Active Travel – Rhetoric and Reality

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Rhetoric...?

"The improvement in city conditions by the general adoption of the motor car can hardly be overestimated. Streets clean, dustless and odourless, with light rubber-tyred vehicles moving swiftly and noiselessly over their smooth expanse...."

Scientific American 1899







"The new M74 motorway will bring major economic and social benefits to businesses, communities and industry in the west of Scotland and the country as a whole."

Alex Neil, MSP, Infrastructure Secretary, June 28th 2011





Reality...?

".... The solid facts are that walking and cycling benefit health while motor vehicles damage health. Walking and cycling need to be prioritised in transport planning, compact cities that minimise vehicle journeys need to be prioritised in economic and landuse planning; public transport must be significantly improved, while car travel is reduced; and leadership is needed from politicians, industry and 'civil society."

Social Determinants of Health, 1999





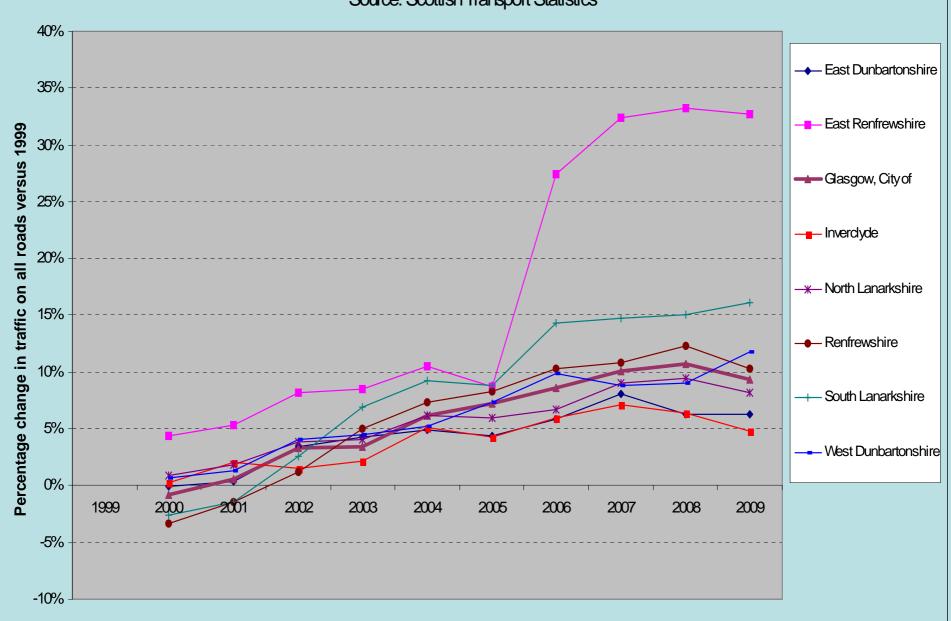


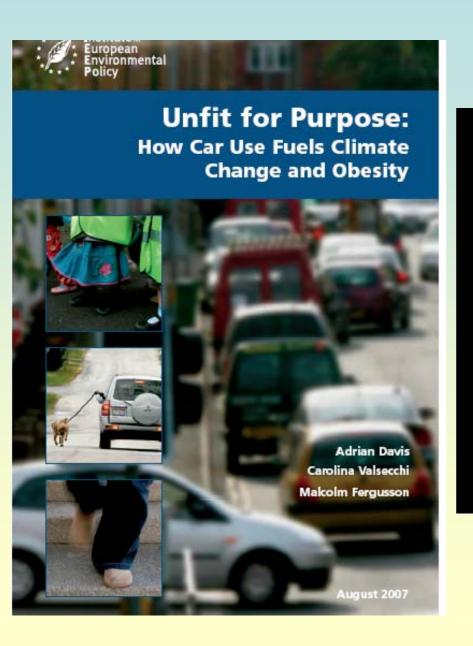
Climate Change

If world CO2 emissions from fuel combustion continue to grow unabated, world average temperatures are projected to rise by 2.4°C to 6.4°C



Percentage change in traffic on all roads versus 1999, in eight local authorities within Glasgow and Clyde Valley, 1999-2009 Source: Scottish Transport Statistics







Driven to Excess: Impacts of Motor Vehicle Traffic on Quality of Life in Bristol, UK

Joshua Hart, MSc

Rhetoric...?

Scotland Performs National Indicator

Increase the proportion of journeys to work made by public or active transport

"Essentially, we want to encourage a shift from the car, particularly for short journeys, across the whole population. Not only will this reduce congestion and improve health by reducing harmful emissions, it will enable people in Scotland to live longer and healthier lives by making it easier to incorporate physical activity into daily routines."

Scotland Performs Website

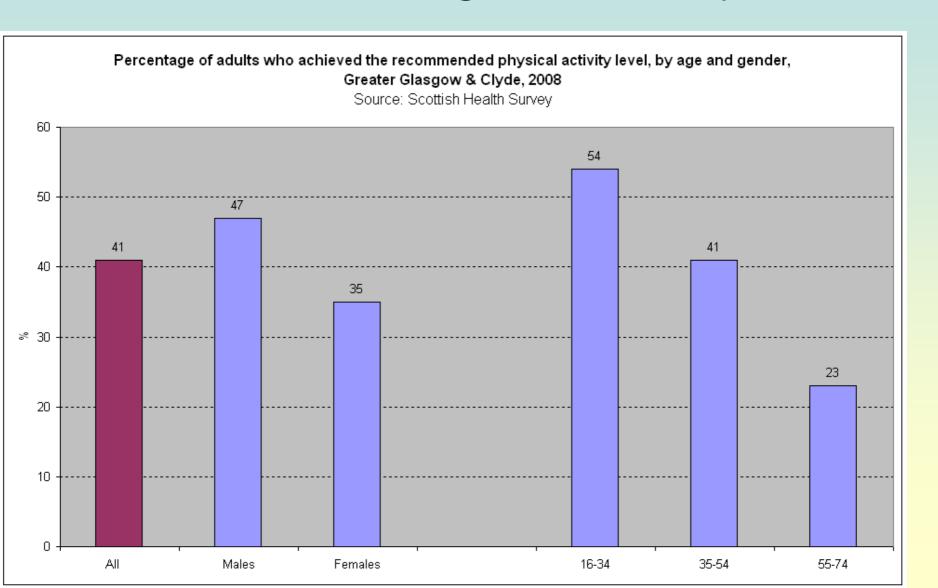
http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/scotPerforms/indicators/publicTransport

Reality...?

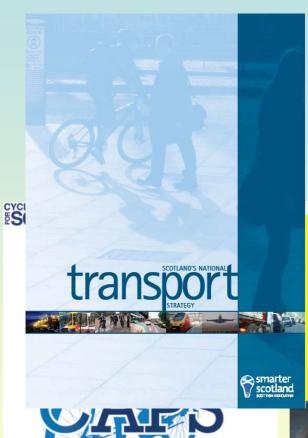
- •Transport accounted for 26% of total Scottish emissions in 2007 a rise of nearly 10% since 1990
- •Transport's share of total Scottish emissions increased by a greater amount in 2007 than in all previous years

Source: Scottish Government. Carbon Account for Transport No. 2: 2010 Edition. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 2010 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/11091112/0

Level of Physical Activity in Greater Glasgow and Clyde



Policy Appraisal

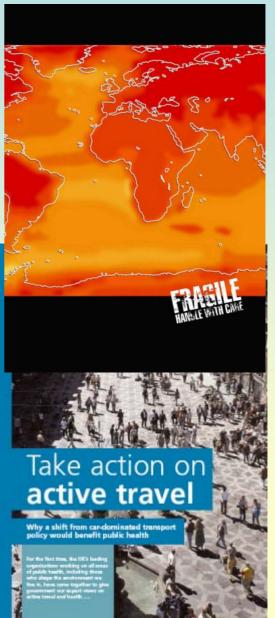






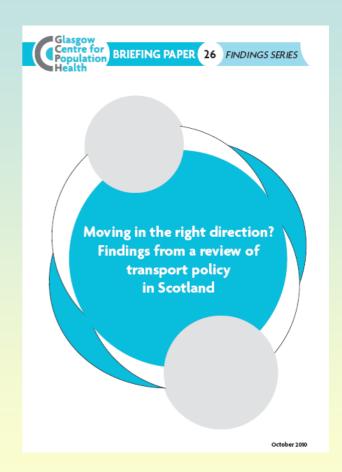
Consultation

62% OF ALL
JOURNEYS
BETWEEN 1
AND 2 MILES
ARE MADE
BY CAR.



Policy Appraisal

- National, regional and local strategies, policies and plans identify active, sustainable travel as very important.
- There is little evidence of corresponding local prioritisation and resource allocation and a 'business as usual' approach in local transport action plans is the norm



SOA Indicator 2008-2011	Baseline	Target and timescale
0/ of amployed adults whose usual	(160) of amployed adults who do	By 2009/2010, 17% of employed
% of employed adults whose usual	(16%) of employed adults who do	
method of travel to work is by	not work from home travelled to	adults will be using public transport
Public Transport (bus or rail)	work by public transport in 2005/06	to get to work
Safe and active travel to work	Proportion of people walking to	Proportion of people walking to
	work 11% in 2006	work 13% by 2015
Reduce the percentage of journeys	69.6%	68% by 2009/10
to work made by car		67% by 2010/11
Percentage usage of public	Bus 8% Rail 7%	By 2012, increase usage
transport for all trips	Baseline 2007/08	To Bus 15% Rail 10%
Modal share of adults undertaking	(30% (2005/06)	Increase
active (walking, cycling, public		
transport) travel to work or		
education		

Potential Reality....?

 Submission of evidence to the House of Commons Transport Select Committee (2010) by Professor Phil Goodwin

"By far the best value for money is currently coming from spending on travel planning, car-reduction policies, telecommunications as alternatives to some travel, local safety schemes, cycling schemes, and the best of local bus and some rail quality and reliability schemes."

https://eprints.uwe.ac.uk/13130/2/Goodwin Transport Committee Transport and the Economy submission.pdf



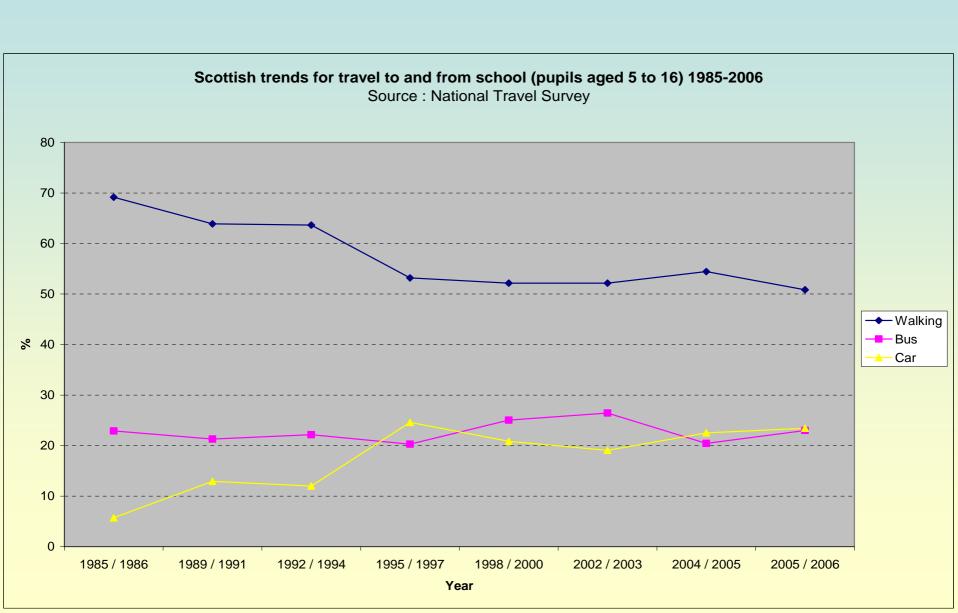
Active Travel Data Analysis

Fiona Crawford-Glasgow Centre for Population Health Bruce Whyte-Glasgow Centre for Population Health Mark Livingston-University of Glasgow

Sources

- Children's travel to school
 - Hands up survey
 - NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Schools Survey
- Adult travel
 - Scottish Household Survey
 - Scottish transport Statistics
 - Census
- Road accident casualties
 - Stats 19 (police recorded accident data
 - Hospital Discharge data

National Trends in School Travel

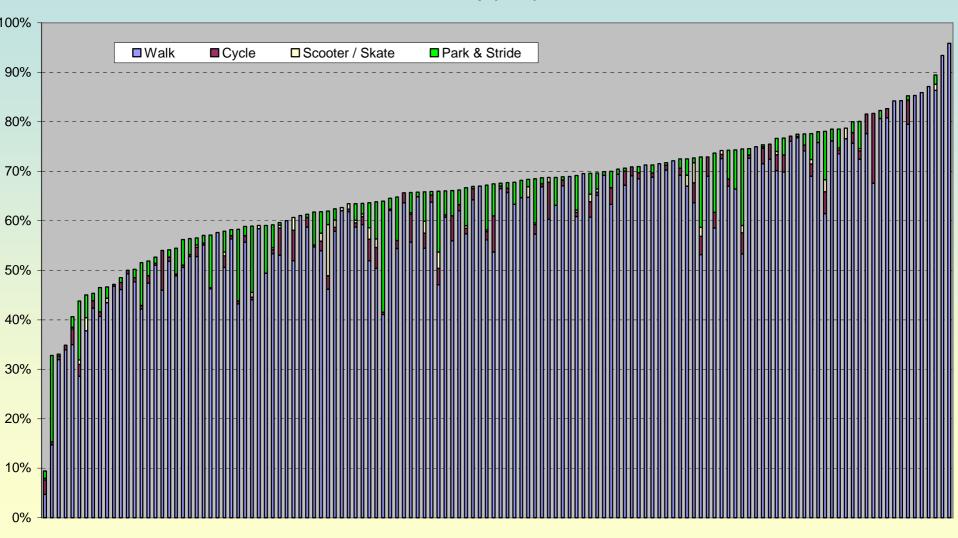


National Hands Up Survey

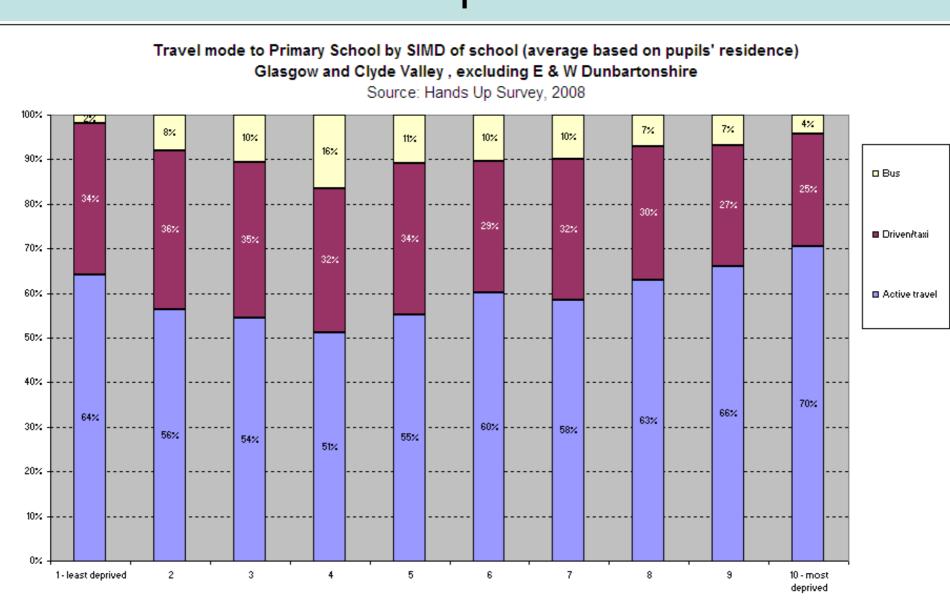
- Survey conducted by schools in Sept 2008 in
 - 29 Local Authorities instructed by School Travel Coordinator
 - support from Sustrans
- One question is asked, 'How do you normally travel to school?'
- Covers primaries and secondary schools but not all schools in an authority take part
- We have defined active travel to include walking, cycling, skating and park and stride
- Linked to School Census to enable more detailed analysis

Primary School Travel

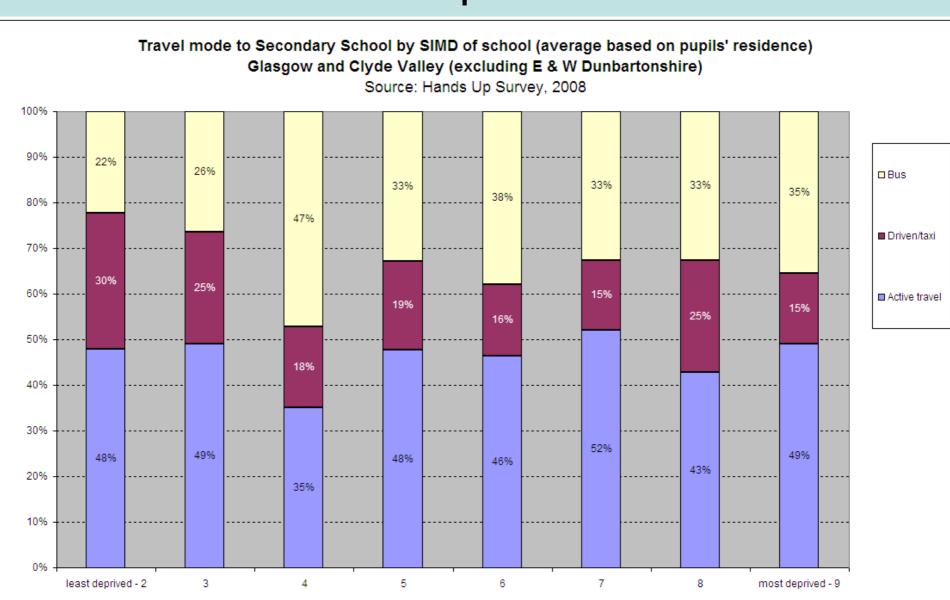
Percentage of primary pupils (walking, cycling or skating) to school Source: Hands Up (2008), Sustrans



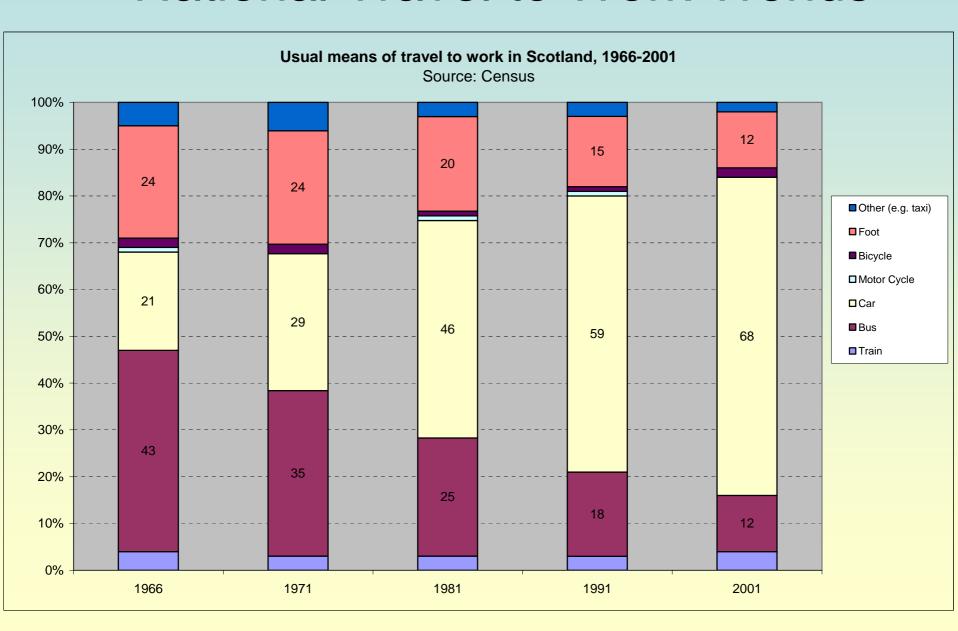
Travel Mode to Primary School by Deprivation

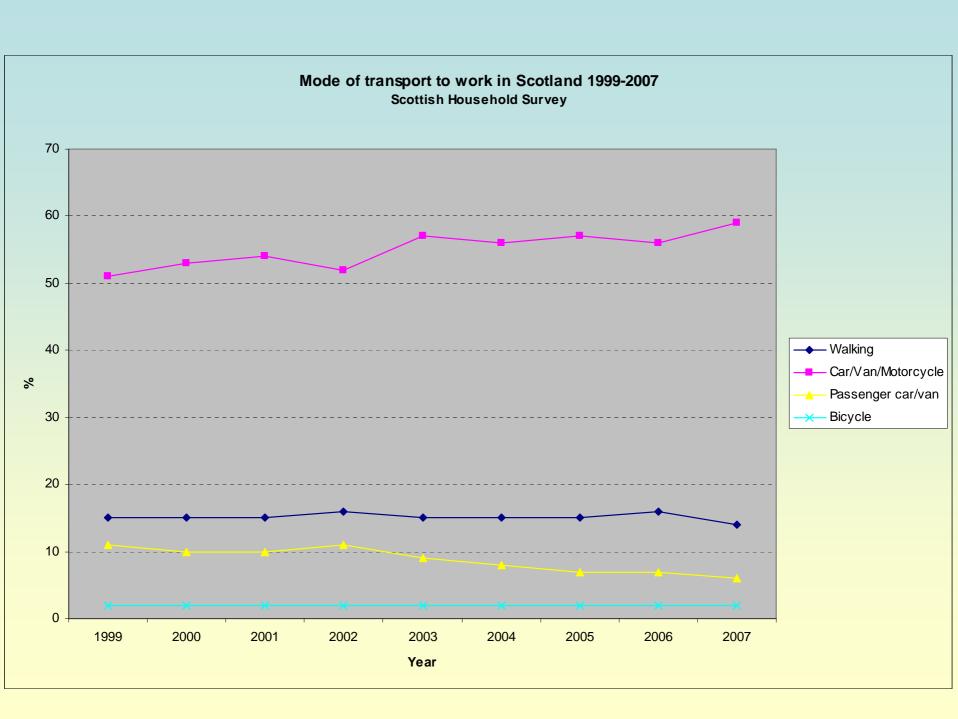


Travel Mode to Secondary School by Deprivation

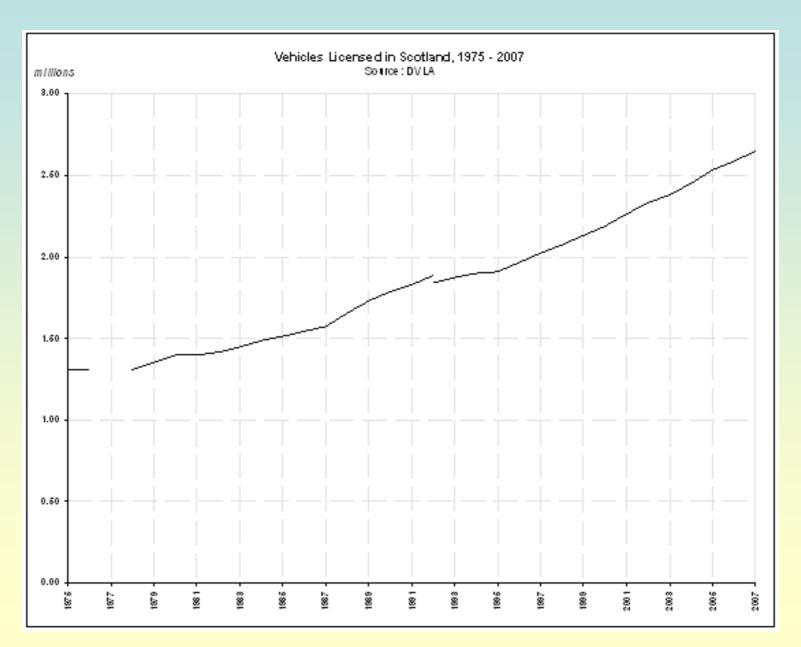


National Travel to Work Trends

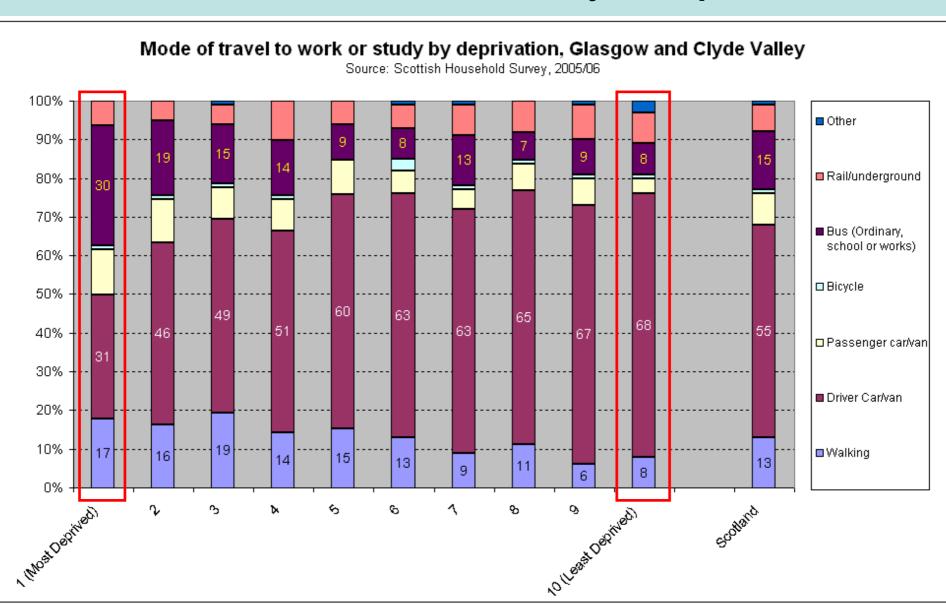




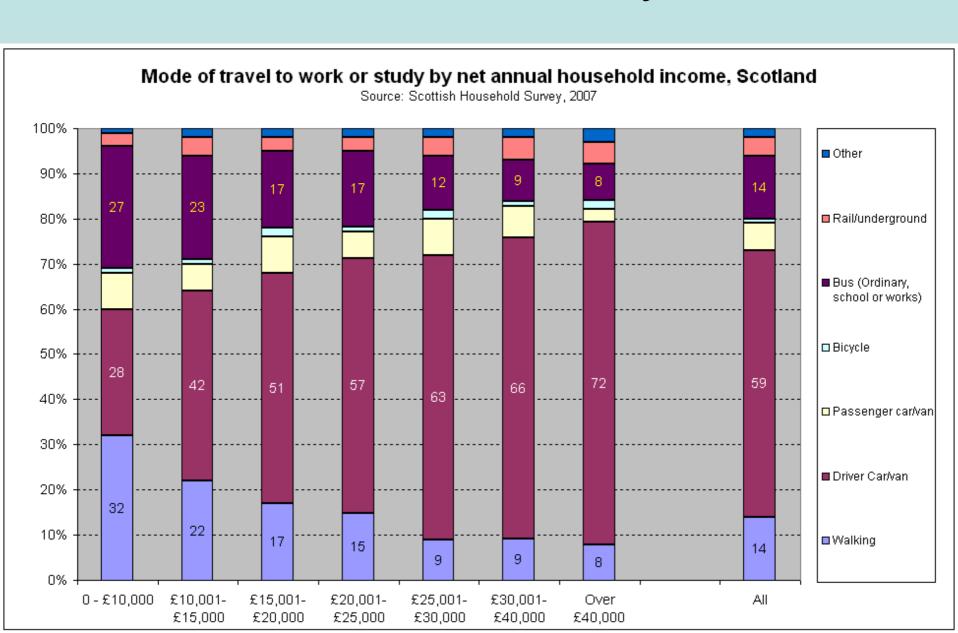
National Trends in Licensed Motor Vehicles



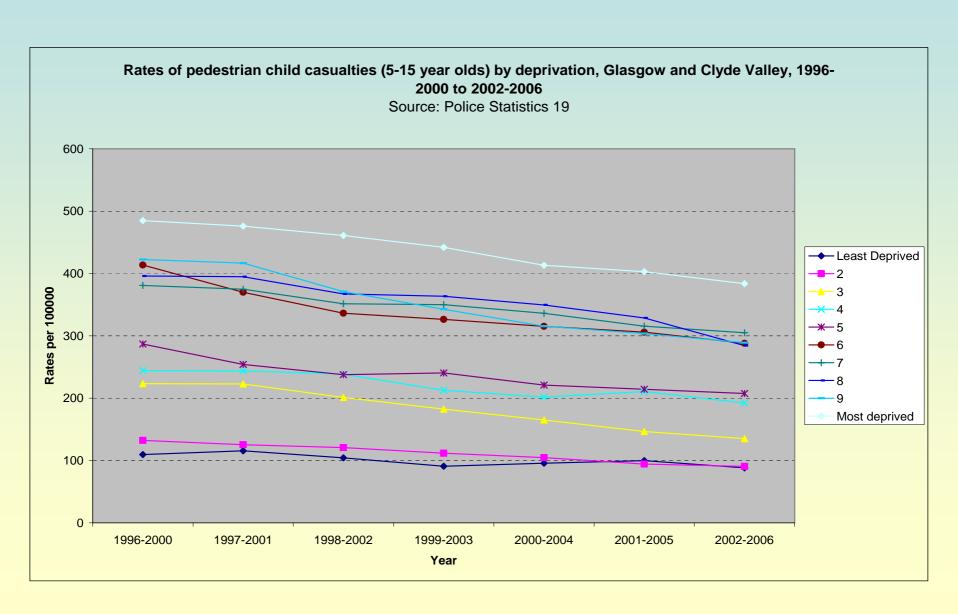
Mode of Travel by Deprivation



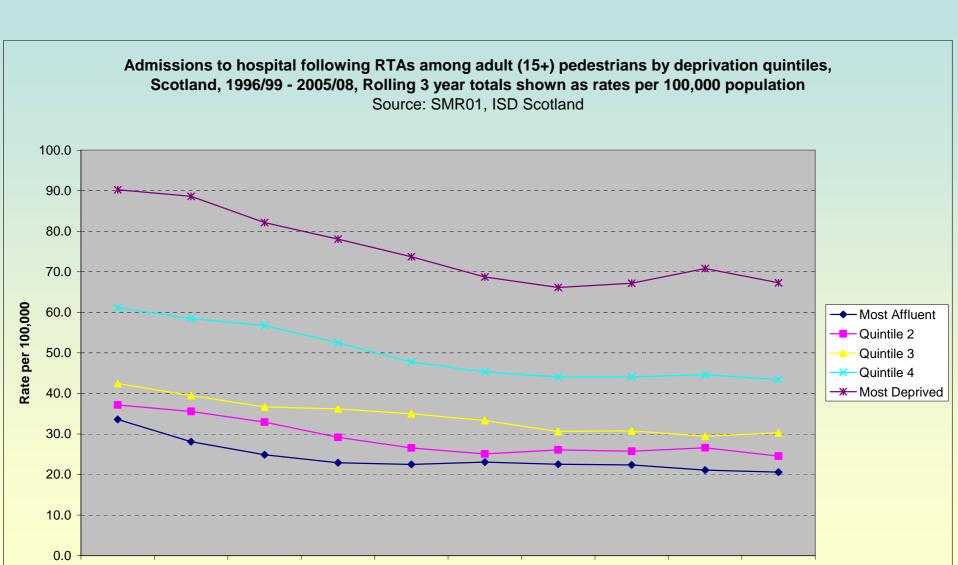
Mode of Travel by Income



Pedestrian Child Casualties



Adult Road Traffic Casualties



01/04

Year

02/05

03/06

04/07

05/08

00/03

99/02

97/00

98/01

96/99

In Summary

- Car usage is increasing-more people driving to work and school
- Highest levels of active travel amongst the most deprived (with exception of secondary schools and most affluent in primary school)
- Car usage is highest amongst the most affluent
- Adult and child traffic related injuries are higher in deprived areas and for those living in deprived areas

For More Information

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