

Parking

Household Travel Survey

In cars, vans, utes and SUVs

v1 Dec 2009

The New Zealand Household Travel Survey is an ongoing survey of household travel conducted for the Ministry of Transport. Each year, people in 2200¹ households throughout New Zealand have been invited to participate in the survey by recording all their travel over a two-day period. Each person in the household was then interviewed about their travel and was also asked about their alcohol consumption and other travel-related information.

This fact sheet focuses on parking choices by drivers of [light four-wheeled vehicles](#), including cars, vans, [utes](#) and [SUVs](#). It uses data collected during the four year period between July 2005 to June 2009. The information will be updated annually as new data become available.

Analyses are restricted to vehicles owned by a household member in households with full responses, as these are the vehicles for which we have the fullest information. There remains a possibility that a vehicle could have been driven by a person outside the household, in which case that trip or trips would not be recorded.

Travel by [professional drivers](#) in the course of their work has been excluded from this survey.

Words (other than headings) shown in [blue](#) are defined in the [glossary](#) at the end of the sheet. Click on the word or phrase to go directly to the glossary.

Parking information available

For each driver trip in the Travel Survey, the driver is asked where he or she parked the vehicle. The responses are coded into the following categories:

- i) *Off street – resident's property:* includes the driver's garage or residential property, or someone else's residential property (eg Mum's driveway).
- ii) *Off-street – private:* applies to parking provided for specific individuals, eg employee car parks, visitor car parks on business premises, loading bays AND to car parking buildings where payment is required. Any park where the driver needs to provide the registration number to someone or display a special card or ticket to avoid being towed away, is private.
- iii) *Off street – public:* includes covered and open-lot car parks where a special ticket is not needed, such as supermarket car parks, public transport interchanges, mall parking.
- iv) *On-street (time limit):* metered parking, pay and display, free parking with a time limit.

¹ From July 2008, 4600 households per year have been sampled.

- v) *On street (no time limit)*: any place or time when no time limit applies, including metered parks outside the payment hours, on-road residents parking, etc.
- vi) *Not parked*: used where the stop is just to drop someone off (the driver stays in the vehicle) or for buying petrol.

Results

Results cover the period July 2005 – June 2009.

Table 1 shows the distribution of vehicle parking places after any trip, regardless of the length of the stop. Five percent did not park, ie just stopped to drop someone off or pick someone up (or to buy petrol). 41% parked on a private resident's property, and a further 27% parked on other private off-street property. 16% parked on the road.

Table 1: All parking occasions (all trip legs by light 4-wheeled vehicles)

	% of all stops			All light 4-wheeled vehicles
	Car / station wagon	Van/ute	SUV	
<i>Vehicles in sample</i>	6 705	755	1 042	8 502
<i>Stops in sample</i>	54 747	8 202	9 399	72 348
Not parked	5%	4%	4%	5%
Residents property	41%	41%	43%	41%
Private off-street	26%	31%	27%	27%
Public off-street	11%	8%	10%	11%
Street - time limit	4%	3%	4%	4%
Street - no time limit	12%	12%	12%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 2 shows where vehicles were parked overnight (after the last recorded trip of the day). Ninety percent were parked on residential property. This includes both garage and driveway parking. Four percent were in other private off-street locations and 4% were parked on the road overnight.

Table 2: Overnight parking (parking after the last recorded vehicle trip of the day)

	% nights			All light 4-wheeled vehicles
	Car / station wagon	Van/ute	SUV	
<i>Vehicles in sample</i>	6 705	755	1 042	8 502
<i>Nights in sample</i>	11 608	1 296	1 800	14 704
Not parked	1%	0%	0%	1%
Residents property	90%	91%	90%	90%
Private off-street	4%	5%	5%	4%
Public off-street	1%	1%	1%	1%
Street - time limit	0%	0%	0%	0%
Street - no time limit	4%	3%	3%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 3 shows parking locations for stops of at least four hours long, first by vehicle type and then by the travel destination type. Two thirds (67%) of such stops were on private property, either residential or other private off-street locations. One in seven stops of 4 hours or more was at work, and of these, three-quarters of vehicles were parked in private off-street parking locations.

Table 3: Parking for a stop of four hours or more

a) Vehicle type

	% of stops (of 4 hours or more)			All light 4-wheeled vehicles
	Car / station wagon	Van/ute	SUV	
<i>Vehicles in sample</i>	6 705	755	1042	8 502
<i>Stops in sample (4h+)</i>	10 954	1 261	1 710	13 925
Not parked	5%	6%	5%	5%
Residents property	38%	42%	40%	39%
Private off-street	28%	29%	26%	28%
Public off-street	12%	8%	11%	11%
Street - time limit	4%	2%	3%	4%
Street - no time limit	13%	12%	14%	13%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

b) Travel destination

	% of stops (of 4 hours or more)			All light 4-wheeled vehicles
	Home	Work (main/other job)	Other	
<i>Stops in sample (4h+)</i>	7 185	4 367	2 373	13 925
Not parked	0%	0%	0%	0%
Residents property	96%	3%	13%	55%
Private off-street	1%	78%	64%	32%
Public off-street	0%	10%	10%	5%
Street - time limit	0%	1%	1%	1%
Street - no time limit	3%	9%	11%	7%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Results by area type

In the following tables, “Main urban area” refers to people living in areas classified by Statistics NZ as Main Urban Areas, normally population centres of 30,000 or more or satellites of these areas.

“Secondary Urban” refers to towns of between 10,000 and 29,999 population. “Rural” refers to people living in small towns and rural areas of less than 10,000 people.

Table 4: All trip legs, parking place by area type

	Area of residence (% stops)			Total
	Main urban	Secondary urban	Rural & small towns	
<i>Stops in sample</i>	46 880	6 459	19 009	72 348
Not parked	5%	4%	4%	5%
Residents property	40%	44%	45%	41%
Private off-street	26%	28%	27%	27%
Public off-street	12%	7%	8%	11%
Street - time limit	4%	4%	3%	4%
Street - no time limit	12%	13%	12%	12%
Other	0%	1%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 5: Parking overnight, parking place by area type

	Area of residence (% nights)			Total
	Main urban	Secondary urban	Rural & small towns	
<i>Nights in sample</i>	9 472	1 214	4 018	14 704
Not parked	1%	1%	1%	1%
Residents property	89%	90%	92%	90%
Private off-street	5%	4%	4%	4%
Public off-street	1%	1%	1%	1%
Street - time limit	0%	0%	0%	0%
Street - no time limit	4%	3%	2%	4%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 6: Stops of 4 hours or more, parking place by area type

	Area of residence (% of stops (of 4 hours or more))			Total
	Main urban	Secondary urban	Rural & small towns	
<i>Stops in sample (4hr+)</i>	9 164	1 144	3 617	13 925
Not parked	0%	0%	0%	0%
Residents property	54%	57%	56%	55%
Private off-street	32%	34%	32%	32%
Public off-street	6%	3%	5%	5%
Street - time limit	1%	0%	1%	1%
Street - no time limit	7%	6%	6%	7%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Glossary

Light four-wheeled vehicle: Includes cars, vans, utes and SUVs. Excludes trucks, trailers, motorcycles, buses and tractors. Taxis are also excluded.

Main urban area: refers to people living in areas classified by Statistics NZ as Main Urban Areas, normally population centres of 30,000 or more or satellites of these areas. (for instance, Kapiti is included in the Wellington Main Urban Area).

Professional driver: someone who is employed to transport goods or people, including couriers, truck drivers, bus and taxi drivers. Trips by professional drivers in the course of their work are excluded. Other travel by professional drivers (including travel from home to work) is included. If a person drives a lot for work, but this is not the primary purpose of the job (eg a plumber, real estate agent, district nurse, then all trips by this person are recorded (he or she is not a professional driver).

Rural: refers to people living in small towns and rural areas of less than 10,000 people.

Secondary urban area: refers to towns of between 10,000 and 29,999 population.

SUV: Sports utility vehicle. Normally but not always 4 wheel drive, refers to light passenger vehicle with high wheel base and distinctive body shape.

Trip leg: a single leg of a journey, with no stops or changes in travel mode. E.g., driving from home to work with a stop at the shop on the way, is two trip legs, one from home to shop and one from shop to work.

Ute: Utility vehicle; a light flatbed truck weighing less than 3.5 tons. Typically based on a car or van model with a front cab and flatbed instead of rear seats or luggage space.

For more information about the background to the survey see

<http://www.transport.govt.nz/research/TravelSurvey/>

Prepared by the Transport Monitoring team of the Ministry of Transport, December 2009.