INTRODUCTION

The annual Travel Survey completed its sixth year in 2012 and has become an extremely valuable database for the University’s operational activities and forward planning. The Survey was conducted over a three-week period in March and April. The response this year was the highest ever (double that of last year) with more than 2,200 staff and 8,000 students participating. This response represents 22% of the daily (Monday to Friday) campus population.

The Survey is conducted on-line by Facilities Management on a voluntary basis for those staff and students that attend the Kensington campus – the main campus of UNSW. The Survey seeks to determine the method of travel to and from the campus, arrival and departure points, where car drivers park, times of arrival and departure, the time taken to travel and the point of travel origin.

The Survey is a key element of the University’s Transport Strategy outlined in the Kensington Campus Development Control Plan. Survey results and trends are also key inputs to further planning of the campus.

The Survey results are analysed each year to assist in implementing measures to reduce car dependence and parking demand at the campus while at the same time improving public transport access and related public domain improvement works at strategic locations.

Attached to this Analysis Summary are the results from the Travel Survey 2012. For each question the results are tabulated; firstly to show the percentages of total staff and students that responded to the question; and secondly to show the counts and percentages between staff and students.

The percentages of total staff and students that responded to each question are represented by a chart to more clearly convey the results.

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METHOD OF TRAVEL

Figure 1 shows the changing trends in the method of travel to and from the campus since 2007.

The results demonstrate a continuing trend to more sustainable methods of travel with public transport being the most obvious. Staff and students however, continue to drive to the campus. There are perhaps three main reasons for this:

- The availability of free and unrestricted parking in streets immediately surrounding the campus;
- Increased travel times to and from the campus for users of public transport; and
- The availability of staff parking at comparatively low commercial rates.

The opportunity for free parking in streets around the campus encourages the use of private cars and creates less of a need to use public transport. UNSW will be unable to achieve targets in sustainable travel modes while substantial parking remains available in local streets. Further discussions are required with Randwick City Council on this issue.

In Figure 1 the percentages for respondents are applied to the average daily campus population of staff and students (Monday to Friday) in order to derive real numbers for the whole campus. In doing this, the derived numbers are 80% of the actual campus population because on any weekday 20% of staff and students are absent from the campus.

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**Figure 1 Travel Trends 2007-2012**

- **Public Transport**
- **Private Vehicles**
- **Bicycles**
- **Walking/Living on Campus**
- **Linear Trends**

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PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES (CAR DRIVER, CAR PASSENGER, MOTORBIKE)

In 2012 20% of respondents travelled in private vehicles, a significant decrease since 2007 when this method of travel was used by 32% of staff and students. When applied to the average daily campus population this approximates to a decrease from 9,500 private vehicles users each weekday in 2007 to 7,000 in 2012, equating to an average decrease of 400 car users each year. This is despite an increase in campus population by approximately 9,700 staff and students since 2007.

For the actual counts between staff and students, 44% of staff and around 14% of students travelled by private vehicle in 2012. This compares favourably to 2007 when 59% of staff and 30% of students used this method of travel.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT (BUS, TRAIN, FERRY)

In 2012 the majority of respondents (58%) travelled by public transport a 9% increase since 2007 when this method of travel was used by 49% of staff and students. When applied to the average daily campus population this approximates to an increase from 15,000 public transport users each weekday in 2007 to 23,500 in 2012, equating to an average increase of 1,400 daily public transport users each year.

For the actual counts between staff and students, 40% of staff and 63% of students travelled by public transport in 2012. This demonstrates a positive shift towards the use of public transport users when compared with 2007 when 28% of staff and 50% of students used this method of travel.

BICYCLES

The percentage of respondents cycling to and from the campus has increased from around 3% in 2007 to around 5% in 2012, demonstrating a continuing trend despite coming from a low count base. When applied to the average daily campus population this approximates to 1,650 bicycle riders in 2012.

For the actual counts between staff and students, 6% of staff and 4% of students travelled by bicycle in 2012, about the same as in 2007.

PEDESTRIANS (WALK, LIVE ON CAMPUS)

The percentage of respondents walking to and from, or living on the campus has remained steady over the last six years at around 17%. When applied to the average daily campus population, this approximates to 6,000 pedestrians in 2012. However, this figure is expected to rise in the next few years with completion of new student housing projects at Gate 2 and the Kensington Colleges site together with a steady increase in the provision of private sector student housing within the nearby suburbs of Randwick, Kensington and Kingsford.
ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

A new question was introduced to the Survey in 2012 that asked for the points of arrival and departure to and from the campus. The results showed that entrances at the University Mall/Anzac Parade and Gates 2, 8 and 9 in High Street are the major points of arrival and departure.

Gate 2 in High Street is the main arrival point to the campus for the majority of respondents (36%) but the actual count between staff and students showed that while this is the main arrival point for students (39%), Gates 8 and 9 are the main arrival points for staff at 29% and 32% respectively.

The main departure point from the campus by far is University Mall/Anzac Parade with around 62% of all respondents and 68% of students departing from this point. Gate 9 in High Street was the second most popular departure point with 30% of all respondents and 25% of the student count. It was also the main departure point for staff with 56% of the count.

In Figure 2 below, the percentage of respondents arriving and departing from the campus has been applied to the average daily campus population in order to give an estimate of actual numbers arriving and/or departing at each point. The size of the circle is proportional to these numbers, being 80% of the actual daily campus population as explained earlier above.

![Figure 2 Points of Arrival and Departure 2012](image)

CAR OCCUPANCY AND PARKING

For those respondents that drove to and from the campus in 2012, an overwhelming majority (85%) were single occupant cars. This is consistent with previous Survey results and consistent in the actual counts between staff and students (87% and 86% respectively). Despite the introduction of the UNSW Car Pools Scheme in 2010, it has a very low participation rate with only 2.5% of respondents.
Of the respondents that drove, 55% parked on the campus while 45% parked in local streets. Between staff and students, the counts showed that most staff parked on the campus (84%) while most students parked in local streets (75%). These results are consistent with previous years and are consequence of on-campus parking being restricted to staff or with a parking fee, and the availability of free parking in surrounding streets.

**Travel Time**

In 2012 57% of respondents took less than 1 hour to travel to the campus while 41% took up to 2 hours and 2% took more than 2 hours. This is a significant increase from 2007 when only 36.5% commuted for longer than 1 hour.

Between staff and students, the counts showed that a higher proportion of students than staff took longer than 1 hour to travel to the campus (45% as opposed to 34%).

For the return journeys the travel times for respondents and between staff and students were similar to the journeys to the campus.

The increased travel times from previous years could be a result of several factors such as:

- The increased population and growth of Sydney in the west and north west regions;
- The level of service for public transport not increasing proportionally to cater for Sydney’s urban growth and spread;
- The increase in average daily campus population (@ 80%) from 29,520 in 2007 to 36,960 in 2012 resulting in increased waiting times during peak hours, especially for buses.

![Chart: Time Taken to Travel 2007-2012](chart_url)
TYPICAL ARRIVAL TIMES

In 2012 the peak period of arrival at the campus for respondents was the 2 hour period between 8 am and 10 am with around 51% arriving in this period Monday to Thursday. A smaller percentage of 46% arrive on Fridays during this period.

Staff arrivals were in a concentrated period between 7 am and 10 am whereas students continued to arrive after the peak morning period in declining numbers throughout the rest of the day. Lesser numbers of students were on campus on Fridays. Around 20% were absent Monday to Thursday, but this jumped to 34% on Fridays.

Very few staff or students attended the campus on the weekend.

These results are consistent with previous years except for Fridays where the student non-attendance of 34% in 2012 was a marked improvement from 46% in 2008. In other words, more students attend the campus on Fridays than ever before.

TYPICAL DEPARTURE TIMES

In 2012 the peak period of departure from the campus for respondents was the 3 hour period between 4 pm and 7 pm with around 51% departing in this period Monday to Thursday. On Fridays, the peak departure period extended an extra hour from 3 pm to 7 pm with 50% of respondents leaving the campus during this time.

Staff departures were more concentrated than those of students with most staff leaving the campus during the peak period. However, students begin leaving the campus after noon in increasing numbers with the majority in the peak period, but with a significant percentage (8-9%) leaving after 8 pm, except for Fridays.

These results are consistent with previous years except for the Friday departure spike after 8 pm. This is perhaps attributed to the following:

- Higher student enrolments in 2012 than ever before requiring the scheduling of evening teaching classes;
- The temporary presence of College of Fine Arts students in evening classes and studios while the Paddington campus is being redeveloped; and
- The after-hours facilities available on the campus such as the library and gym.

POINT OF ORIGIN

The postcodes of survey respondents identify how far staff and students live from the Kensington campus. The results show that 40% of staff and students live approximately 5km or less from the campus. However, significant numbers of staff and students commute from suburbs throughout the Sydney metropolitan area, including 1% of respondents travelling from the Blue Mountains region or further.