

Media release

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POINT-TO-POINT TRANSPORT SURVEY RESULTS

Demand for point-to-point transport in Sydney continues to grow, with one in three surveyed Sydneysiders reporting that they have used ride share services such as Uber or GoCar, up from one in five in 2015.

The use of ride sharing in urban areas outside of Sydney (Newcastle, Wollongong, Gosford and Wyong) doubled from 9% to 18% over the same period.

The survey of point-to-point transport, commissioned by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal, also found an increase in the use of car sharing: up from 17% in 2015 to 22% in Sydney in 2016. Services such as GoGet and Car Next Door also increased in popularity in other urban areas, though participation remains under 10%.

IPART Chair, Dr Peter Boxall, said the November 2016 survey shows that, despite the increase in ride-sharing, the use of taxis has remained largely stable over the past four years. 60% of Sydneysiders reported they had caught a taxi in 2016, and 16% of Sydneysiders said they did so at least once a week.

The survey also found that people who use car share, ride share or hire cars are more likely to use taxis than people who don't use any of these other types of point-to-point services. That is, rather than reducing the existing demand for taxis, it appears that new services are encouraging people to use a mix of options for their travel needs.

"The increased demand for commercial point-to-point services is being met primarily by ride sharing services with survey participants saying they offer good value for money and more reasonable waiting times than taxis, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights.

"The proportion of people catching taxis has been largely unchanged since the survey was first conducted in 2012," Dr Boxall said.

The survey was undertaken in November 2016 with representative population samples in Sydney, other urban areas and country areas in NSW.

Passenger surveys are commissioned annually by IPART to provide data for its reviews of taxi fares and licence numbers.