

Monthly Transport Indicators

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

- i. Notes this report.
- ii. Approves the format of the monthly transport indicators report, subject to any modifications required by the Board, as the basis for future monthly updates.

Purpose

A new monthly transport indicators report is proposed. The current monthly data report, which had its origins in the previous Auckland Regional Transport Authority, contains a large amount of very detailed information on public transport patronage, but does not provide current data on the wider transport environment that AT is responsible for managing or external drivers that impact on AT's responsibilities.

The proposed monthly indicators report is designed to cover a broader range of issues, including both contextual indicators (economic activity, building consents, vehicle registrations, fuel prices, fuel consumption, etc) and more specific transport indicators (traffic volumes, public transport patronage, crashes, etc).

The proposed monthly report contains 20 key indicators, for which monthly (or in some cases quarterly) data is available on a timely basis. This will be presented as a concise document, with a graph and a short commentary provided for each indicator. Where the trends identify areas of concern, it is intended that these will be considered in more detail in separate reports.

The purpose of this new format is enable the Board to maintain a focus on trends, and to maintain a watch on the key indicators that influence and/or drive the performance of the transport system. The indicators are designed to:

- Provide the Board with information on the broader context within which AT must perform its functions; and
- Provide a context for the consideration of Board agenda reports.

Subject to Board feedback on the report format, it is intended to include the monthly indicators report on each Board agenda and to start the new format from July for the new financial reporting year.

Issues and options

To enable more broad-based coverage of key transport trends, a new monthly reporting format is proposed. The intention is to provide a concise report that focuses on trends, and enables the Board to maintain a watch on the key indicators that influence and/or drive the performance of the transport system.

A total of 20 indicators are proposed, organised into the following categories:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Economic | Auckland economic activity, Auckland employment, Auckland residential building, Auckland airport passengers |
| National transport activity | New vehicle registrations, ANZ Heavy traffic index |
| Fuel price and consumption | Fuel prices, Auckland fuel consumption |
| Auckland traffic | State Highway traffic, Arterial road productivity |
| Auckland public transport | Total boardings, rail boardings, Northern Express Boardings, other bus boardings, ferry boardings, public transport reliability. Note, indicators for average weekday boardings, and capacity utilisation are also under development. |
| Alternative modes | Cycle counts |
| Road safety | Auckland road crash deaths |

It is important to note that not all these indicators (especially the contextual indicators) are the same as those that appear in the Statement of Intent (over which AT has some influence through its actions). However, they are designed to:

- enable the Board to gain a greater appreciation of the broader context within which AT must perform its functions; and
- provide a context for the consideration of Board agenda reports.

The following table provides further detail on the indicators that have been included in the report. It summarises the basis for each indicator (including contextual, Auckland Plan outcomes or SOI impacts where relevant), and the proposed measures and data sources. An indication of the time delay for data availability is also shown.

Note that two of the public transport measures are not yet fully developed. These include average weekday patronage (which will remove the effects of public holidays and weekends from the monthly patronage returns: data for rail is included in the attached report, but historical data for other modes is not yet available); and public transport capacity utilisation, where relevant data is currently being assembled to determine its suitability.

| Category | Indicator | Basis | Measure | Source | Availability |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Economic | Auckland economic activity | Contextual: growth in travel demand | % change in regional economic activity | ANZ Bank Regional Trends Composite Indicator of Economic Activity | Quarterly: 8 weeks from end of quarter |
| | Auckland employment | Contextual: growth in travel demand | Persons employed | Statistics NZ Quarterly Employment Survey | Quarterly: 10 weeks from end of quarter |
| | Auckland building activity | Contextual: growth in travel demand | Dwelling consents issued | Statistics NZ | Monthly: 4 weeks from month end |
| | Airport arrivals | Contextual: growth in travel demand | Arrivals at Auckland airport | Auckland Airport Monthly traffic update | Monthly: 4 weeks from month end |
| National traffic activity | Vehicle registrations | Contextual: growth in vehicles | New vehicle registrations | Motor Industry Association. | Monthly: 1-2 weeks from month end |
| | Traffic volumes: heavy traffic | Contextual: growth in traffic volumes on key roads; and leading indicator of economic activity | ANZ heavy traffic index | ANZ Bank "Truckometer" | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| Fuel | Fuel prices | Contextual: key transport price indicator | Petrol and diesel retail price | Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment | Weekly: Within 1 week |
| | Auckland Fuel consumption | SOI impact: reduced environmental effects | Petrol and diesel sales volume | Auckland Council (from local govt fuel tax returns) | Monthly: 3-4 months lag time |
| Auckland traffic | State highways traffic volumes: | Contextual: growth in traffic volumes on key roads | State Highway average daily traffic index | NZ Transport Agency | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Arterial road productivity | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Arterial roads productivity % | AT Road Corridor Operations | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public transport | Total public transport patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Total boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Rail patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Rail boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Busway patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Busway boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Bus patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Bus (non-busway) boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Ferry patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Ferry boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Public transport reliability | SOI impact: increased customer satisfaction | % services on time | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| | Public transport weekday patronage | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Average number of PT weekday boardings | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end (rail only available at present) |
| | Public transport capacity utilisation | SOI impact: moving people and goods efficiently | Ratio of PT passenger km to seat km | AT Public Transport Operations / operator returns | Measure under development: to be reported monthly |
| Alternative modes | Cycle trips | SOI impact: increased access to wider range of transport choices | Cycle counts (total at 9 key sites) | AT Community Transport | Monthly: 2-3 weeks from month end |
| Road safety | Road crash deaths | SOI impact: improved safety | Road crash fatalities | NZ Transport Agency | Weekly: Within 1 week |

Data in the attached report is the most recent available at the time of writing. In most cases, this is current to March 2013.



Next Steps

Board feedback on the report contents and format is invited. Subject to this feedback, it is intended to include the monthly indicators report on future Board agendas.

Attachment

| Number | Description |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Draft Monthly Transport Indicators Report: April 2013 |

Document Ownership

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Prepared & Recommended by | Peter Clark General Manager Strategy & Planning |  |
| Approved for Submission | David Warburton Chief Executive |  |

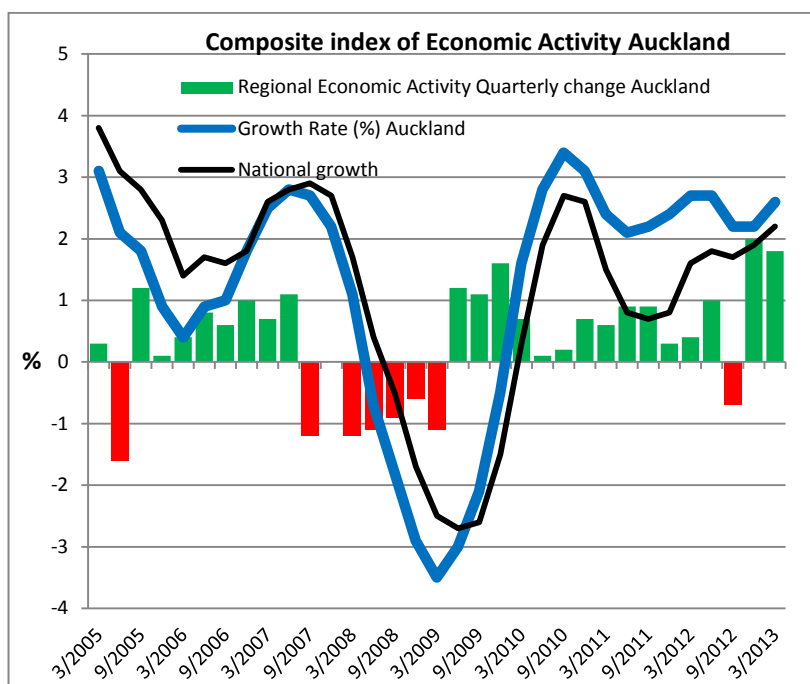
Auckland Transport - Transport Indicators Report - April 2013

Economic indicators

Auckland Economic Activity

The ANZ Regional Trends Composite Indicator of Economic Activity shows that Auckland economic activity increased by 1.8% in the March 2013 quarter, with a year-on-year growth rate of 2.6% for the year to March 2013.

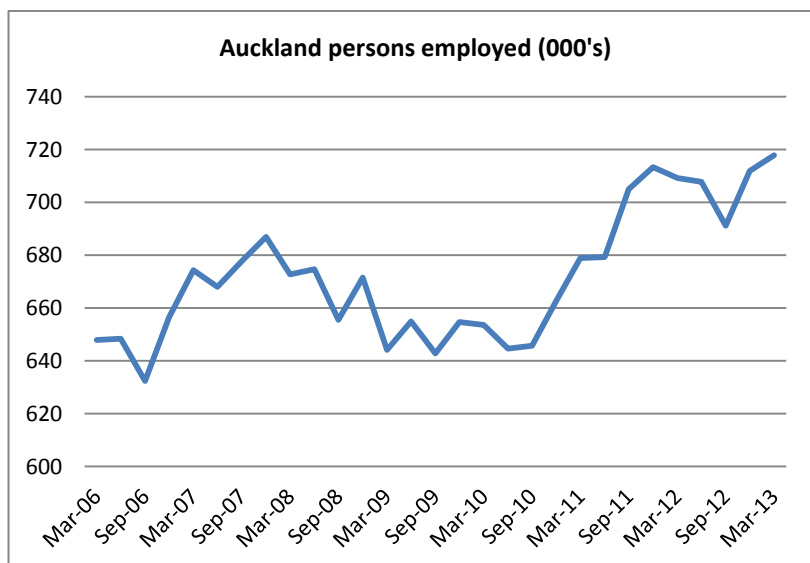
Source: ANZ Regional Trends Composite Indicator of Economic Activity: Auckland



Auckland Employment

The latest Quarterly Employment Survey has shown a recovery in Auckland employment numbers following three quarters of moderate decline that followed the strong growth recorded in 2011. 717,300 persons were employed in the region in the March 2013 quarter, 8,000 more than the 709,300 recorded in March 2012. Unemployment is 1,400 lower (56,700) March 2013 than in March 2012 (58,100).

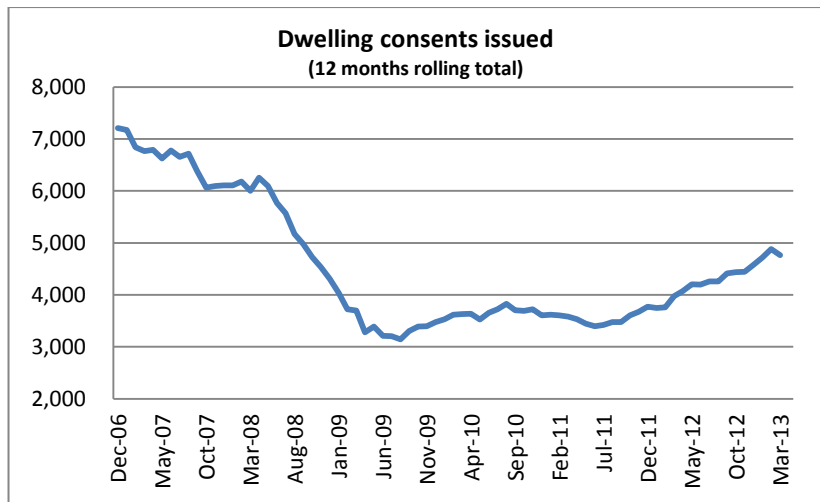
Source: Statistics NZ Quarterly Employment Survey (June ¼ Available 8th Aug)



Auckland Residential Building

The number of residential building consents issued in Auckland continued to increase during 2012, with a total of 4,764 issued in the 12 months to March 2013, up 19.8% on the total for the previous year, however March 2013 consents were 23% lower than March 2012.

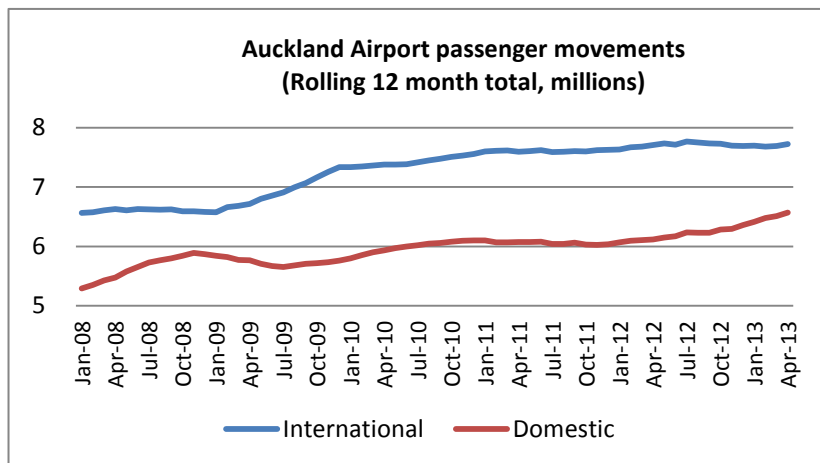
Source: Statistics NZ (data available 28th of Month following)



Auckland Airport passengers

1.232 million Passenger movements were recorded at Auckland Airport in April 2013, bringing the annual total for the 12 months to April 2013 to over 14.3 million 3.3% higher than a year ago. Domestic passenger growth has been particularly strong, up 7.7% over the past year, compared with -0.2% for international movements.

Source: AIAL Monthly traffic

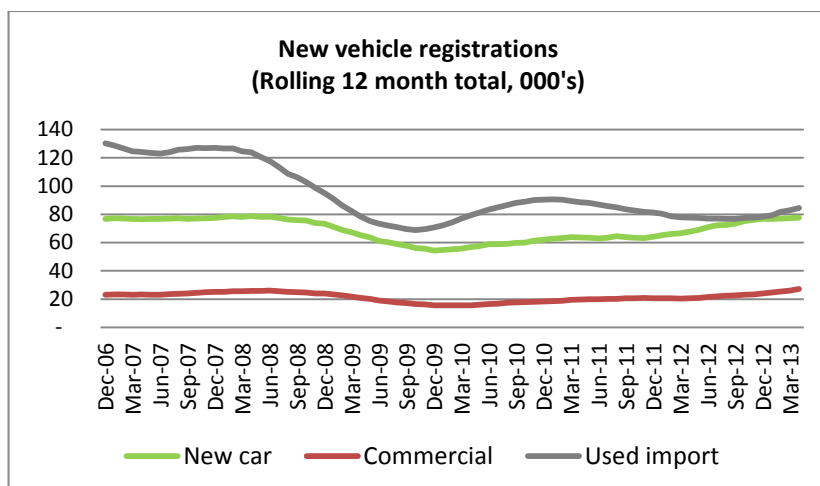


National transport activity indicators

New vehicle registrations (NZ)

For the year to April 2013, 189,148 vehicles were newly registered, up 13.9%. A total of 16,080 vehicles were newly registered in March 2013, up 24% on the same month in 2012. The numbers of new car and commercial vehicle registrations have continued to grow strongly over the past year, used import registrations have recently increased.

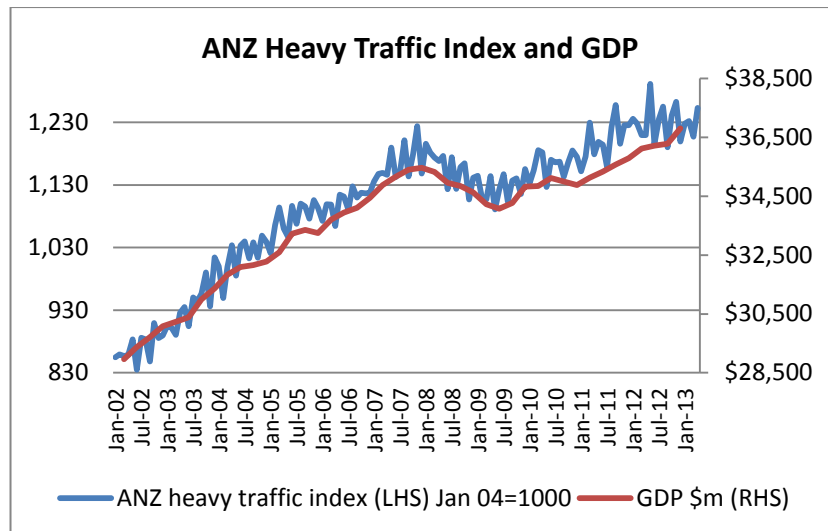
Source: Motor Industry Assn.



Heavy Traffic Index (NZ)

The ANZ Truckometer uses NZTA data to calculate volume indices for heavy and light traffic. The heavy traffic index has been a reliable indicator of national economic activity. The April heavy truck index is 1,253 up 3.8% from March and up 3.6% compared to April 2012. GDP for the December 2012 quarter rose by 1.4%. The growth in April corrected the slight downturn in March.

Source: ANZ Truckometer

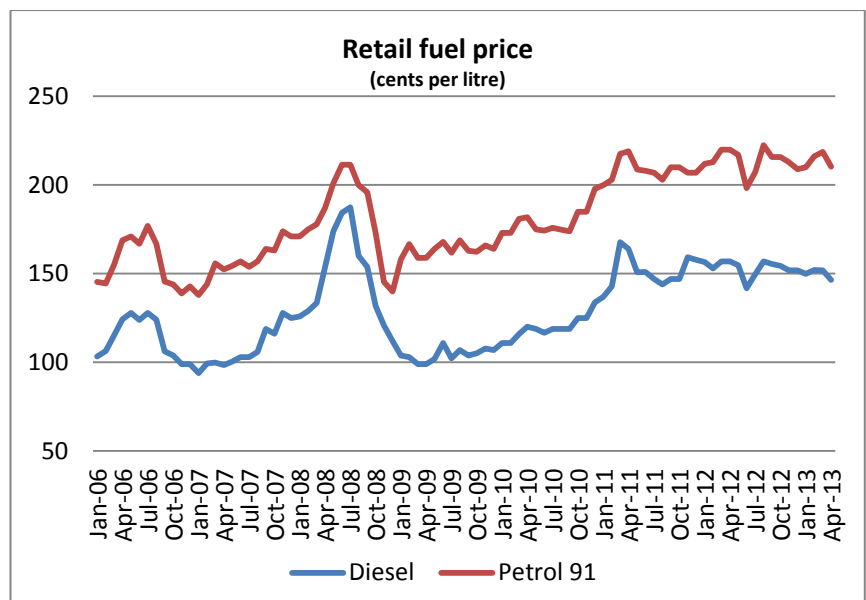


Fuel price and consumption indicators

Fuel Prices

The average retail price of regular 91 octane petrol was 210.4 cents in April 2013, down 3.8% from a month earlier. The average diesel price was 146.5 cents per litre 3.6% lower than March. Petrol and Diesel dropped by around 10 cents per litre during April.

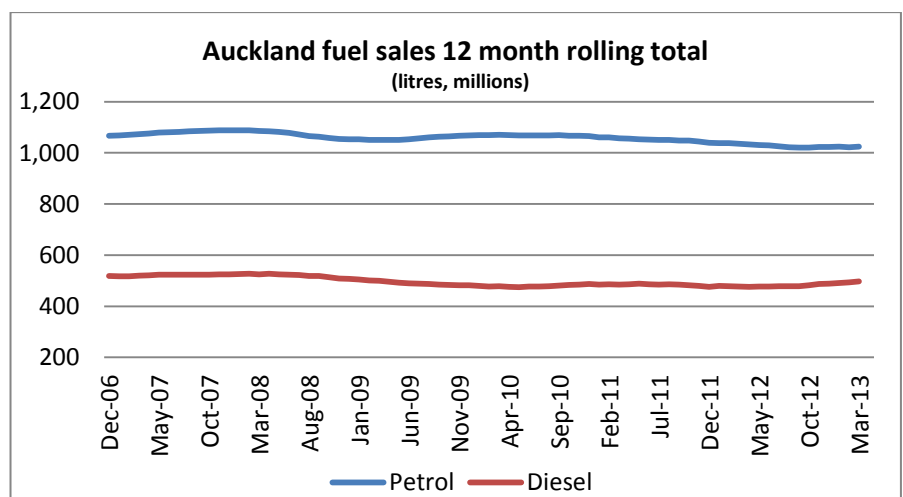
Source: Ministry of Business, Employment and Innovation



Auckland Fuel Sales

Fuel sales for March 2013 totalled 137.3 million litres, 4.7% more than in March 2012. March petrol sales were 90 million litres (up 2.5% on 2012) and diesel sales were 46.7 million litres (up 9.3%).

Source: Auckland Council Local Authority Fuel Tax returns

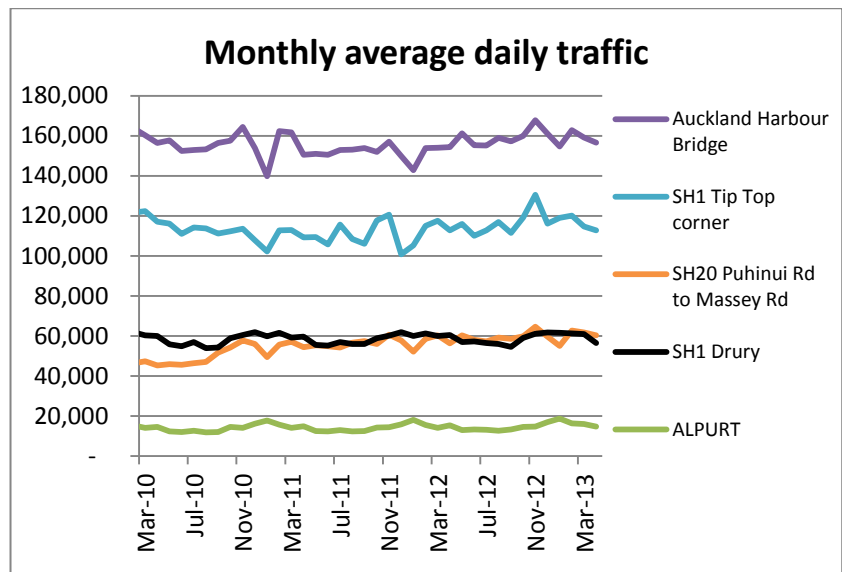


Auckland traffic indicators

Monthly traffic volumes

This measure shows the absolute values of traffic on each state highway. Traffic volumes on the harbour bridge have been (Jan) 8%, and (Feb) 6% (Mar) 3% Apr (1.4%) higher than the same month of the previous year. State highway 20 traffic volumes were (Jan) 6%, and (Feb) 3% (Mar) 7% (Apr) 7% higher than the same month of the previous year.

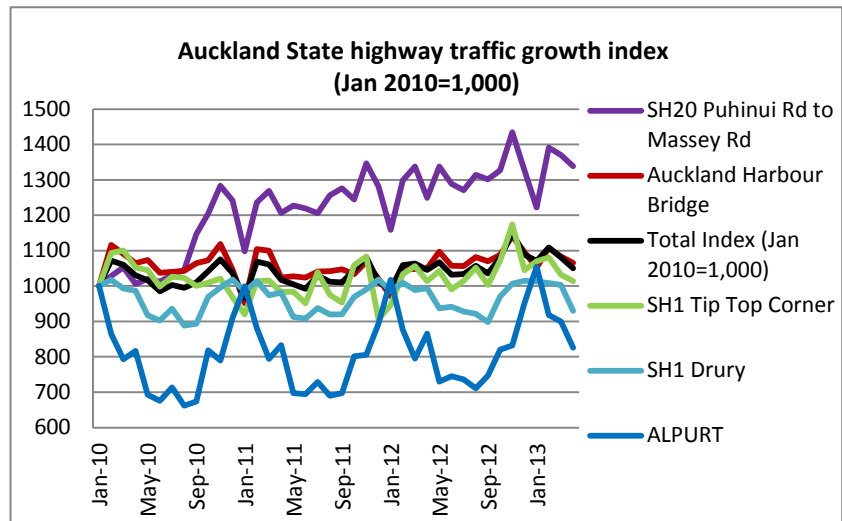
Source: NZTA data



State Highway Traffic

This measure shows the change in traffic volume on each state highway relative to January 2000 for 5 major locations. Using an index of January 2000 shows there has been strong growth in traffic on SH20, and the wide seasonal variation in traffic on SH1 north and south. Overall, volumes have been relatively flat over the past 3 years, but increased towards the end of 2012. The overall Index stood at 1,050 in April 2013, up 0.4% on the same month in 2012. Average volumes in the year to April 2013 are 4.1% higher than the year to April 2012.

Source: calculated from NZTA data

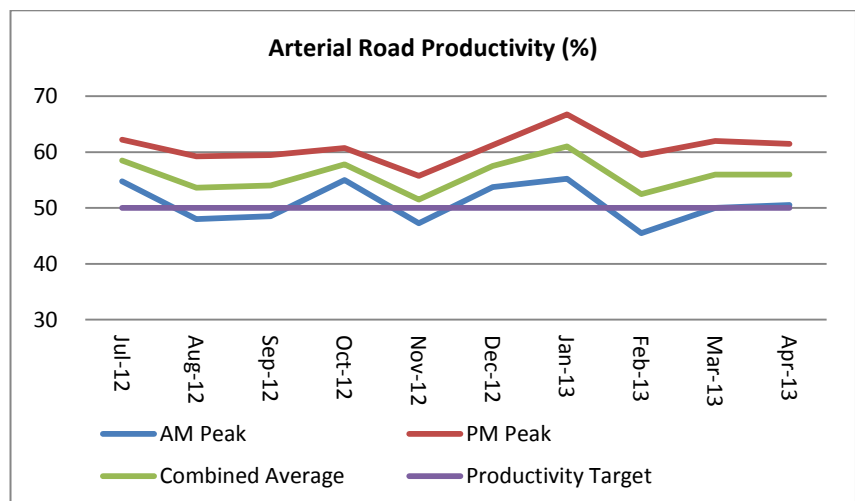


Arterial road productivity

Road productivity is a measure of the efficiency of the road in moving people during the peak hour. It is measured as the product of number of vehicles, their average journey speed and average vehicular occupancy.

AM peak productivity was 50% in April, and PM peak productivity was 62%. The combined average productivity was 56%, against the road productivity target of 50%.

Source: AT Road Corridor Operations

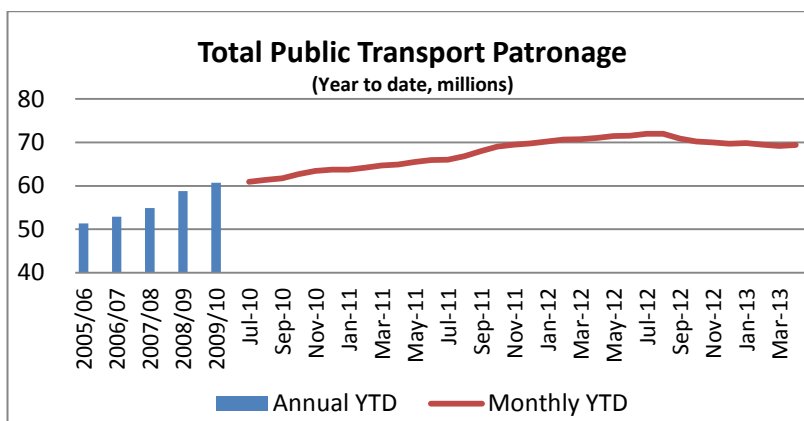


Auckland public transport indicators

Public transport: total boardings

There were 69,395,153 total public transport boardings in the 12 months to April 2013, down 2.2% on the year to April 2012. Total boardings for the month of April 2013 were 5,869,231 up 5% on the same month last year.

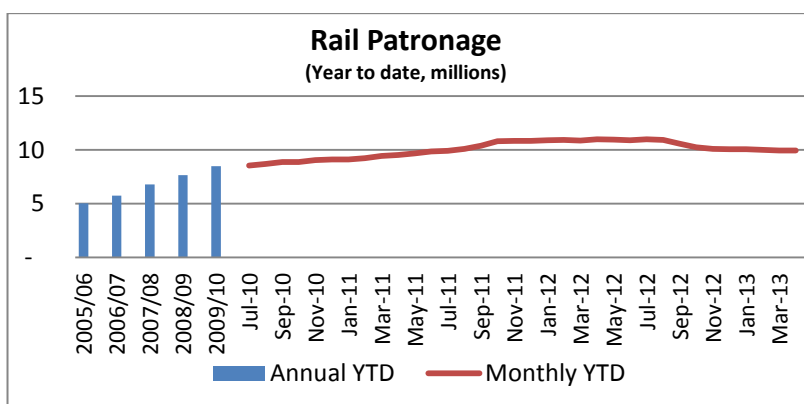
Source: AT PT Ops / operator returns



Rail boardings

There were 9,933,525 rail boardings in the 12 months to April 2013, down 9.5% on the year to April 2012. Rail boardings for the month of April 2013 totalled 929,410 down 1.9% on the same month last year.

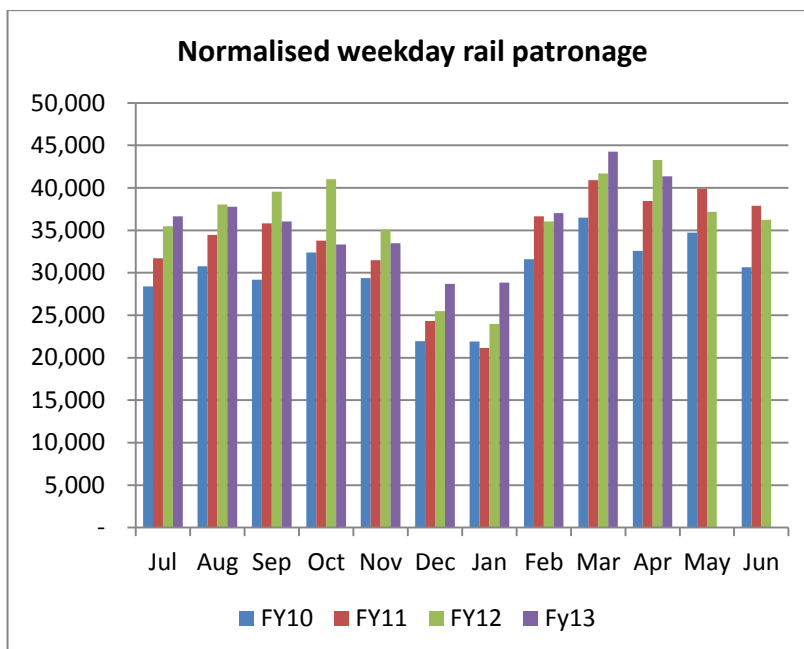
Source: AT PT Ops / operator returns



Rail Weekday monthly average

Weekday average monthly rail patronage has been normalised to remove inconsistencies resulting from non-scheduled special event service patronage, statutory holidays, legacy transition to AT HOP and rail network closures for electrification upgrade. Demand is still seasonal especially as a result of tertiary term dates and school holiday periods. The spike in April 2012 was linked to advance purchase of Ten trip tickets prior the fare increase. The introduction of the AT HOP card will reduce these spikes and allow a similar measure to be introduced for Bus and Ferry.

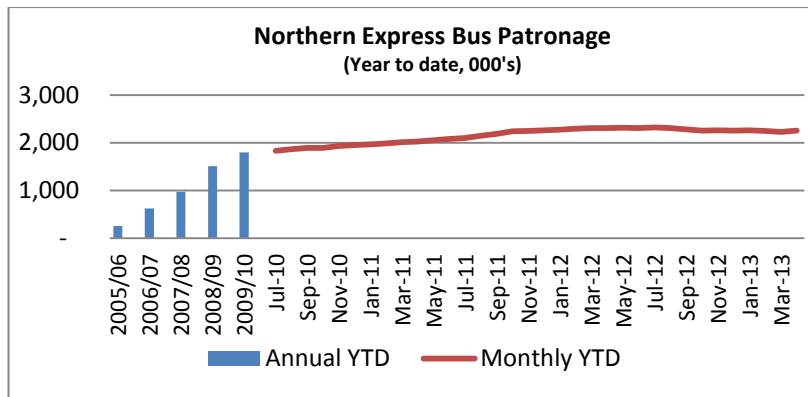
Source: AT PT Ops and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu



Northern Express bus boardings

There were 2,257,789 boardings on Northern Express buses in the 12 months to April 2013, down 2.1% on the year to April 2012. Northern Express boardings for the month of April 2013 totalled 202,638 up 16% on last year.

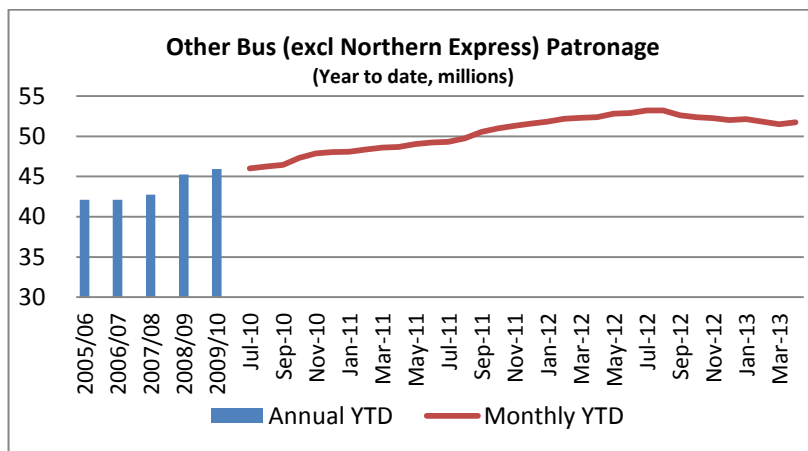
Source: AT PT Ops



Other bus boardings (excluding Northern Express)

There were 51,730,931 bus boardings (excluding the Northern Express) in the 12 months to April 2013, down 1.2% on the year to April 2012. Bus boardings for the month of April 2013 totalled 4,259,020 up 7% on the same month last year.

Source: AT PT Ops / operator returns

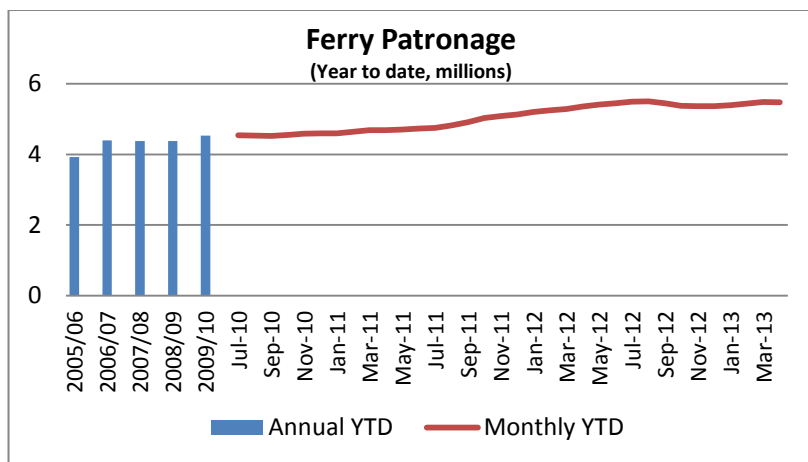


Ferry boardings

There were 5,472,908 ferry boardings in the 12 months to April 2013, up 2.1% on the year to April 2012. Ferry boardings for the month of April 2013 totalled 478,163 down 1.6% on the same month last year.

New ferry services at Hobsonville and Beach Haven and additional service trips at Pine Harbour have had a positive influence.

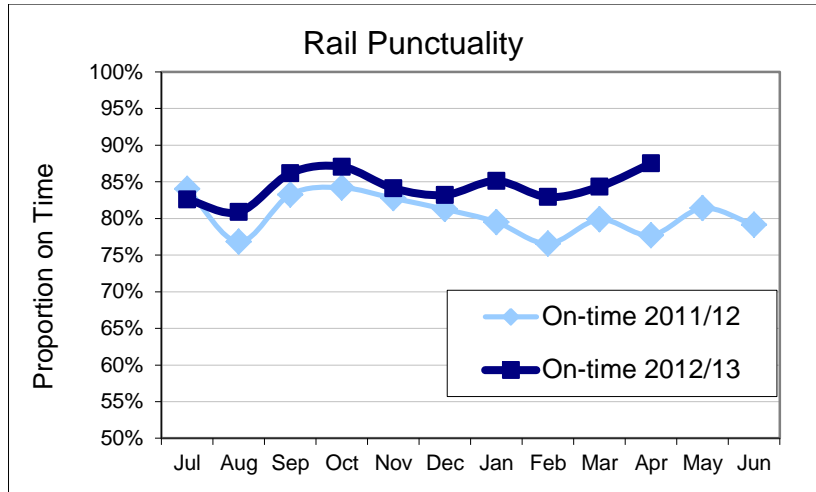
Source: AT PT Ops / operator returns



Public transport punctuality

98.5% of Rail services operated on time (completed trips within five minutes of schedule at end destination) during March 2013. Bus and Ferry reliability measures are under development.

Source: AT PT Ops / operator returns

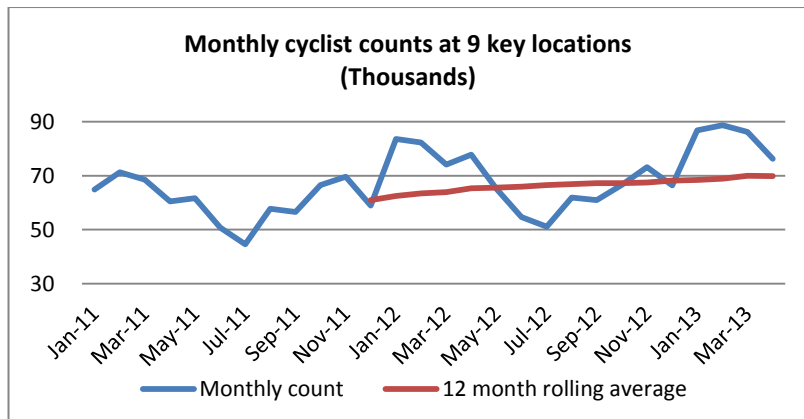


Alternative mode indicators

Cycle counts

AT counts cyclists at 9 key sites around the region. 76,310 cyclists were recorded during April 2013 2% lower than last April. The 12 month rolling average is 7% higher than last year.

Source: AT Community Transport



Road safety indicators

Auckland road crash deaths

There were 4 fatalities on Auckland roads in April 2013, four more than April 2012. The total road toll for the 12 months to April 2013 was 44, down from 50 in the 12 months to April 2012.

Source: NZTA

