

MISSION ZERO


Low-carbon Commute Initiative Consolidated results



Prepared by Mission Zero, November 2024

Funded by:





MISSION ZERO exists to energise
and enable the business community in
Te Taihū on our journey to zero carbon.

We are an initiative of Businesses for
Climate Action, a Charitable Trust,
and we are based in Nelson.

missionzero.nz

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introduction

MISSION ZERO's Low-carbon Commute Initiative is a Nelson City Council funded project.

It aims to help selected businesses in Te Taihu drive an employee shift towards the use of low-emissions commute-to-work transport.

why run this project?



Based on NCC reporting it is our understanding that **transport contributes around 60% of Nelson's GHG emissions** (over 200,000 TCO₂e) per year.

We estimate that **commuting to work accounts for between 10-25% of this output** (20,000 to 50,000 TCO₂e per year).

We are working to support Nelson City Council's goal to reduce these emissions.

who's involved

- Port Nelson
- Health New Zealand Nelson Marlborough (includes Nelson Hospital)
- Sealord
- Cawthron Institute
- Nelmac Kūmānu
- Nelson Airport
- Bowater Motors Group
- Tonkin + Taylor
- Pic's Peanut Butter

Totalling **3,289 employees.**



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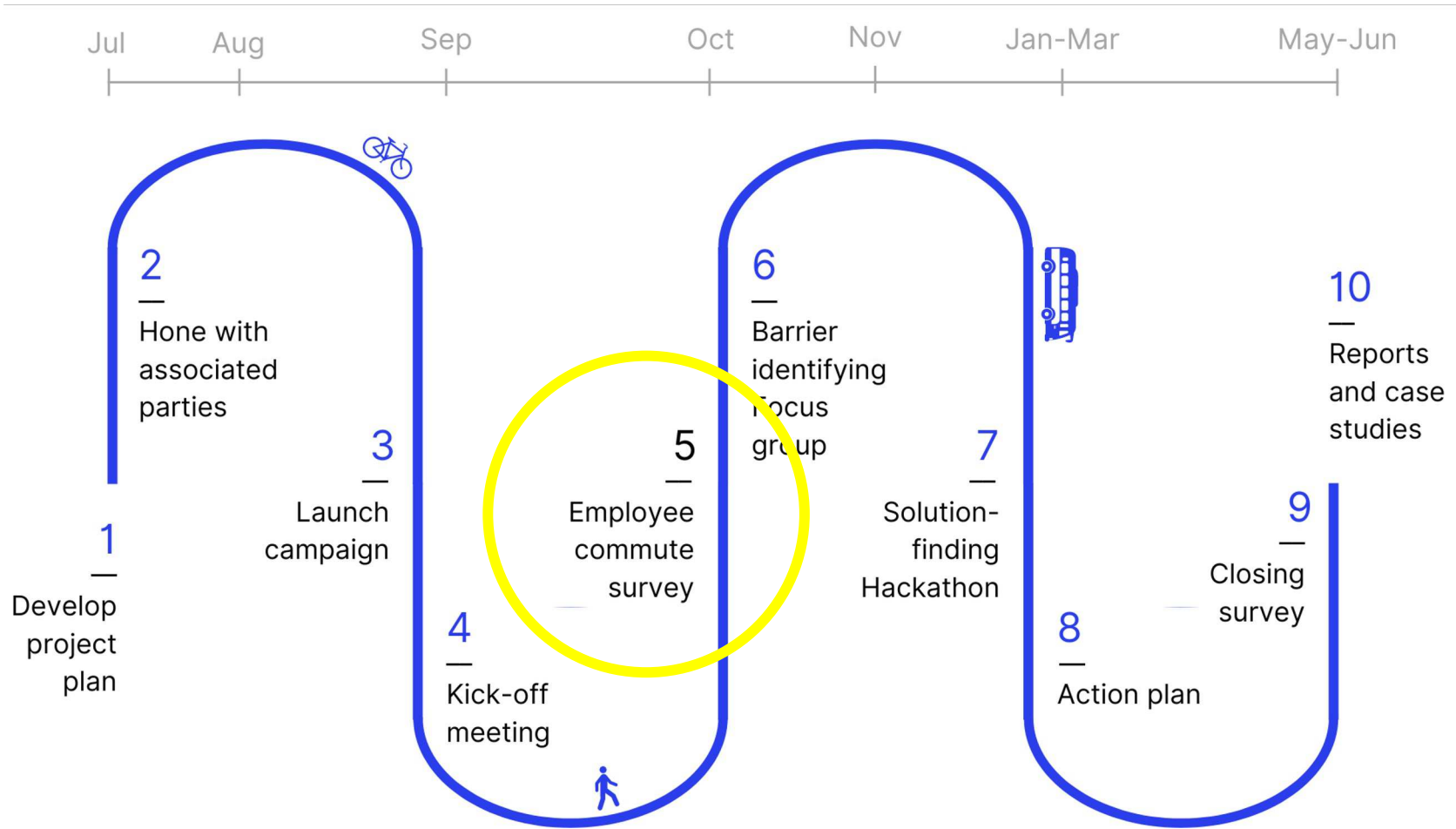
what's involved

The project runs from July 2024 – June 2025 and brings nine businesses together to understand barriers to low-carbon commuting, find solutions and implement these.

We have just completed the surveying aspect of this project and are now running focus groups and sharing survey reports with participating businesses.



project plan



survey overview

The employee commute survey ran for two weeks in October this year, reaching **3,289 employees** with **669 responses**.

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reimagine your journey

Start by letting us know more
about your commute to work

Take our survey

Project funder:



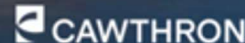
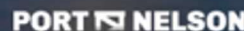
Nelson
City Council

Te Kaunihera o
Whakatū

Project participants:



Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora
Nelson Marlborough



Engagement partner:

questions

The survey asked for:

- **Mode of transport** used to commute (Mon-Sun)
- **Distance** of the commute
- **Type of vehicle** used by drivers
- What respondents **liked** about their commute
- **Barriers** to a low-carbon commute
- **Solutions** to help them switch to a low-carbon commute

executive summary

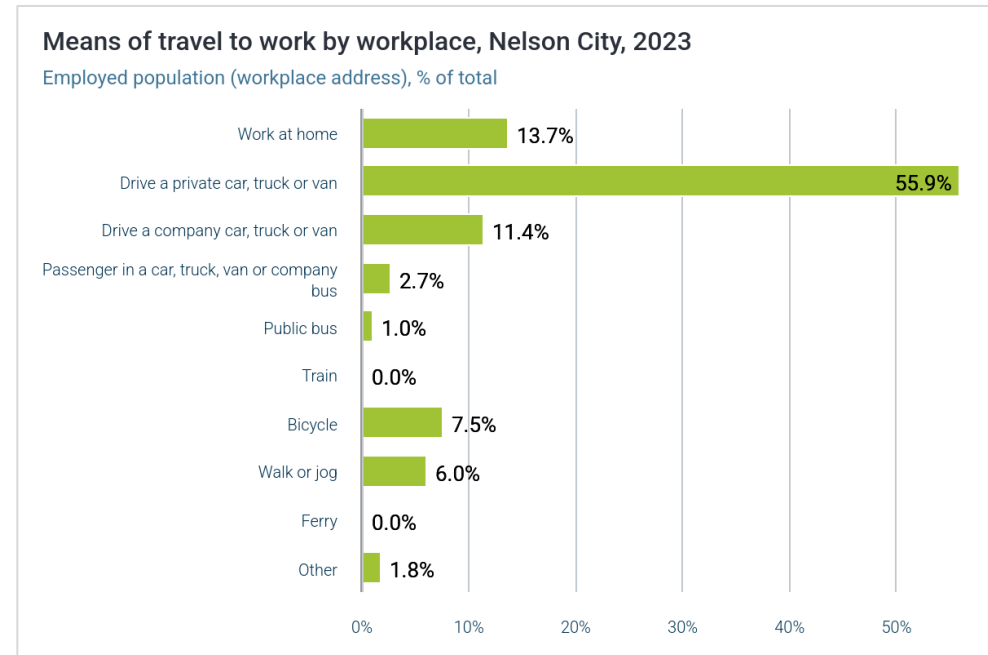
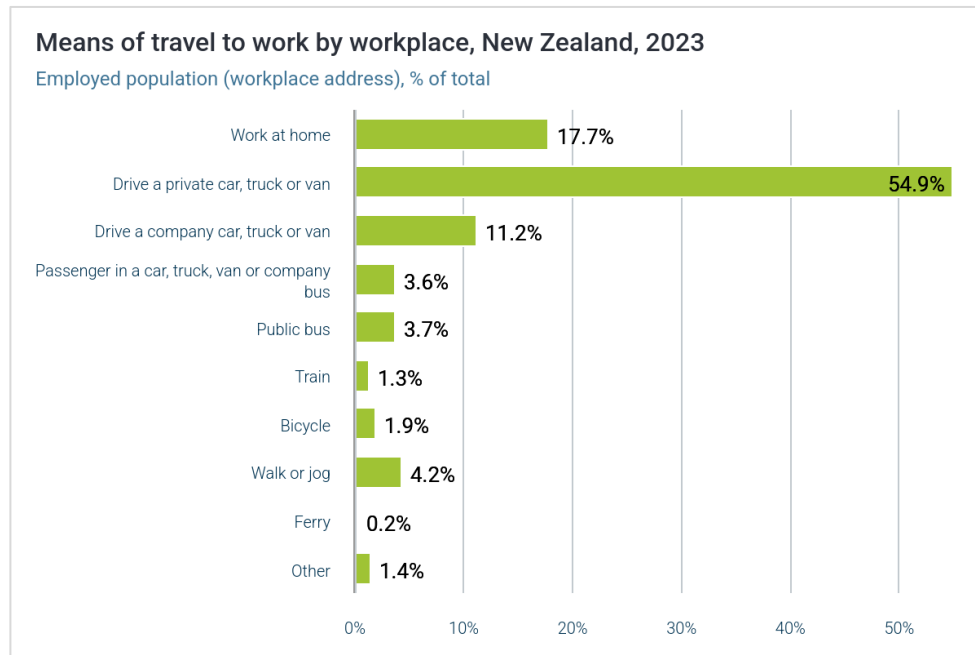
The median commuting distance for employees is **7.5 km**.

The estimated annual carbon footprint from commuting across 10 organisations is **3,040 TCO₂e**.

The carbon emissions per full-time equivalent (FTE) employee stands at **0.92 TCO₂e/FTE**.

35% of our trips to work are already low carbon and employees are saving **774 TCO₂e** carbon emissions a year by working from home, biking, or walking.

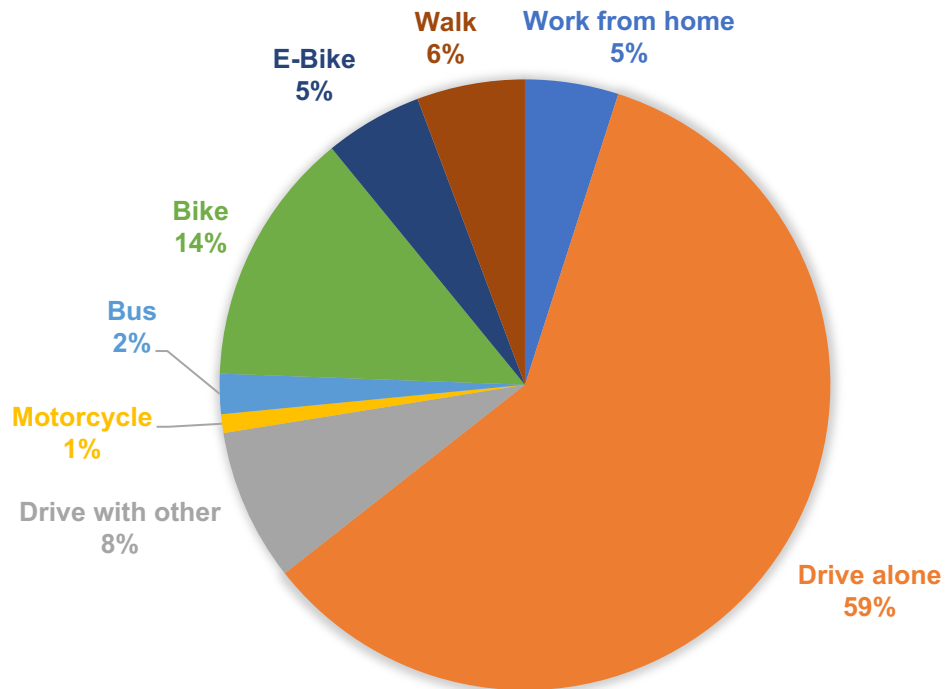
Stats NZ 2023 Census data: how we travel to work



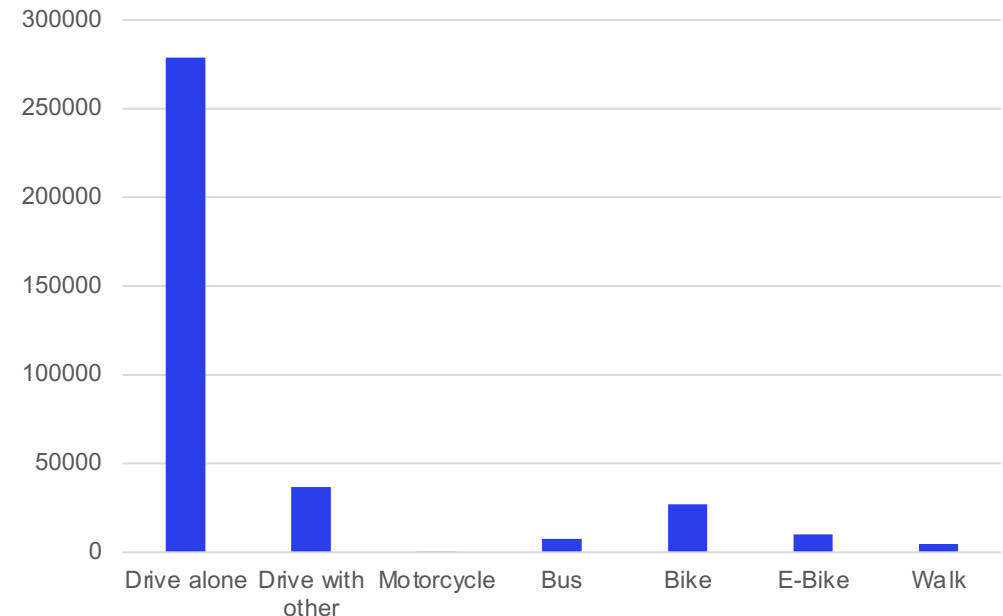
* Graphs listed on infometrics.co.nz

MZ survey: how we get to work

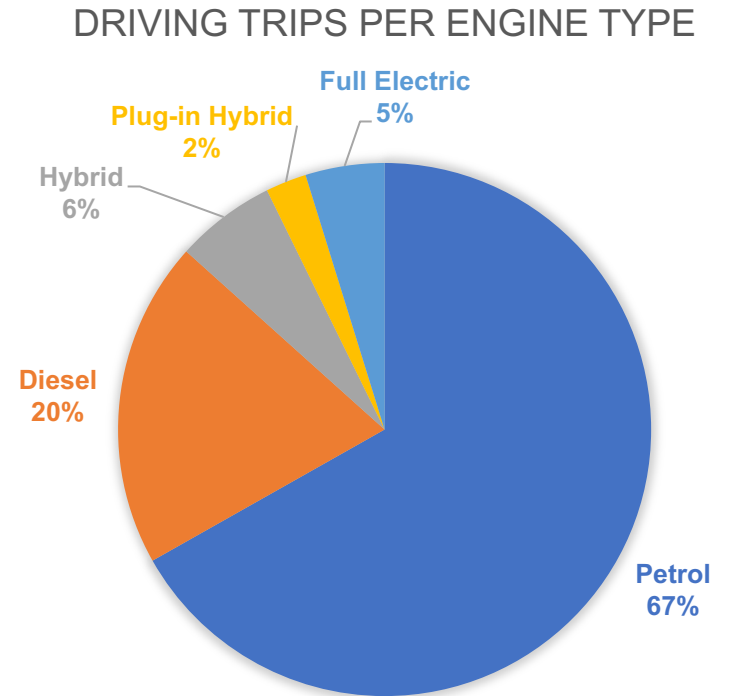
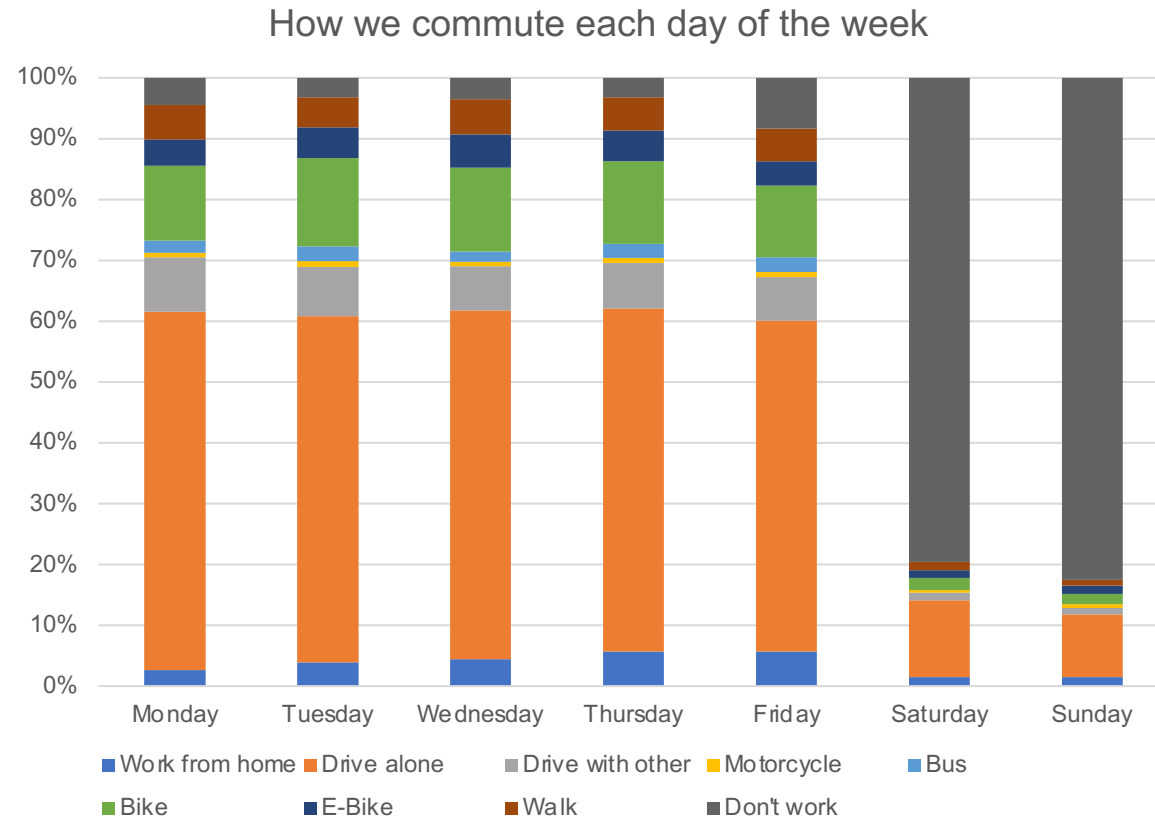
HOW WE COMMUTE (TRIPS TO WORK BY MODE)



How we commute (weekly distance by mode)



how we get to work

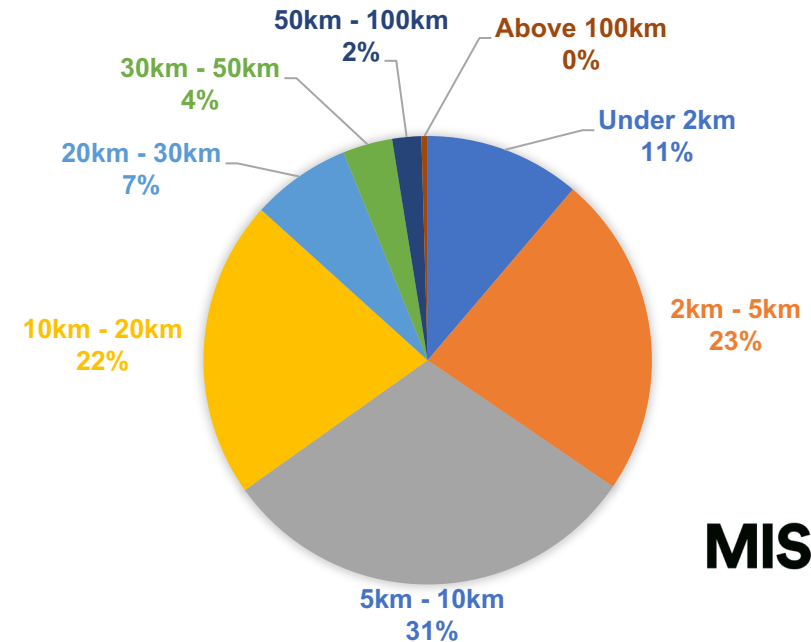


how far we travel

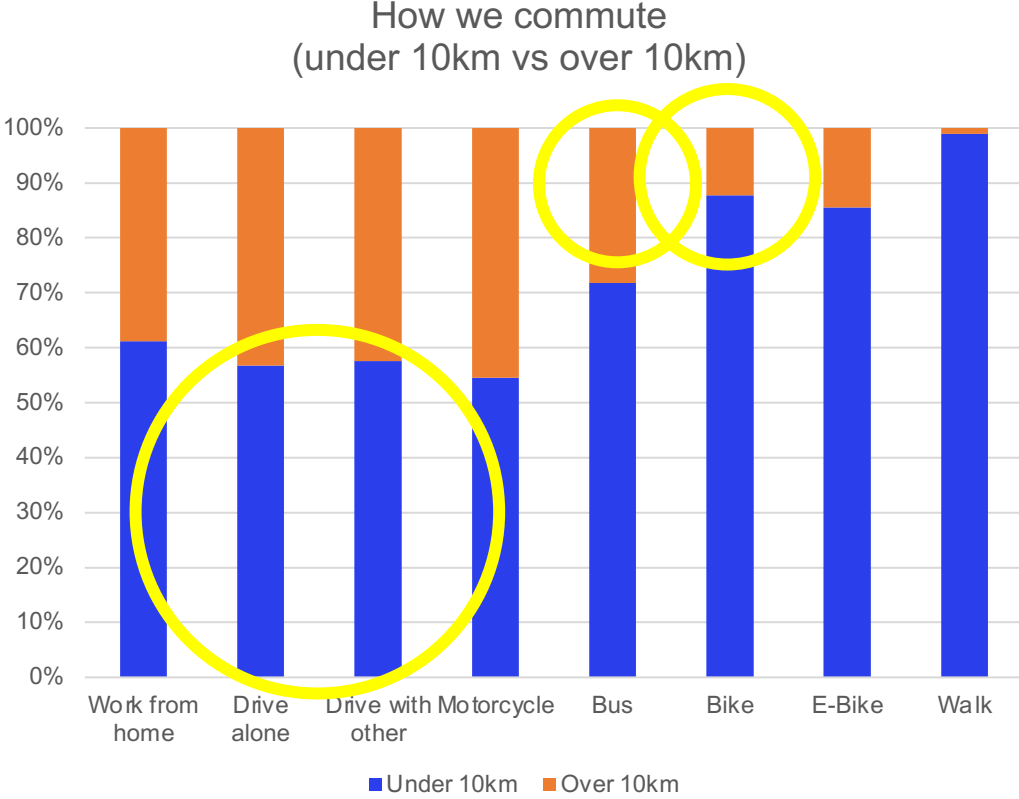
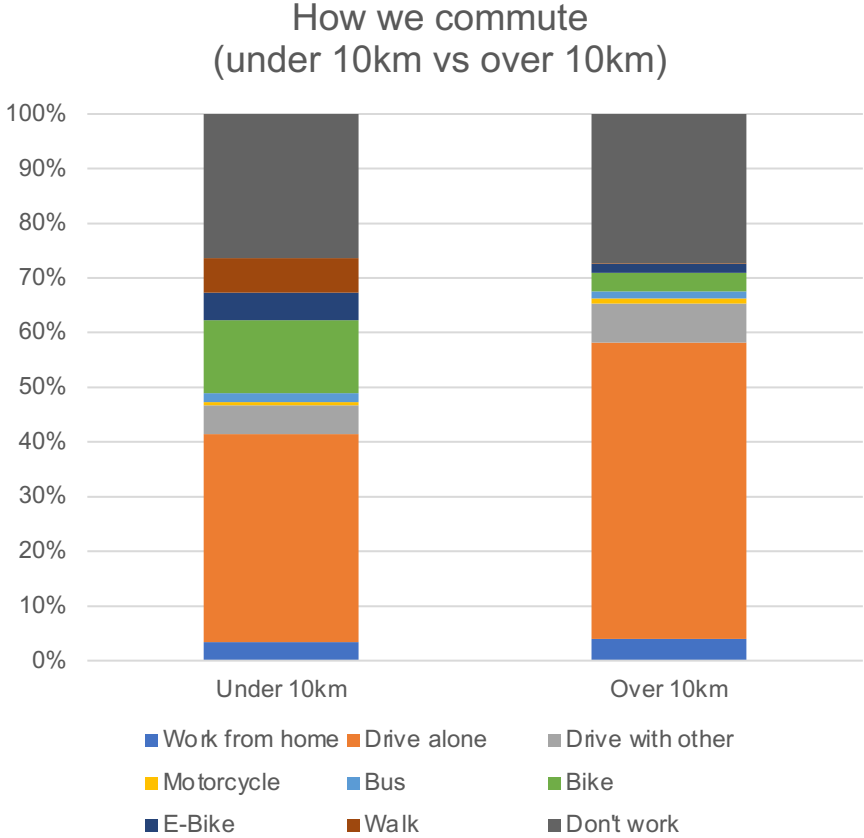
- Weekly distance travelled per employee: **108km**
- Typical distance (median): **7.5km**



DISTANCE TO WORK
(% OF EMPLOYEES PER DISTANCE RANGE)



where is the opportunity?



does it cost the Earth?

- Total annual commute carbon footprint and cost: **3,040 TCO₂e (\$3,456,542)**
- Annual commute carbon footprint and cost per person: **0.92 TCO₂e (\$1,051)**
- Already saving by working from home, biking or walking: **774 TCO₂e (\$514,013)**
- **35%** of trips using low-carbon mode or working from home

commute mode – what we like about it

- **Driving:** Convenience and Flexibility, Solitude and Relaxation, Scenic, Efficiency
- **Biking and E-Biking:** Physical and Mental Health, Connection to Nature, Environmental Benefits, Cost Savings
- **Walking:** Exercise and Well-being, Convenience, Nature Enjoyment
- **Public Transport (Bus):** Relaxation and Multitasking, Stress-Free Travel, Opportunity for Exercise
- **Carpooling (Driving with Others):** Social Connection, Convenience

barriers – what stops us from walking, cycling or busing?

- **Cycle Path Safety:** Several individuals expressed frustration about the lack of safe cycling infrastructure, indicating that even dedicated cyclists feel deterred by the risk of accidents on poorly designed routes.
- **Desire for Better Cycling Infrastructure:** Some respondents highlighted the need for improved cycle lanes to enhance safety, indicating that current conditions deter them from biking.
- **Inflexible Work Hours:** Many employees work shifts or have irregular schedules, making it challenging to use public transport or carpool.

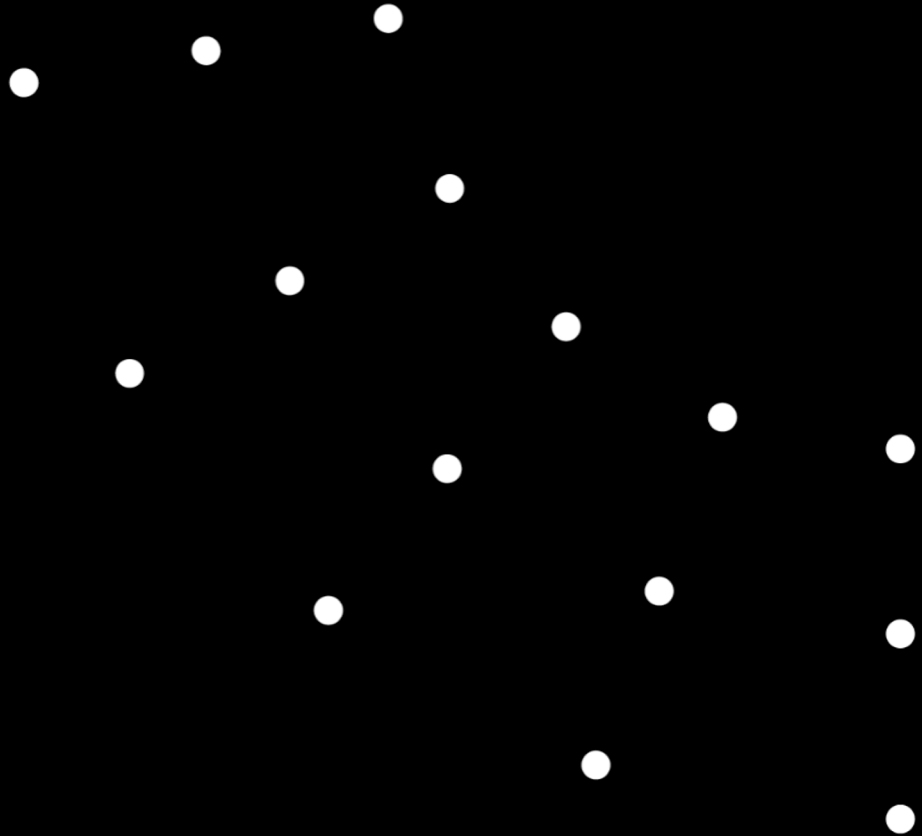
barriers – what stops us from walking, cycling or busing?

- **Distance from Work:** Long distances and inconvenient bus routes make biking or walking unfeasible for many.
- **Family and Childcare Responsibilities:** Dropping off or picking up children and handling other family commitments often necessitate driving.
- **Limited Public Transport Options:** Infrequent and misaligned bus schedules reduce the viability of public transport as an option.
- **Weather :** Adverse weather.

solutions

- **Financial Incentives**
“Subsidize e-bikes to make them more accessible for employees.”
- **Flexible Work Arrangements**
“Flexible work hours would help me avoid traffic and allow for personal tasks.”
- **Enhanced Bike and EV charging Facilities**
“Provide free bus passes and charge for car parking.”
“If I could charge an electric car at work I would consider buying an electric car when I replace my current hybrid.”
- **Support for Public Transport**
- **Promote Carpooling**

thank you



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