
TRANSPORT

Introduction

Transport in Hertfordshire is dominated by the car. Road traffic continues to rise, with all its associated increase in air pollution and disincentives to walk or cycle. However, the car will remain an important mode of transport, and therefore effort has to be put into both reducing car traffic and making vehicles less polluting and safer.

Indicator 1 - Volume of Motor Traffic

Hertfordshire County Council has 150 permanent sites where the volume of traffic on the road is measured. These figures are then used to estimate the amount of traffic in the county.

In 1998, 31.1 million kilometres were driven by vehicles in Hertfordshire per day. This is an increase of 1.3% over the previous year.

DISTRICT	million vehicle kilometres per day	
	1997	1998
Broxbourne	1.7	1.6
Dacorum	3.8	3.9
East Herts	5.3	5.4
Hertsmere	3.3	3.3
North Herts	3.4	3.4
St Albans	5.5	5.6
Stevenage	1.0	1.0
Three Rivers	3.3	3.2
Watford	0.9	0.9
Welwyn Hatfield	2.6	2.6
Hertfordshire	30.7	31.1

[Note that figures shown for each district are rounded and therefore do not add up to the Hertfordshire total]

Indicator 2 - Modal Split

Modal split calculations tell us what kind of traffic uses Hertfordshire's roads. The following table shows the modal split taken from the three-year cycle of urban area peak-period counts. Whilst it does not give a complete picture of transport patterns, it does give an indication of the long-term trend. However, year-on-year changes in modal split cannot be taken to be significant.

Mode	1997	1998
Car	83.7%	83.2%
Bus	10.8%	10.8%
Foot	3.9%	4.5%
Cycle	1.0%	0.9%
Motorcycle	0.6%	0.6%

Local Transport Plan

Further information on transport issues and the measures being taken to tackle them can be found in Hertfordshire's Local Transport Plan, available in libraries or from the County Council.

Government Transport Policy

Since last year's State of Hertfordshire's Environment report, the Government have published the following transport policy documents:

- From Workhorse to Thoroughbred - A better role for bus travel (consultation)
- Sustainable Distribution : A Strategy
- Planning Policy Guidance Note (PPG) 13 - Transport (consultation)

<p>For further information contact: Trevor Mason, Hertfordshire County Council Environment Department, 01992 556193</p>
--