Average distance travelled per person by bicycle in 2011-13 has risen from 14 miles in 2001 to 26 miles ⁽¹⁾

Safety

In 2013 7 pedestrians and 4 pedal cyclists were killed on Northern Ireland's roads ⁽³⁾

- Pedestrians accounted for 21.8% of those killed and seriously injured in 2013 and pedal cyclists 5.9% ⁽³⁾

- There were 162 pedestrians and 42 cyclists seriously injured on N.Ireland's roads in 2013.⁽³⁾

Obesity and Physical Inactivity

- 24% of adults were obese and 37% were classified as overweight. Total of 61% overweight or obese in 2013-14 ⁽⁴⁾
- 53% of adults met the recommendation of 150 or more minutes of exercise per week while 28% did less than 30 minutes exercise a week ⁽⁴⁾
- 44% of respondents over 19 reported having over 4 hours of sedentary time per day on weekdays and 54% on weekends ⁽⁴⁾
- 18% of 2-10 year olds were overweight and 7% were classed as obese ⁽⁴⁾
- The recommended level of physical activity by Chief Medical Officers is 150 minutes or more per week of moderate aerobic activity or 75 minutes or more of vigorous activity. Just over half of respondents aged 19 and over (53%) met these recommendations, 60% of males and 47% of females, while overall 28% of respondents were inactive.⁽⁴⁾
- Only 14% of young people (1 in 7) aged 11-17 are achieving the Chief Medical Officer's recommended daily amount of physical activity. Boys were more likely to reach this target with 1 in every 5 boys (20%) stating that they had been involved for 60 minutes or more moderate to vigorous sport or physical activity each day in the week prior to survey, compared to fewer than 1 in every 12 girls (8%).⁽⁵⁾
- Children in Northern Ireland are the least physically active in the UK. 57% of 7-year old children are not getting the recommended one hour of physical activity each day, which is posing real, long term risks to their health and wellbeing.⁽⁶⁾

Increase in use of the NCN

- Usage of the NCN in Northern Ireland has increased by 1 million, 2012-2013 ⁽⁷⁾
- Cycling has increased in key areas in N.Ireland: 227% Lagan Towpath 2000-2010; 76% Foyle Embankment 2006-2010.⁽⁸⁾

References

- (1) **Department for Regional Development, 2014** Travel Survey for Northern Ireland In-depth Report 2011-2013 [Link](#)
- (2) **Department for Regional Development, 2014** Travel Survey for Northern Ireland Headline Report 2011-2013 [Link](#)
- (3) **Police Service of Northern Ireland, 2014** Police Recorded Injury Road Traffic Collision Statistics: 2013 Key Statistics Report [Link](#)
- (4) **Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, 2014** Health Survey for Northern Ireland – 2013/14 [Link](#)
- (5) **Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, 2014** Experience of sport and physical activity by young people in Northern Ireland: Findings from the Young persons' Behaviour and Attitudes Survey 2013 [Link](#)
- (6) **Griffiths L J, Cortina Borja M, Sera F, et al. 2013** How active are our children? Findings from the Millennium Cohort Study. *BMJ Open* 2013;3 [Link](#)
- (7) **Sustrans, 2014** Millions of people on the move: Usage and benefits of the National Cycle Network in 2013 [Link](#)
- (8) **Annual Cycle Usage Report for Northern Ireland 2000-2010, 2011** Department for Regional Development [Link](#)