

2011 Census: Edinburgh Travel to Work Summary

April 2016

Context

Results from the 2011 Census have been rolled out since spring 2013. The final data to be released relates to patterns of travelling to work. Unlike previously released data from the Census which provided detailed statistics for particular areas, travel-to-work data relates to the flows of people from home to work.

The findings will help to monitor the effectiveness of existing land use and transportation policies and inform future strategies across a range of Council services. This Bulletin summarises some of the key findings that are set out in a detailed report which is now available on the Census pages of the Council's web site.

The report covers commuting flows into, out of and within the City of Edinburgh Council area and examines how commuting patterns have changed since the 2001 Census.

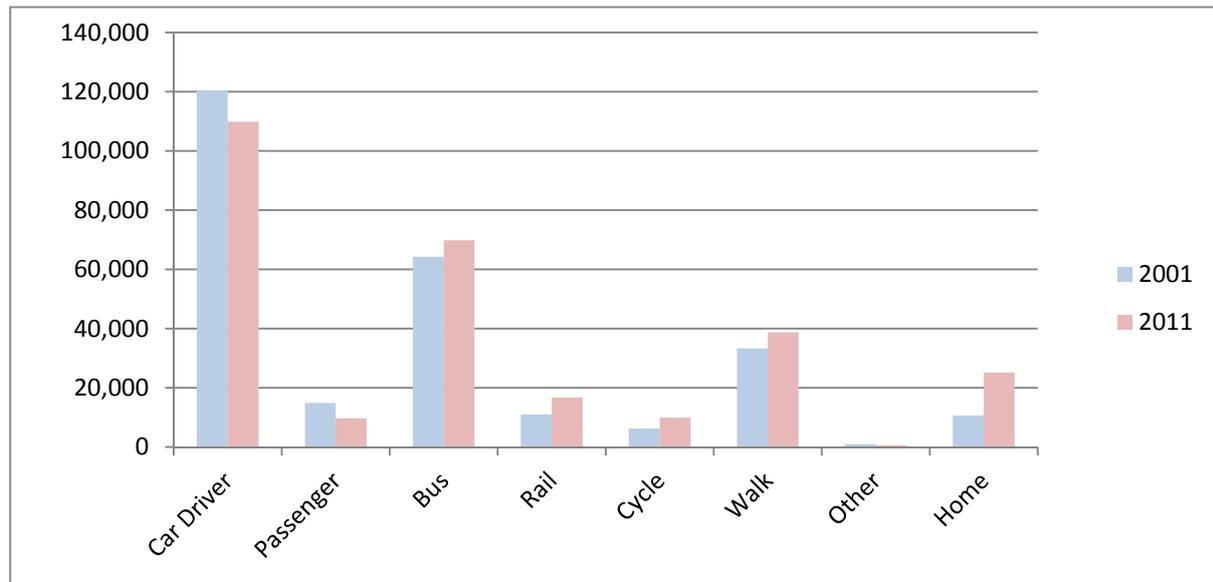
Key findings

- In total there are nearly 285,500 people aged between 16 and 74 working in the City of Edinburgh Council area.
- One third of workers in the city commute in from other local authority areas; this amounts to nearly 95,000 inward trips per day.
- 47,100 Edinburgh residents commute out of the city to work in other local authority areas.
- Three quarters of inward commuters are from neighbouring authorities.
- Two thirds of workers commuting from other council areas travel by car.
- Only one third of internal trips in the city are made by car.
- Since 2001, the number of trips to work made by car has decreased both for car drivers (9%) and car passengers (35%).
- Trips made by public transport have increased by 9% for bus and 52% for rail.
- Trips to work by bicycle have increased by 59% and walking by 16%.

Change in Commuter Patterns

The City of Edinburgh Council has consistently sought to reduce the need to travel and to encourage alternatives to the car - public transport, walking and cycling. Since the 2001 Census, significant progress towards meeting these goals has been made. The number of trips by car has reduced while trips made by bus, rail, walking and cycling have all increased. The change in the number of work trips made to destinations in Edinburgh is shown in the graph below.

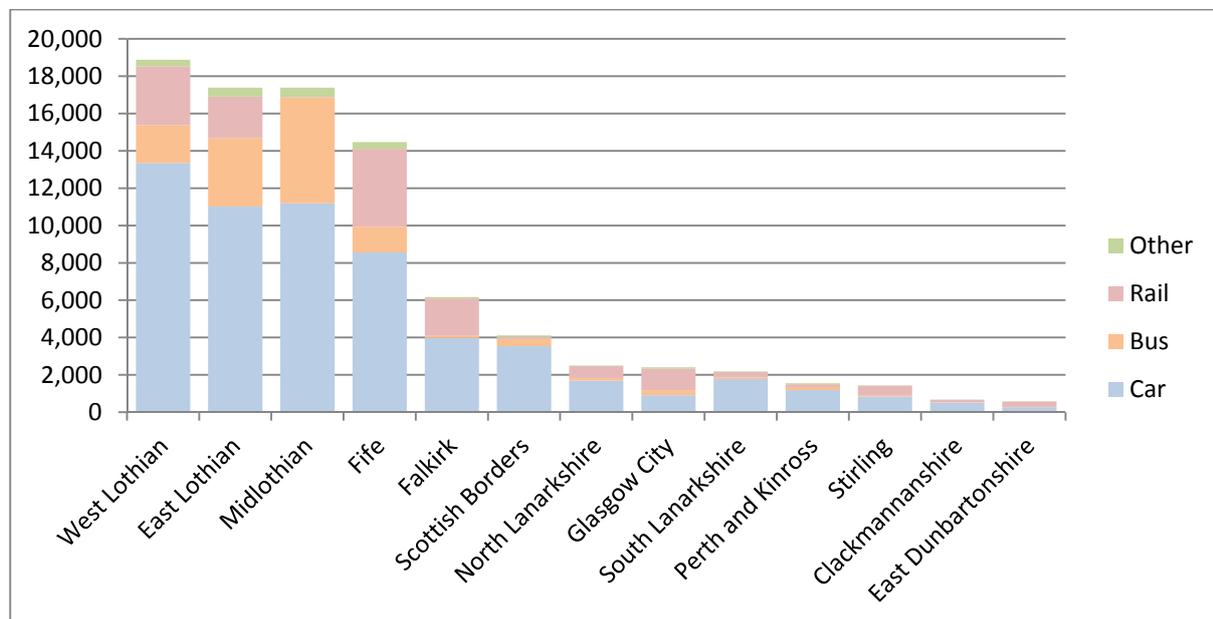
Mode of Travel to work in Edinburgh, by Residents and In-commuters – 2001 to 2011



In-commuting

As the main employment centre for South East Scotland, there are significantly more people commuting into the city than residents commuting out. The majority of in-commuters come from the council areas bordering the city, but there are also significant numbers of workers travelling in from Falkirk, Glasgow and North and South Lanarkshire.

This graph shows the number of commuters by mode of travel commuting into the city from other Scottish council areas.



More detailed information

The full report “2011 Census Edinburgh: Travel to Work Flows” can be accessed via the following link: http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/7496/census_2011_-_travel_to_work_flows_-_topic_report_for_edinburgh

Contact

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