Mobility biographies and milestones

Lessons for sustainable transport in Ireland

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Outline

• Background
• Literature review
• Survey
• Results
• Conclusions

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Background

• Unsustainable transport in Ireland

• Need to consider life-course in transport policy

• When/what are the turning points in travel behaviour?

• Effect of life events and mobility-related events

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Key concepts

• **Mobility biography** – series of stages capturing both continuity and change in mobility practices across the life course

• **Life events** – reflect the social, political and economic construction of the life-course
  - e.g. residential relocation, childbirth

• **Mobility milestones** – reflect the wider mobility system such as social norms or infrastructure
  - e.g. getting a driving licence, buying a car

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Literature review

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Survey

Baselines Across the lifecourse

Q1. What age are you?
- [ ] Age 5
- [ ] Age 10
- [ ] Age 15
- [ ] Age 20
- [ ] Age 25
- [ ] Age 27
- [ ] Other

Q2. What was your main mode of travel to primary school?
- Bicycle
- On foot
- Public transport
- Car driver

Q3. What was your main mode of travel to secondary school?
- Bicycle
- On foot
- Public transport
- Car driver
- Car passenger
- Other
- Not applicable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Life Event</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Event effect</th>
<th>Main mode of travel after event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Select One -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bicycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Event effects

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Got a driving licence
Involved in traffic accident
Sold my car
Bought a bicycle
Bought a car
Milestones
On foot
Bicycle
Public transport
Motor car: passenger
Motor car: driver
Mode of analysis

On foot  Bicycle  Public transport  Motor car: passenger  Motor car: driver

Started college
Moved home/town
Started first job
Got a driving licence
Bought a car
Involved in traffic accident
Bought a bicycle
Had a child
Moved home/town
Became unemployed
Sold my car

Life Events
Mobility Milestones

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
PRELIMINARY RESULTS
Travel mode

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
## Life Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Av. Age</th>
<th>% who increased mode usage after event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Started college</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changed job</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First job</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childbirth</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohabitation</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illness/disability</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retired</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child(ren) moved</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Life Events & Mode Changes

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
## Mobility milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Av. Age</th>
<th>% who increased mode usage after event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Bike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bought car</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bought bike</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licence</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gained car access</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learned to cycle</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT pass</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost car access</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sold car</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile device</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accident</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Survey link: bit.ly/nuigsurvey
Conclusions: opportunities for change

- Mobility is a practice that changes across the life-course
- Turning points: life events and mobility milestones
- Though individual mobility biographies linked to wider social and policy context
- Analysis of these events/milestones enables recommendations for sustainability policy
Questions

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