

## **Traffic and car use statistics – new data charts including the latest 2013 data releases**

The charts in this briefing come from the new National Travel Survey and other government statistical sources:

- National Travel Survey 2012 – data released 30 July 2013 [1]
- DfT Road Traffic Statistics 2012 – data released June 2013 [2]
- DfT Road Transport Forecasts – published 16 July 2013 [3]

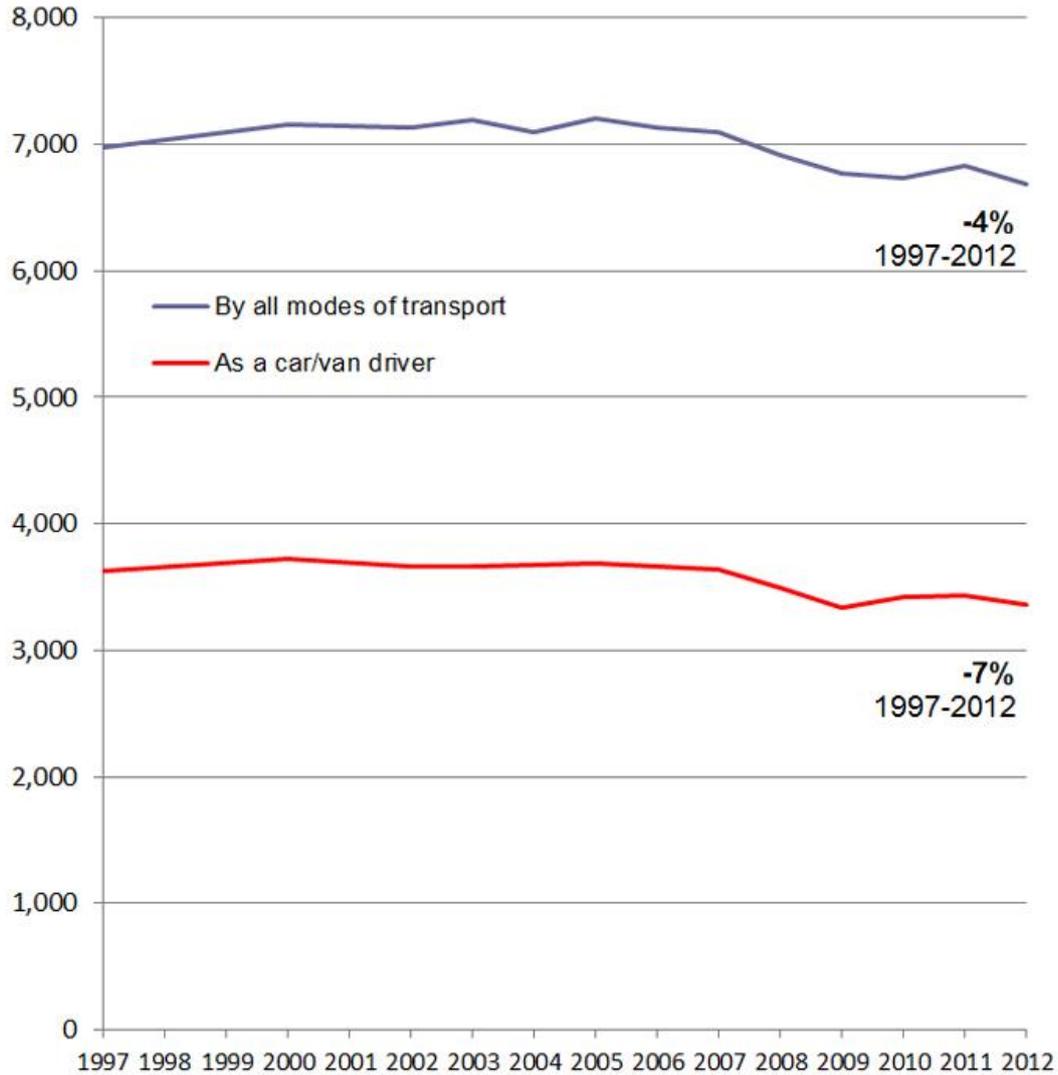
# 1. The new National Travel Survey shows people's travel habits have changed

## People are travelling less overall and travelling less by car (NTS0305)

Distance travelled per person per year is down 4% since 1997 for all modes of transport and down 7% for driving in a car or van.

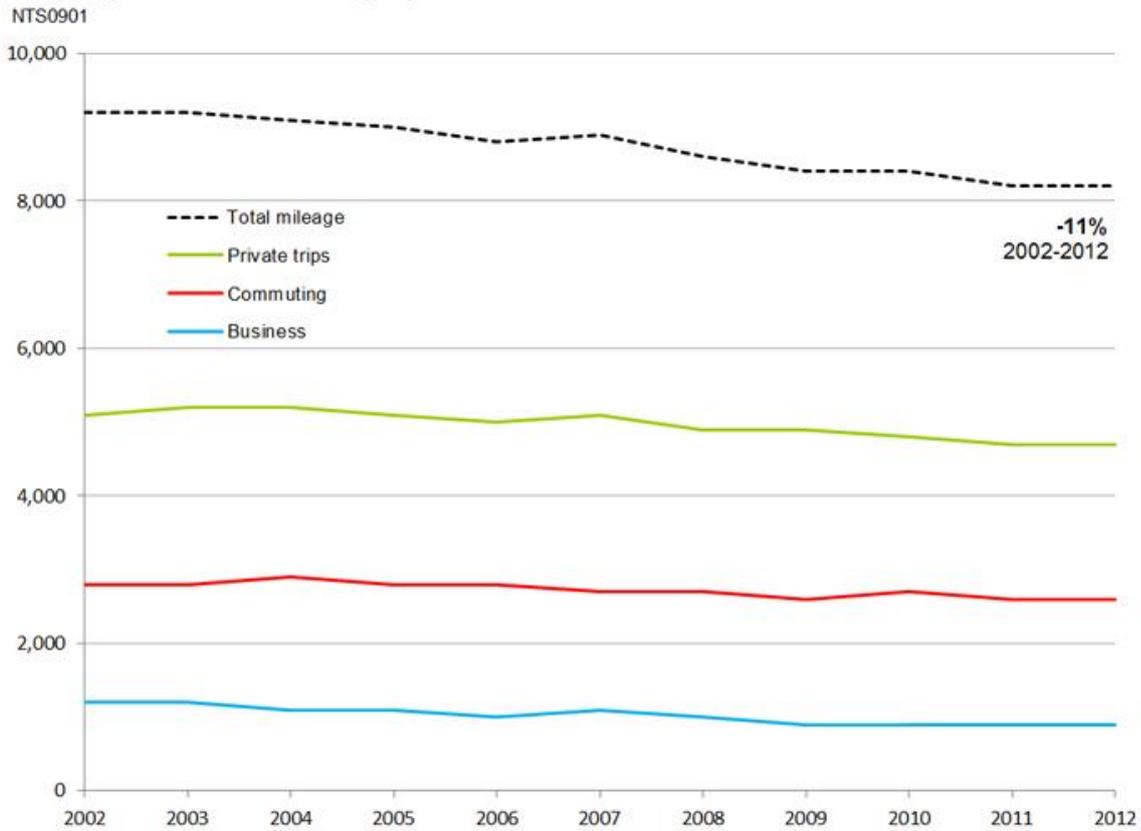
### Distance travelled (miles per person per year)

NTS0305



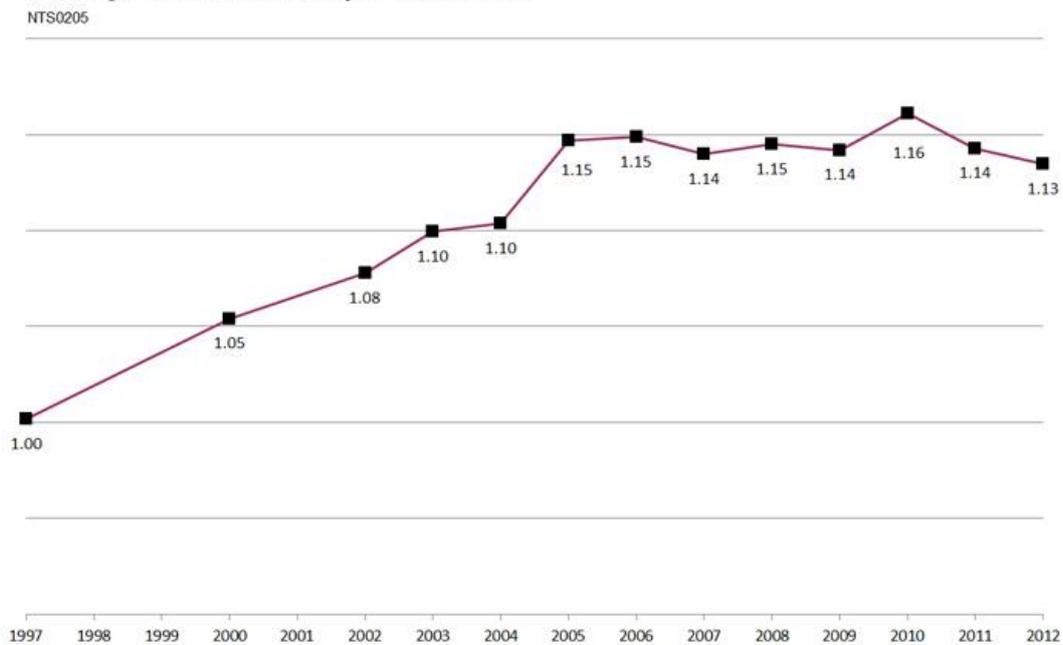
**Distance travelled per car has fallen 11% since 2002 (NTS0901)**

**Average annual mileage per car**



**Car ownership per household is now lower than in 2005 (NTS 0205)**

**Average number of cars per household**



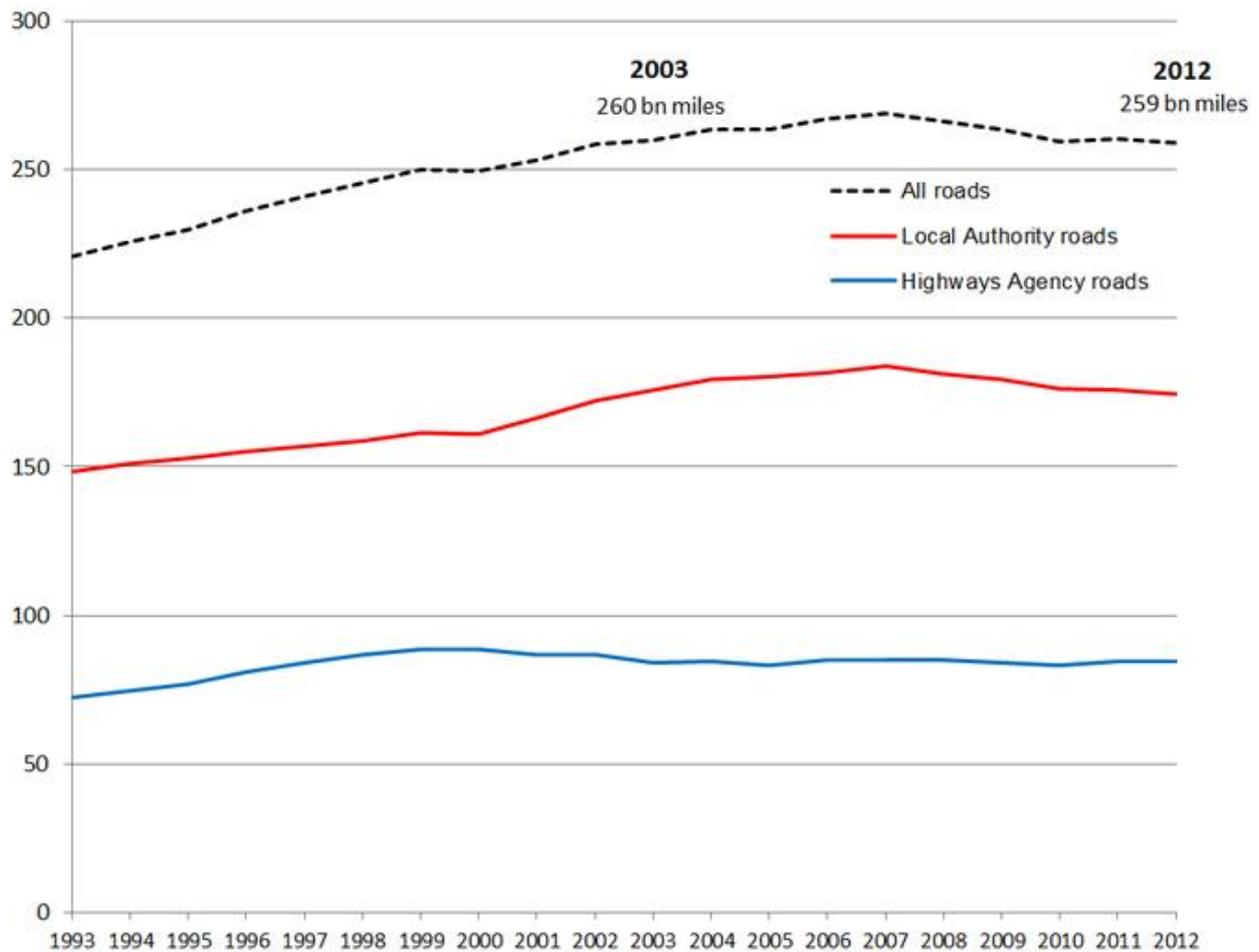
## 2. These travel trends result in falling measured traffic levels, including on major roads

### Overall traffic is falling (DfT TRA5102)

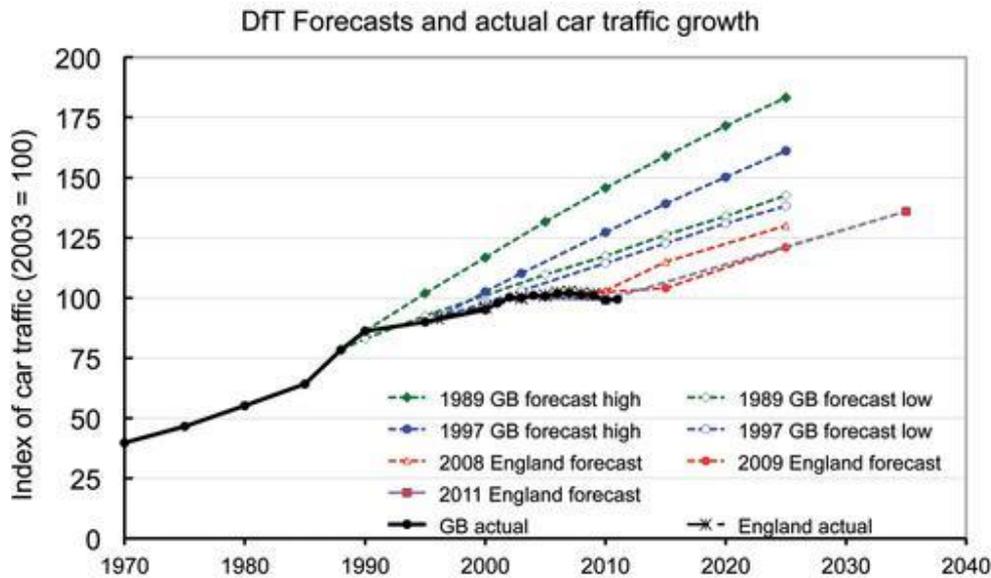
The latest DfT traffic statistics for 2012 show that the amount of traffic is now below the level seen in 2003.

### Total traffic volumes in England (billion vehicle miles)

DfT - TRA5102

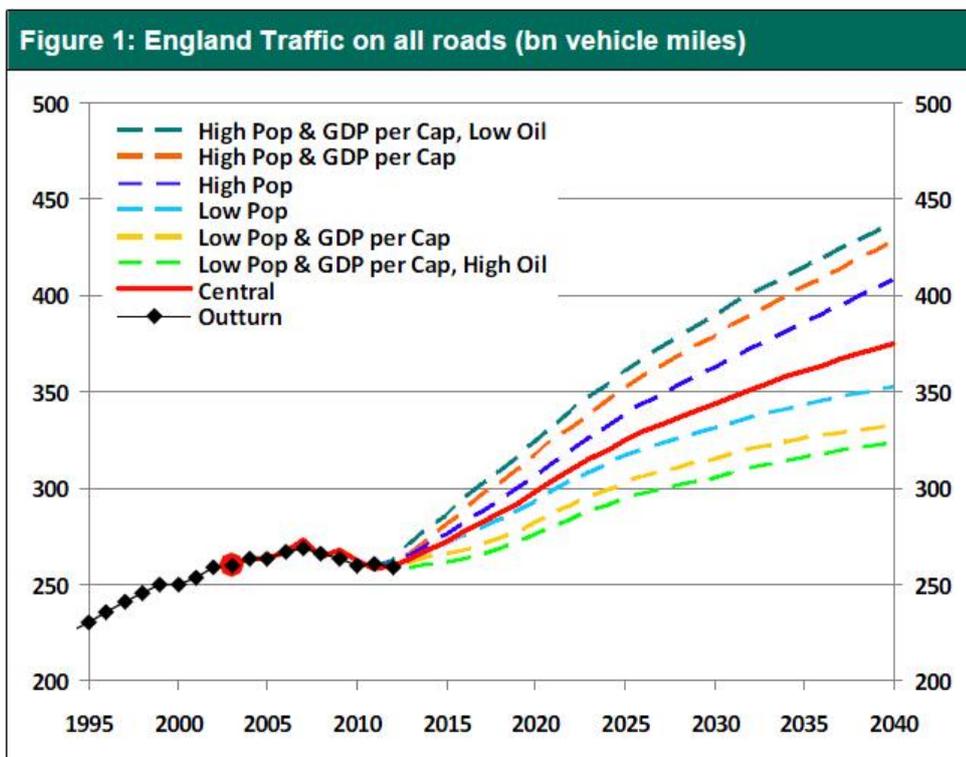


**3. DfT Road Transport Forecasts have been too high for more than 20 years, and the new forecasts published in July 2013 are therefore questionable**

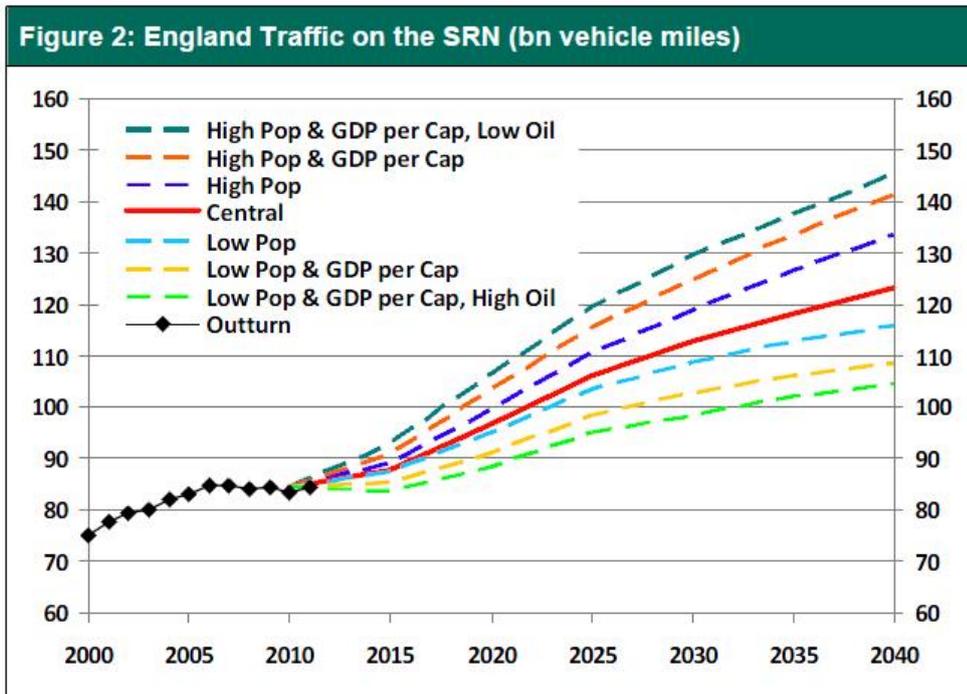


(source: Goodwin P, Due Diligence, traffic forecasts and pensions, Local Transport Today, 13 April 2012 <http://www.bettertransport.org.uk/campaigns/roads-to-nowhere/ltt-130412>)

**DfT all roads forecast 2013:**



## DfT Strategic Road Network (Highways Agency roads) forecast 2013:



## Sources of data (table numbers given with charts)

1. National Travel Survey 2012 data, Department for Transport, 30 July 2013

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport/series/national-travel-survey-statistics>

2. Road Traffic Statistics, Department for Transport

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport/series/road-traffic-statistics>

3. Road Transport Forecasts 2013, Department for Transport, 16 July 2013.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/road-transport-forecasts-2013>

## July 2013

Sian Berry

Campaign for Better Transport

Campaign for Better Transport's vision is a country where communities have affordable transport that improves quality of life and protects the environment. Achieving our vision requires substantial changes to UK transport policy which we aim to achieve by providing well-researched, practical solutions that gain support from both decision-makers and the public.

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