People made 757 trips on average in 2021, or 15 trips a week. This was similar to 2020, but a 21% decrease on the level in 2019 prior to the coronavirus pandemic, when people made an average of 953 trips per year.

People travelled an average of 4,329 miles in 2021, a 33% decrease from 6,500 miles in 2019.

On average, people spent around 273 hours travelling in 2021 (around 45 minutes per day), down 26% from the 370 hours of travelling in 2019.

Cars remained the most popular mode of travel, making up 59% of all trips in 2021 (a decrease of 2 percentage points from 2019), and 80% of all miles travelled (an increase of 3 percentage points from 2019). The proportion of trips that were walked was higher in 2021 and 2020 than in 2019, with a 5 percentage point increase to 31% of all trips in 2021.

The most common trip purpose in 2021 was shopping, with 18% of journeys being made for this purpose. Journeys for the purpose of ‘Other including just walk’ took up 14% of the average person’s trips this year. Commuting was the third most common trip purpose in 2021, accounting for 13% of all trips. These three were also the most popular purposes in 2020. Similarly, in 2019 the two most common trip purposes were shopping and commuting, while the third most common trip purpose was personal business.
In 2021, men made 9% fewer trips than women, but travelled 14% further. Men made an average of 114 commuting trips per year (a decrease of 30% on 2019), while women made an average of 86 commuting trips per year (a decrease of 28% on 2019).

In 2021, 77% of English residents aged 17 and over held a driving licence. Around 80% of men and 74% of women in this group hold a licence. For men, this percentage is unchanged since 2002, but for women, driving licence holding has increased by 12 percentage points in the same period.

Looking at households in England, 78% own at least one car, an increase of 5 percentage points since 2002. In households which own at least one car or van, 65% of adult men are the main driver of a personal vehicle in their household, a figure which has remained unchanged since the 1990s. In comparison, 55% of adult women are the main driver of a personal vehicle in their household, an increase of 10 percentage points since 2002, and an increase of 42 percentage points since 1975.

The frequency of working from home in 2021 was higher than 2019 and similar to 2020 levels when restrictions were placed on people's travel during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.