

# Technical note 03

<b>Project:</b>	Transport Evidence Base - Base Year Data Collection	<b>To:</b>	Department for Infrastructure
<b>Subject:</b>	TN03: Final Outputs	<b>From:</b>	Department for Economy
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## 1. Introduction

The Department for Infrastructure (NI) (DFI) has commissioned Atkins Ltd to provide professional services in relation to the project “Transport Evidence Base”. This project has been commissioned under Lot 3: Transport Policy and Strategy Formulation of the DFI Transport Planning & Modelling Managed Services Framework.

The Department for the Economy are undertaking a wider review of cross border economic activity. Traffic and travel across the border regions is one indicator that the Department are keen to better understand. The focus of this study is to identify and extract data relating to cross-border movements from the recently constructed Northern Ireland Strategic Model (NISM) and the Belfast model. Atkins was initially commissioned to interrogate the traffic models to identify if they contain sufficient relevant data to merit further secondary analysis. A review of the model trip matrices and the supporting count data revealed that there was sufficient information to warrant further analysis. This note presents a summary of the information drawn from these models.

### 1.1. Purpose of this Note

This note briefly sets out a summary of the following information:

- Modelled Weekday 12 hour trips as extracted from the trip matrix using a compressed sector system;
- Selected Heat Map Examples;
- High level Estimation of Total Person Movements; and
- Border Traffic Count Summary.

The analysis in this note is based on the methodology outlined in TN02 and discussions with Department for Economy on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017.

## 2. Modelled Weekday 12 Hour trips

The 12 hour flows between sectors have been rounded to the nearest 10 trips and four matrices have been produced which summarise:

- Trips from ROI sectors to NI Sectors – User Class 1-3;
- Trips from ROI sectors to NI Sectors – User Class 4;
- Trips from NI sectors to ROI Sectors – User Class 1-3;
- Trips from NI sectors to ROI Sectors – User Class 4.

These matrices can be found in Appendix A and should be read in conjunction with the Model Sector System as provided at Appendix A.1 in TN02.

**Please note that the matrices did not contain any ROI to ROI movements and therefore other sources of information need to be sought to understand these movements – for example the A5 study undertaken by Mouchel.**

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## 3. Selected Heat Map Examples

### 3.1. High Level

The level of traffic generated between selected origins and destinations is presented visually in the form of ‘heat maps’. Each figure includes a legend to identify the relative volumes of trip movement. To show the general trend of travel from NI to RoI and vice versa, the NI sectors were aggregated into a single high level sector. Likewise, to show the general trend of travel from RoI to NI, the RoI sectors were aggregated to provide a single high level sector.

Table 3.1 presents a summary of the heat map examples which are provided at Appendix B:

**Table 3.1 – High Level Heat Map Examples**

Figure No.	Description	User Class	Initial Comments
B1	Between All NI to 30 RoI Sectors	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)	High level of trips to North Donegal
B.2	Between All NI to 30 RoI Sectors	UC4 (HGV)	Highest level of trips to sectors containing ports – Dublin and Rosslare
B.3	Between All RoI to 26 NI Sectors	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)	High levels of trips to Border Sectors and Belfast
B.4	Between All RoI to 26 NI Sectors	UC4 (HGV)	High levels of trips to Border Sectors and Belfast

**Note:** Figure B.1 suggests that the volumes of trips in and out of sector 9617 (Carndonagh) are relatively significant. This level of activity is not intuitive and we would recommend that this figure should not be distributed further without verification using an independent dataset. This issue is also apparent in Appendix D.

### 3.2. Sector Level Examples

Table 3.1 presents a summary of the heat map examples focused on trips to and from 2 sectors in NI and 2 sectors in RoI. These are provided at Appendix C

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Table 2.1 – Heat Map Examples

Figure No.	Origin	Destination	User Class
C.1	Sector 9522 (Newry)	All Roi	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.2	All Roi	Sector 9522 (Newry)	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.3	Sector 9522 (Newry)	All Roi	UC4 (HGV)
C.4	All Roi	Sector 9522 (Newry)	UC4 (HGV)
C.5	Sector 9507 (Belfast)	All Roi	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.6	All Roi	Sector 9507 (Belfast)	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.7	Sector 9507 (Belfast)	All Roi	UC4 (HGV)
C.8	All Roi	Sector 9507 (Belfast)	UC4 (HGV)
C.9	Sector 1022 (Buncrana)	All N.I.	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.10	All N.I.	Sector 1022 (Buncrana)	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.11	Sector 1022 (Buncrana)	All N.I.	UC4 (HGV)
C.12	All N.I.	Sector 1022 (Buncrana)	UC4 (HGV)
C.13	Sector 1026 (Dublin)	All N.I.	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.14	All N.I.	Sector 1026 (Dublin)	UC1-3 (Car/LGV)
C.15	Sector 1026 (Dublin)	All N.I.	UC4 (HGV)
C.16	All N.I.	Sector 1026 (Dublin)	UC4 (HGV)

Note the above issue regarding sector 9617 (Carndonagh) is also apparent on these figures.

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## 4. Cross Border Person Trips

The traffic movements have been subject to further secondary analysis to help estimate the number of person trips that may be generated. To provide this high-level indication of the number of cross border person trips the following national data sources have been used:

- National Travel Survey: England 2015 Table NTS0401
- National Travel Survey: GB 2015 Table NTS0906

Table 5-1 provides an estimate of car occupancy by trip purpose set out in Table NTS0906.

**Table 5.1 – Car Occupancy by Trip Purpose**

Trip Purpose	Occupancy NTS0906
Commuting	1.2
Business	1.2
Education	2.0
Shopping	1.7
Personal Business	1.4
Leisure	1.7
Holiday/Day Trip	2.0
Other	2.0

The following occupancy levels derived for each user class is shown in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.2 – Car Occupancy by User Class**

User Class	Trip Purpose	Occupancy
UC1	Business	1.2
UC2	Weighted average of Commuting, Education, Shopping, Personal Business and Leisure	1.6*
UC3	Business	1.2
UC4	Business	1.2

\*A weighted average of the occupancy has been taken using the percentage trip purpose set out in table NTS0401.

A summary of the total person trips is provided in tables 5.3 and 5.4.

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Table 5.3 – Total Person Trips from NI to RoI

User Class	Occupancy
UC1	3173
UC2	81598
UC3	1647
UC4	15007

Table 5.4 – Total Person Trips from RoI to NI

User Class	Occupancy
UC1	9109
UC2	119338
UC3	4805
UC4	8539

This equates to a total of **243,216** two-way cross border person trips over a 12hr period.

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## 5. Border Traffic Count Summary

### 5.1. Data Sources

Various sources of data have been collated to gain an understanding of the volume of traffic crossing the border at various locations on a typical weekday. In total, data from 42 different Automatic Traffic Count (ATC) locations has been sourced from:

- ATC from the A5 Study;
- Permanent ATCs from Transport for Infrastructure Ireland<sup>(1)</sup>;
- New data collected to inform the Lead Modelling Specialist;
- Permanent ATCs from TNI.

(1) [https://www.nrtrafficdata.ie/c2/gmapbasic.asp?sgid=ZvyVmXU8jBt9PJE\\$c7UXt6](https://www.nrtrafficdata.ie/c2/gmapbasic.asp?sgid=ZvyVmXU8jBt9PJE$c7UXt6)

### 5.2. Cross Border Trips

The ATC's were reviewed to summarise the total vehicle trips travelling in each direction across the border along with the respective Heavy Goods vehicle (HGV) percentage for each of the following time periods:

- Weekday AM peak hour;
- Weekday Interpeak hour;
- Weekday PM peak hour;
- Weekday 12hr average;
- Weekday 24hr average.

### 5.3. Traffic Count Outputs

The following traffic count outputs are provided at Appendix D:

#### Figures

- D.1. – 2 Way Flow – AM, IP & PM
- D.2. – 2 Way Flow – 12hr & 24hr Average Day

#### Summary Tables

- D.3. – 2 Way Flow Matrix
- D.4. – 1 Way Flow Matrix (from NI)
- D.5. – 1 Way Flow Matrix (from RoI)

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## Appendix A –Sector Matrices

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Figure A.1 – Trips from RoI to NI UC1-3



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Figure A.2 – Trips from RoI to NI UC4



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Figure A.3 – Trips from NI to RoI UC1-3



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Figure A.4 – Trips from NI to RoI UC4

