

## Cycling and related statistics in Sutton and beyond

A wide range of data and statistics are available about cycling and travel in Sutton and beyond. Ten key points and their sources are:

1. One in six trips less than one mile are made by car with the corresponding proportion rising to 67% for trips between 1 and 5 miles. 97 per cent of all trips are under 5 miles so very many could easily be cycled (or walked) instead.
2. There is therefore huge potential for more people in Sutton to travel by bike, whether for commuting, shopping, to school or leisure purposes: Just 0.8 per cent of all journeys by Sutton residents are cycled: only three other London boroughs have a lower proportion.
3. Traffic in Sutton rose between 2013 and 2019 but the intervention of Covid-19 saw a sharp fall in 2020.
4. Nearly all of this decline was reversed in 2021 with the level of traffic just 5 per cent below its level prior to Covid.
5. A long-term increase in the number of vehicles registered to Sutton addresses, a growing number of driving licence holders with SM postcodes and projected rises in Sutton's population all point towards continued growth of traffic on Sutton's roads.
6. The number of road casualties on Sutton's roads was 436 in 2021, the equivalent of eight people being killed, seriously or slightly injured every week. Nearly one in nine (46) casualties were pedal cyclists.
7. Car availability is very heavily skewed against lower-income households. 38% of households in the bottom fifth do not have a car compared with 22% of all households. Likewise, those from ethnic minorities are much less likely to have a car (or van) than their white counterparts.
8. Around two-fifths of those eligible for a driving licence in the borough do not have a car (or van). The proportions are far higher in some parts of the borough than others.
9. The effects of congestion range from more air pollution and accelerating climate change - because of low speeds and idling engines - to the huge economic costs which businesses often have little choice but to pass on to consumers. It is estimated that drivers spend nearly three hours each week in Greater London's traffic jams at a cost of £4.9 billion per annum: an average of more than £10 per week for each of the capital's men, women and children.

10. Active travel brings enormous physical and mental health benefits to individuals **and** significantly reduces pressure on the NHS. Regular physical activity such as cycling reduces the risks of:

- Dementia by up to 30%
- Hip fractures by up to 68%
- Depression by up to 30%
- Breast cancer by 20%
- Colon cancer by 30%
- Type 2 cancer by up to 40%
- Cardiovascular disease by up to 35%
- ALL-CAUSE MORTALITY by 30%

**References:**

1. [National Travel Survey 2021: Mode share, journey lengths and public transport use - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
2. 'LIP3 MTS outcomes borough data pack - Dec 2021.xlsx' (available from <http://planning.data.tfl.gov.uk>), the 'Supplementary Mode Share data' tab (Sutton, 2017/18 to 2019/20).
3. [Road traffic statistics - Local authority: Sutton \(dft.gov.uk\)](http://dft.gov.uk)
4. [Road traffic statistics - Local authority: Sutton \(dft.gov.uk\)](http://dft.gov.uk)
5. [Vehicle licensing statistics: 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) table veh0105, [Population projections for local authorities: Table 2 - Office for National Statistics](http://www.gov.uk) and [GB Driving Licence Data - data.gov.uk](http://data.gov.uk)
6. [Reported road collisions, vehicles and casualties tables for Great Britain. - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) table RAS0403. NB the figures relate to those reported to the police only.
7. [Travel by vehicle availability, income, ethnic group, household type, mobility status and NS-SEC - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) tables NTS0703 and NTS0707
8. [Local Area Report for areas in England and Wales - Nomis \(nomisweb.co.uk\)](http://nomisweb.co.uk)

9. [Traffic jams cost the UK £6.9bn last year | Auto Express](#) and [Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
10. [Cycling and walking plan for England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) page 9

## Other statistical sources

Overall, and including some of the above, a wide range of statistics are available relating to cycling, traffic and travel. Many provide detailed commentary to accompany the figures:

- A very useful source, giving answers to many common queries about cycling: [Cycling UK's Cycling Statistics | Cycling UK](#)
- Vehicle miles travelled by vehicle type, road category and region: [Road traffic statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Department for Transport's National Travel Survey monitoring trends in personal travel: [National Travel Survey - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- A wide range of statistics about cycling (and walking), including for individual local authorities: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/walking-and-cycling-statistics-cw>
- Data and statistics about road congestion and travel times on the Strategic Road Network and local 'A' roads: [Road congestion and travel time - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Transport use by mode during the Covid-19 pandemic: [Transport use during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Annual reports providing statistics and detailed commentary about trends and developments in travel and transport in Greater London: [Travel in London reports - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](#)
- Road casualty statistics at local authority/constituency/police force level by severity and type of road user for each year from 2000: [Road traffic statistics - About \(dft.gov.uk\)](#)
- A free interactive mapping tool providing information about the type and severity of casualties and vehicles involved by location for over 20 years: [CrashMap](#)
- Statistics and factsheets about road safety in Greater London: [Road danger reduction dashboard and data - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](#)

- Santander Bike Hire scheme statistics including daily number of bikes hired: [Number of Bicycle Hires - London Datastore](#)
- Daily figures on traffic by mode, including cycling, during the Covid pandemic: [Transport use during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) pandemic and developing faster indicators of transport activity - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- Travel times from where people live to 8 local key services by four modes of transport at national, local authority and small Census area levels: [Journey time statistics, England: 2019 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

\*\*\*\*\* *Last updated 5 December 2022* \*\*\*\*\*