

SUMMARY RESULTS:

LIFE IN CHRISTCHURCH TRANSPORT 2020

SURVEY IN FIELD: SEPTEMBER 2020

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 3641

CAR

- Of the 95% (n=3262) of people who have travelled by car in the past 12 months, 10% (n=308) have travelled by electric car more than once a month.
- Respondents who travel by car, use it most frequently to travel to work, shopping and social activities.
- The majority of those who travel to work by car, drive by themselves (80%, n=1816).
- 57% (n=1809) find it easy to travel by car, with 27% (n=856) finding it neither easy nor difficult.
- Although 44% (n=1366) of those who have travelled by car used the free hour of car parking in the Central City, less than half agree that it encouraged them to visit the Central City (34%, n=1007).

I avoid car parking buildings as I don't like to use them. I would love to see free on street parking in the weekend and after 5pm weekdays in the central city- this would encourage me to visit a lot more.

When I travel by car, I am struck by how much more convenient it is than my preferred modes of transport (buses, bikes, and walking). I think the balance between enabling private car use and facilitating public and active transport excessively benefits car users.

BICYCLE

- 39% (n=1292) of respondents report travelling by bicycle in the past 12 months, remaining unchanged from 2019.
- 23% (n=300) of those respondents travel by e-bike more than once a month.
- The main factors that would encourage respondents who don't bike to bike (excluding 'nothing') are:
 - More courteous drivers on the road (21%, n=412)
 - Improved cycle routes and lanes (21%, n=396)
- Biking is most frequently used to travel to work, and less frequently used to travel to social activities and shopping.
- The perception of safety when biking has increased, from 35% in 2019, to 43% (n=549) in 2020.
- Sharing the road with other cars (73%, n=127), inconsiderate and dangerous driving (72%, n=124), and sharing the roads with heavy vehicles (69%, n=121) remain top issues for cyclists.

There are some great bike lanes but still no safe route east-west through the central city. ChCh drivers are careless and aggressive about cyclists so more bike lanes are very important.

While it's possible to have a safe trip by bicycle in Christchurch, this requires careful planning of the route. There's always the chance of being hit by a car.

Love the new bike lanes!

As there are more cyclists on the road drivers are becoming more aware and it feels like we are slowly getting to that critical mass.

WALKING

- Walking remains fairly unchanged to the previous years, with 65% (n=2116) walking to a range of destinations in the past 12 months.
- Respondents most frequently walk to social activities and the shops.
- The quality of footpaths (69%, n=94), footpath closures (49%, n=67) and construction activity (49%, n=67) are the top reasons respondents find walking difficult.

I wouldn't walk at night alone as I feel unsafe

It's perhaps a little more unappealing due to the distance, living out in the suburbs, it is easy to walk around once you're in town, but is a little far to get there by foot

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- There has been a slight decrease in the number of respondents who travel by public transport, from 32% in 2019, to 29% (n=929) in 2020.
- More direct routes (42%, n=915) and more frequent services (33%, n=717) would encourage respondents to travel by public transport.
- Respondents most frequently use public transport to travel to work, and also commonly use it to travel to social activities and the shops.
- The majority of respondents walk to their bus stop (87%, n=860), most commonly taking 10 minutes or less.
- 65% (n=606) of the respondents who travel by public transport find it easy to travel by this mode.
- Respondents who find it difficult to travel by public transport most commonly say this is because of:
 - The service not being frequent enough (70%, n=81)
 - The routes and connections are not direct enough (70%, n=81)

Having a more frequent and extensive bus service would help a lot.

My favourite city for public transport, although the buses could start an hour earlier for those ending nightshift and those starting the early shift

Christchurch could be much improved by better public transport options and routes. I can't imagine living here without a vehicle with such limited and expensive public transport.

TRANSPORT DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

- During the Covid-19 Alert level 4 lockdown, 40% (n=1251) of respondents reported biking once or more a week for recreation or exercise.
- 88% (n=2744) of respondents walked once or more a week for recreation or exercise during the Covid-19 Alert level 4 lockdown.
- Most respondents reported walking or biking more because they had more free time, there was less traffic (for biking) and for exercise.

- The majority of respondents agreed that there were more people walking and cycling in their neighbourhood and that this improved their sense of connectedness.
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The reduction in cars was fantastic on many levels. We need to reduce car use again now that we are out of lockdown.

It made the neighbourhood feel safer as there were fewer cars driving past at speed. This made it easier to connect with my neighbours.

Nearly everyone greeted one another. Walking and cycling felt like a communal bond across the community.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- The majority of respondents (55%, n=1729) are dissatisfied with the condition of roads. This is mainly due to:
 - Potholes in the roads (79%, n=1365)
 - Road surfaces are not smooth (76%, n=1308)
 - Ongoing roadworks are causing delays and disruptions (69%, n=1193)
 - There is mixed satisfaction with the condition of footpaths and pedestrian areas, with 39% (n=1239) satisfied, and 31% (n=961) dissatisfied. The main reasons respondents are dissatisfied with the footpaths are:
 - Footpaths are uneven (78%, n=749)
 - Trip hazards (62%, n=591)
 - Footpaths are not smooth (58%, n=553)
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Roads are fine for driving, but for biking there are often potholes/bumps/man holes/debris in the cycle lane

I am looking forward to the end of the never ending roadworks but I know they are necessary