

Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose

Why is this survey being conducted?

The information in these diaries, linked to the Census results from 2016, will help the NTA to build a better picture of travel patterns in Ireland and inform public debate and policy decision making.

Why do you need to know where I go and when?

The information recorded in Travel Diaries provides the National Transport Authority (NTA) with patterns of trips that people make, so that they can plan effectively for transport both locally and nationally. Information on how children travel to school and how far they go, and where people travel to work, for example, will help the NTA understand where public transport is most needed.

As these surveys are conducted every five years, the data helps the National Transport Authority (NTA) understand long term trends in travel so that they can make plans for the future.

Logistics

Will my data be kept confidential?

The answers you provide will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection legislation that governs the NTA. The information will be stored on computer and grouped with information supplied by other people from your area, so you can no longer be identified. All the information collected will be treated in the strictest confidence and will only be used for transport planning purposes by NTA and third party organisations who work with them; no information that could identify you will be made available. You will not be contacted again.

You have the right to request a copy of any personal data held by the Authority or to have your details amended, updated or deleted. This request must be made in writing to the Data Protection Officer, National Transport Authority, Dun Scéine, Harcourt Lane Dublin 2. You may be asked for proof of identity.

Do I have to take part?

Participation is entirely voluntary. But your assistance would be greatly valued, and will benefit all residents of (and visitors to) Ireland.

How long will it take to keep the diary?

It only takes a few minutes a day to note down the trips you make. The Amárach representative will help you to fill in the first day of the diary and they will be available to help you with any of the documentation, all of which is designed for ease of use.

Security

Why has my household been selected?

By chance. Addresses have been selected randomly. The distribution across the country will give information on transport usage in rural areas, villages, towns and cities and the survey will reflect the overall national travel behaviour.

How will I know the caller is legitimate?

A representative from Amárach will call to your home to drop you the travel diaries. This representative will have an Amárach ID card which they will show you. If you are selected to participate in the survey, you will receive a letter informing you about how the survey will work.

What will I be asked?

Nothing difficult. You will be asked to record any trips you make on the specified days, including where you went to and why, how you travelled, and how long it took. If you used a car or van for the trip you will also be asked for information on parking.

What will happen to the data?

The information will be stored on computer and grouped with information supplied by other people from your area, so you can no longer be identified. All the information collected will be treated in the strictest confidence and will only be used for transport planning purposes by NTA and third party organisations who work with them; no information that could identify you will be made available. You will not be contacted again.

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What do I get for taking part?

There is a Prize Draw. At regular intervals throughout the survey period (January-March 2017), all those who have completed the survey and diaries in that time will be entered into a Prize Draw. The prizes are One4All vouchers to the value of €250, €100 and €50 and participants will be in with a 1 in 75 chance of winning!