

Travel Diaries

Preliminary findings



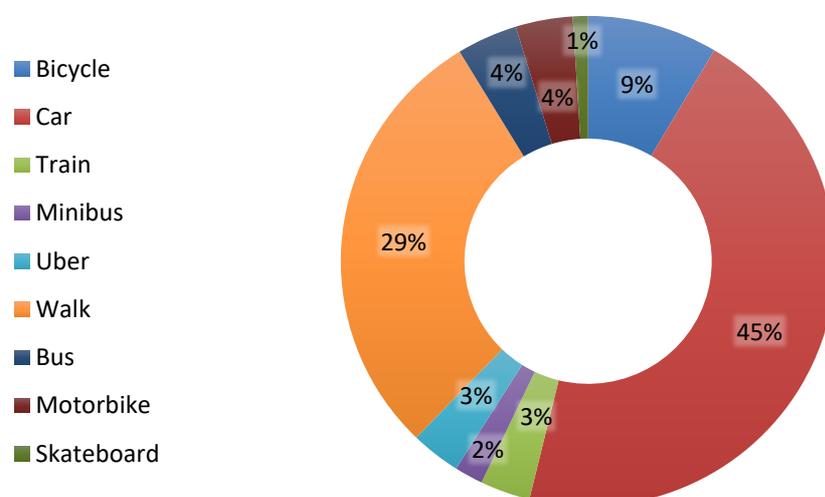
54 people completed travel diaries. It is important to note that this is not a random sample representing the full cross-section of the Cape Town population, and that this data primarily demonstrates the potential for a greater range of travel options than are used by the general population. These diarists recorded a total of 1725 trips, or an average 4.5 trips per day over a seven-day week.

248 trips were of 5min or less in duration, and of these 85 (34%) were made by private car. The range of modes used on these short trips included bicycles, motorbikes, buses, skateboards, Uber and of course walking (120 trips, or just under half). Only 5 people reported using a bicycle on trips of 5min or less.

We normally think of most trips being made by car or public transport, but when we include short trips made from home or work, walking is significant, as shown in the table and chart below. The walk trips identified in the chart are only those trips that are made entirely on foot, and excludes walking to a bus or rail service. Just over half of the walk trips are 10 minutes or less in duration.

Travel Mode	Trips	Ave. Duration (min)
Walk	498	13
Bicycle	146	28
Train	56	38
Minibus taxi	32	29
Uber	56	18
Car (including carpool)	776	21
Bus (including shuttle)	68	27
Motorbike or scooter	64	16
Skateboard	17	21

Percentage of trips made by each transport mode



Looking at this another way, of all trips of duration 10 minutes or less, half are made on foot, bicycle or skateboard. For trips up to 15 minutes, these non-motorised transport (NMT) modes decrease to 46%, and for trips up to 20 minutes, NMT modes make up 45% of the total.

Duration (min)	NMT	Car	Public Transport	Motorbike
1-10	316	264	19	24
11-15	152	194	29	13
16-20	88	91	23	12
21-25	19	43	11	7
21-30	35	133	12	3
31-35	7	24	17	3
36-40	5	27	6	1
41-45	10	14	8	0
46-60	17	20	15	0
>60	11	22	16	1

As shown in the table above, there are more NMT trips than car trips for trips up to 10 minutes (but only slightly more). For trip durations longer than 10 minutes, the number of car trips exceeds the number of NMT trips. If we consider all car trips reported, more than half are less than 15 minutes in duration, which suggests that there could be potential for more of these short trips to be made by NMT.

Despite the dominance of car trips, it is interesting to observe that a number of people reported changing their choice of mode on different days for the same type of trip (for example in travelling from home to work). This supports the notion that people have more flexibility than one might expect, and is reinforced by the finding that nearly 60% of all trips are less than 15 minutes in duration, and 36% are less than 10 minutes, and therefore in many cases are short enough for cycling if other conditions are favourable. (A car travelling at 60km/h will cover 10km in 10 minutes – a distance suitable for cycling if adequate infrastructure is provided.)

There are also people who travel to work by walking or cycling or taking a bus, but use cars for off-peak periods when they make longer trips to destinations that are not well-served by public transport, or at night. Fifteen people (28%) reported using only a car to get to work or school every day; everyone else either changed modes on different days, or didn't use a car at all.

Seventeen people used a bicycle at least once during the week they recorded, and 13 used a bicycle for some or all of their primary daily trips (for work or education).

Thirteen people (24%) did not walk at all; but of these, 7 rode bicycles for some trips. Thus 89% of all diarists participated in some form of active transport (walking, cycling or skateboarding).

