

## **Item No 7**

Report to the Chairperson and Members of the  
Transport and Traffic Strategic Policy Committee

**Report on Dublin City Council's Canal Cordon Traffic Counts  
2010**

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**February 2011**

## 2010 Cordon Counts

Since 1980, Dublin City Council has been conducting traffic counts at 33 locations around the cordon formed by the Royal and Grand Canals. The counts are conducted during the month of November each year. Counts are conducted at each location for each vehicle category as indicated in Table 1. Since 1997 the counts have been conducted over the period 07.00 to 10.00hrs.

The main results of the cordon counts for November 2010 together with the data for each year since 1997 are set out in Table 1.

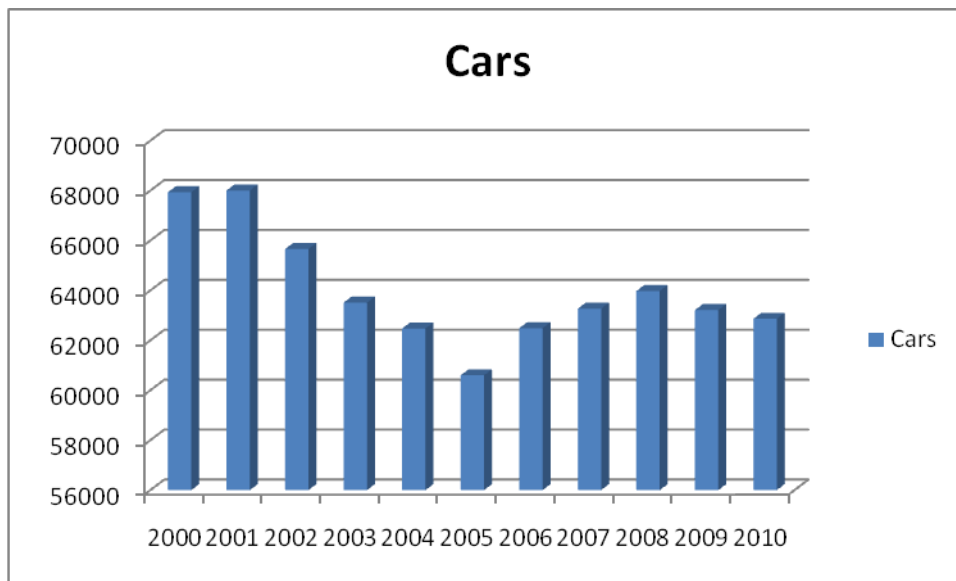
**Table 1** Summary Results Canal Cordon Counts 1997 to 2010  
Inbound 07.00 to 10.00hrs

<b>Year</b>	<b>Cars*</b>	<b>Goods</b>	<b>Buses</b>	<b>P.Cycles</b>	<b>M.Cycles</b>	<b>Peds.</b>
<b>(Nov)</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>No</b>
1997	73,561	3,283	1,459	5,628	1,816	16,679
1998	71,536	3,090	1,350	4,579	1,845	15,565
1999	73,147	3,112	1,454	5,384	2,267	18,157
2000	67,935	3,000	1,521	4,464	2,558	15,808
2001	68,003	3,004	1,522	5,085	2,845	18,558
2002	65,657	2,828	1,576	4,714	2,920	16,609
2003	63,509	2,651	1,563	4,711	2,656	17,305
2004	62,475	3,057	1,537	3,941	2,249	15,241
2005	60,600	2,711	1,601	4,404	2,187	16,332
2006	62,489	2,291	1,680	4,839	2,395	17,114
2007	63,269	1,445	1,740	5,676	2,429	18,594
2008	63,976	1,223	1,814	6,143	2,375	18,360
2009	63,212	1,087	1,704	6,326	2,060	14,618
2010	62,856	993	1,688	5,952	1,656	15,092

\* includes taxis

## Cars

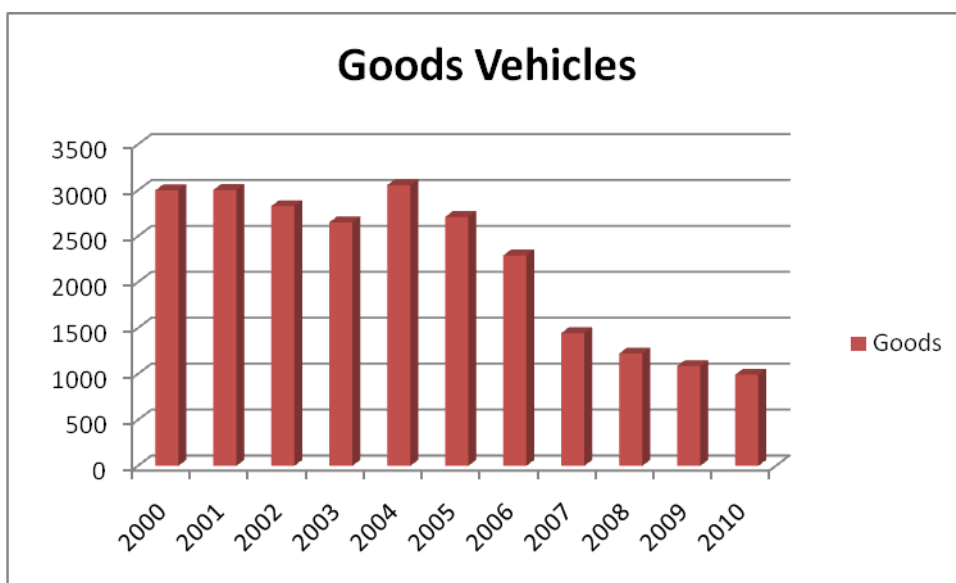
Over the 10 year period 2000 to 2010 the volume of cars and taxis crossing the canal cordon inbound during the morning peak period decreased by 7.5%. The volume increased by 3.7% in the period 2005 to 2010 with a 0.6% decrease in the period 2009 to 2010



## Goods Vehicles

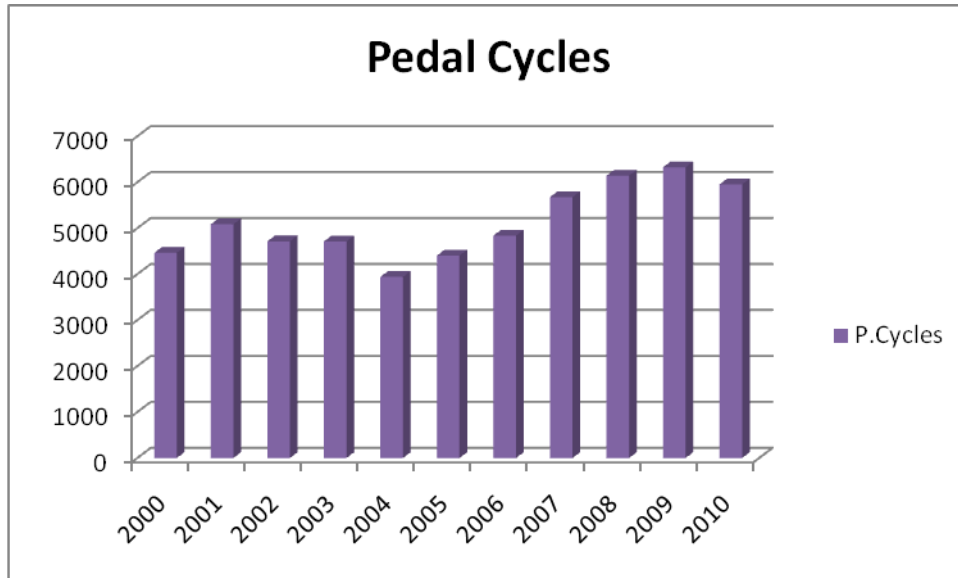
The volume of goods vehicles crossing the canal cordon has decreased significantly over the 10-year period 2000 to 2010 with a recorded decrease of 66.9%. Over the 5-year period 2005 to 2010 there was a decrease of 63.4% with a decrease of 8.6% between 2009 and 2010.

The use of Dublin Port Tunnel and the 5-axle Heavy Goods vehicles ban continues to have a positive impact in reducing the number of Heavy Goods vehicles within the cordon area.



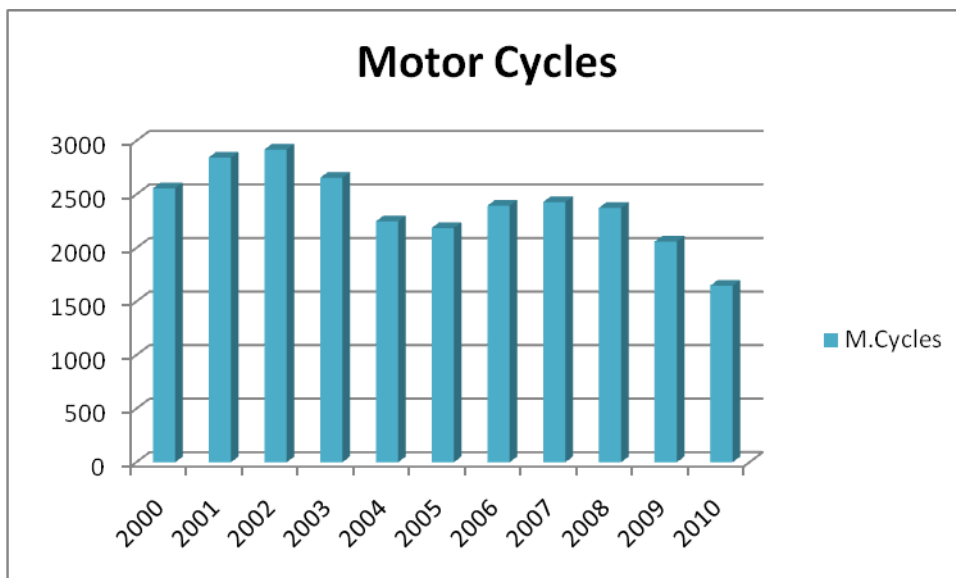
### Cyclists

Over the 10 year period 2000 to 2010 the volume of pedal cyclists crossing the canal cordon during the morning peak period increased by 33.3%. There was a 35.1% increase in the period 2005 to 2010 and a 5.9% decrease in the period 2009 to 2010.



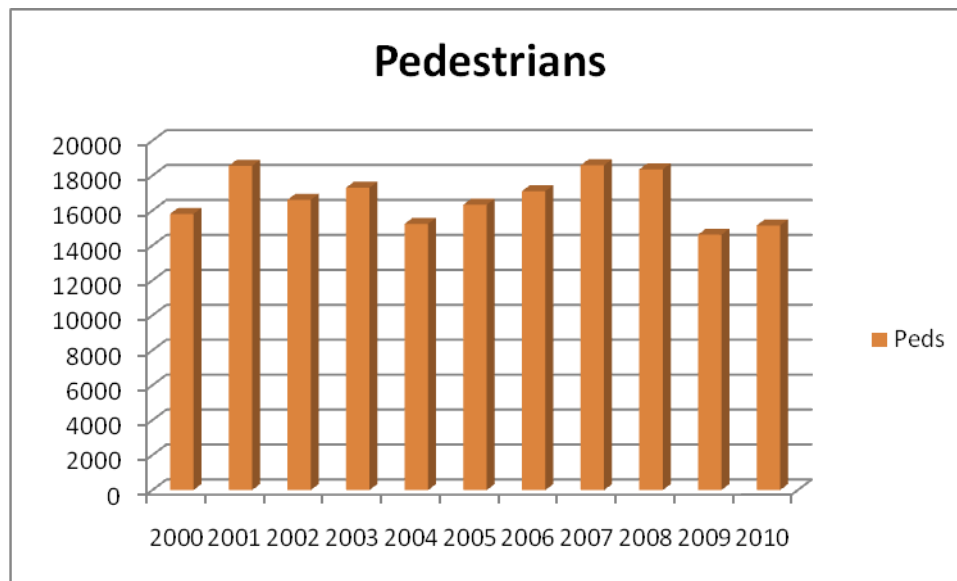
### Motor Cyclists

Over the 10 year period 2000 to 2010 the volume of motor cyclists crossing the canal cordon during the morning peak period decreased by 35.3%. There was a 24.3% decrease in the period 2005 to 2010 and a 19.6% decrease in the period 2009 to 2010.



## Pedestrians

Over the 10 year period 2000 to 2010 the volume of pedestrians crossing the cordon during the morning peak period decreased by 4.5%. There was a decrease of 7.6% in the period 2005 to 2010 and a 3.2% increase in the period 2009 to 2010.



**Table 2** summarises the changes in inbound traffic volumes of vehicles and pedestrians over 10 years, 5 years and one year as measured at the 33 locations on the canal cordon between 7am and 10am

**Table 2**

**Canal Cordon Counts (Inbound 07.00 to 10.00hrs)  
Change in traffic volumes over 10 years, 5 years & 1 year**

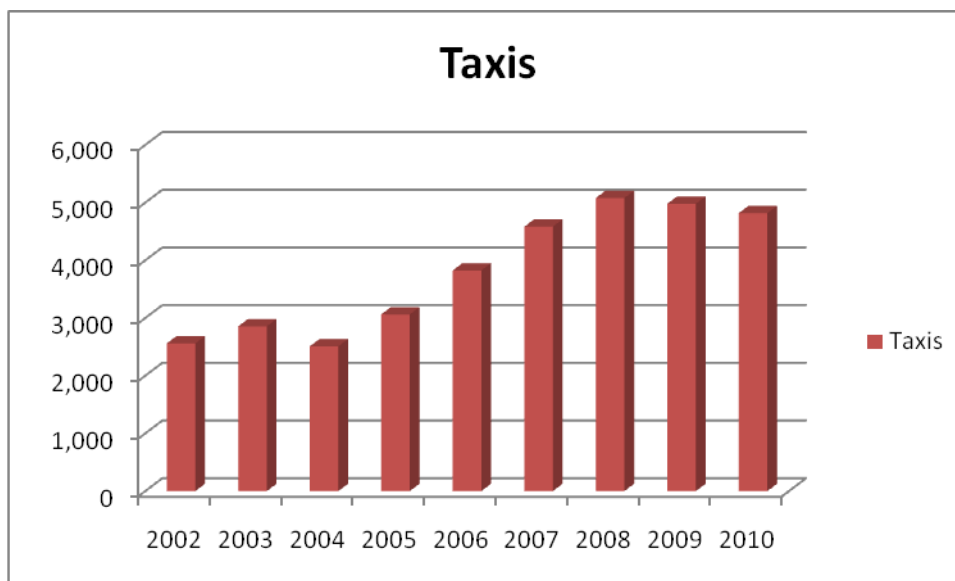
		2000 to 2010	2005 to 2010	2009 to 2010
<b>Cars</b>	<b>No.</b>	-5079	+2256	-356
	<b>%</b>	-7.5%	+3.7%	-0.6%
<b>Goods</b>	<b>No.</b>	-2007	-1718	-94
	<b>%</b>	-66.9%	-63.4%	-8.6%
<b>Buses</b>	<b>No.</b>	+167	+87	-16
	<b>%</b>	+11.0%	+5.4%	-0.9%
<b>PCycles</b>	<b>No.</b>	+1488	+1548	-374
	<b>%</b>	+33.3%	+35.1%	-5.9%
<b>MCycles</b>	<b>No.</b>	-902	--531	-404
	<b>%</b>	-35.3%	-24.3%	-19.6%
<b>All Vehs</b>	<b>No.</b>	-6333	+1642	-1244
	<b>%</b>	-8.0%	+2.3%	-1.7%
<b>Peds</b>	<b>No</b>	-716	-1240	+474
	<b>%</b>	-4.5%	-7.6%	+3.2%

**Table 3** shows information that was collected for the first time in 2002 on the number of taxis and on the breakdown between Bus Atha Cliath (BAC) and other buses.

<b>Table 3 Canal Cordon Counts 2002-2010 (Inbound 07.00 to 10.00hrs)</b>						
<b>Data on Cars, Taxis &amp; Buses Crossing the Cordon</b>						
	<b>Cars</b>	<b>Taxis</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>BAC</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2002</b>						
<b>No</b>	63,097	2,560	65,657	1,262	314	1,576
<b>%</b>	96.1%	3.9%	100%	80.1%	19.9%	100%
<b>2003</b>						
<b>No</b>	60,644	2,865	63,509	1,262	301	1,563
<b>%</b>	95.5%	4.5%	100%	80.7%	19.3%	100%
<b>2004</b>						
<b>No</b>	59,966	2,509	62,475	1,278	259	1,466
<b>%</b>	96.0%	4.0%	100%	83.1%	16.9%	100%
<b>2005</b>						
<b>No</b>	57,537	3,063	60,600	1,337	264	1,601
<b>%</b>	94.9%	5.1%	100%	83.5%	16.5%	100%
<b>2006</b>						
<b>No</b>	58,664	3,825	62,489	1,338	342	1,680
<b>%</b>	93.9%	6.1%	100%	79.6%	20.4%	100%
<b>2007</b>						
<b>No</b>	58,686	4,583	63,269	1,330	410	1,740
<b>%</b>	92.8%	7.2%	100%	76.4%	23.6%	100%
<b>2008</b>						
<b>No</b>	58,897	5,079	63,976	1,474	340	1,814
<b>%</b>	92.1%	7.9%	100%	81.3%	18.7%	100%
<b>2009</b>						
<b>No</b>	58,232	4,980	63,212	1,366	338	1,704
<b>%</b>	92.1%	7.9%	100%	80.2%	19.8%	100%
<b>2010</b>						
<b>No</b>	58,047	4,809	62,856	1,329	359	1,688
<b>%</b>	92.3%	7.7%	100%	78.7%	21.3%	100%

## Taxis

Taxis made up 5% of all cars crossing the canal cordon in 2005 increasing to 7.7% in 2010. From 2005 to 2010 the total number of taxis increased by 57%. There was a decrease of 3.4% from 2009 to 2010.

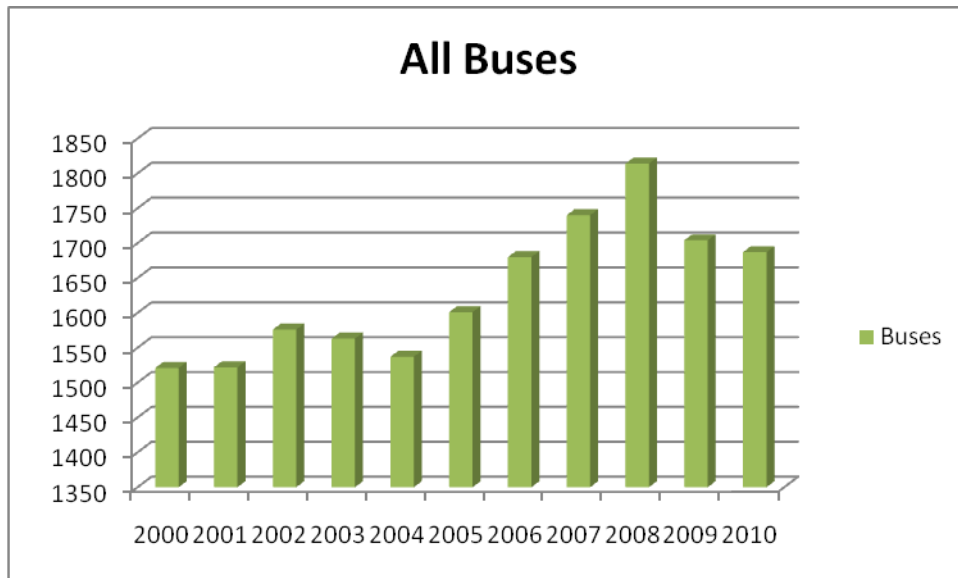


**Table 4** outlines the changes in traffic volumes of private cars, taxis and buses for vehicles crossing the canal cordon between 7am and 10am for the years from 2005 to 2010 and from 2009 to 2010.

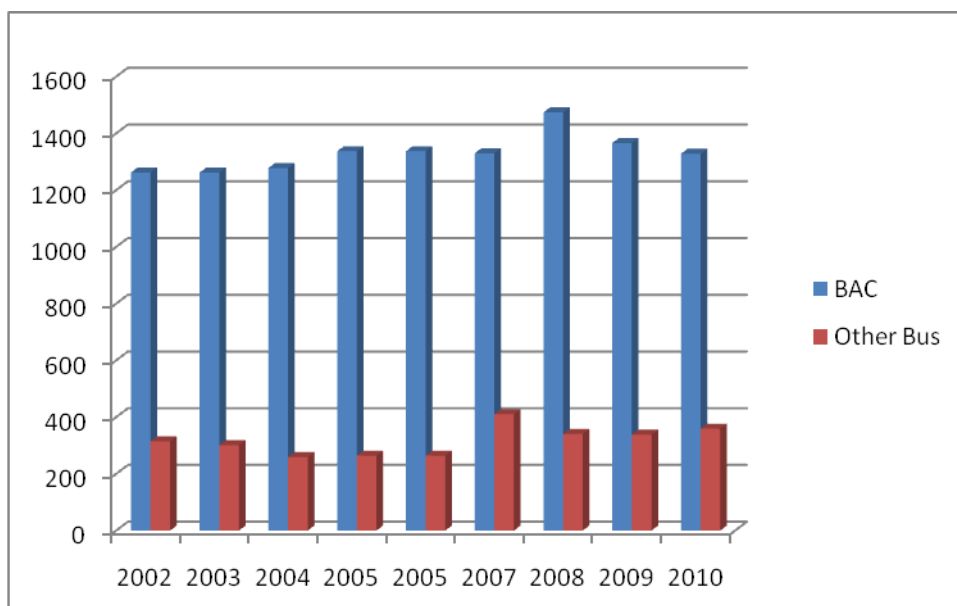
<b>Table 4</b>	<b>Canal Cordon Counts (Inbound 07.00 to 10.00hrs)</b>	
	<b>Change in traffic volumes over 5 years &amp; 1 year</b>	
	<b>2005 to 2010</b>	<b>2009 to 2010</b>
<b>Cars*</b>		
<b>No.</b>	+510	-185
<b>%</b>	+0.9%	-0.3%
<b>Taxi</b>		
<b>No.</b>	+1755	-171
<b>%</b>	+57%	-3.4%
<b>BAC</b>		
<b>No.</b>	-8	-37
<b>%</b>	-0.6%	-2.7%
<b>Other Bus</b>		
<b>No.</b>	+95	+21
<b>%</b>	+36%	+6.2%
<i>*Private cars only</i>		

## Buses

In the period 2005 to 2010 the number of Bus Atha Cliath buses crossing the cordon has remained relatively unchanged while the number of private buses during the same period has increased by 36%. However, overall bus numbers have decreased from their peak in 2008



### Bus Atha Cliath (BAC) - Other Bus



**Table 5** shows detailed count results from 2005 and 2010 for all cars, taxis and buses at each of the 33 count locations with main bus routes separated from non bus routes.

On main bus routes from 2005 to 2010 there was an increase of 3.8% in the number of cars and taxis crossing the canal cordon between 7am and 10am. The number of Dublin buses decreased by 1% and the number of other buses increased by 14%.

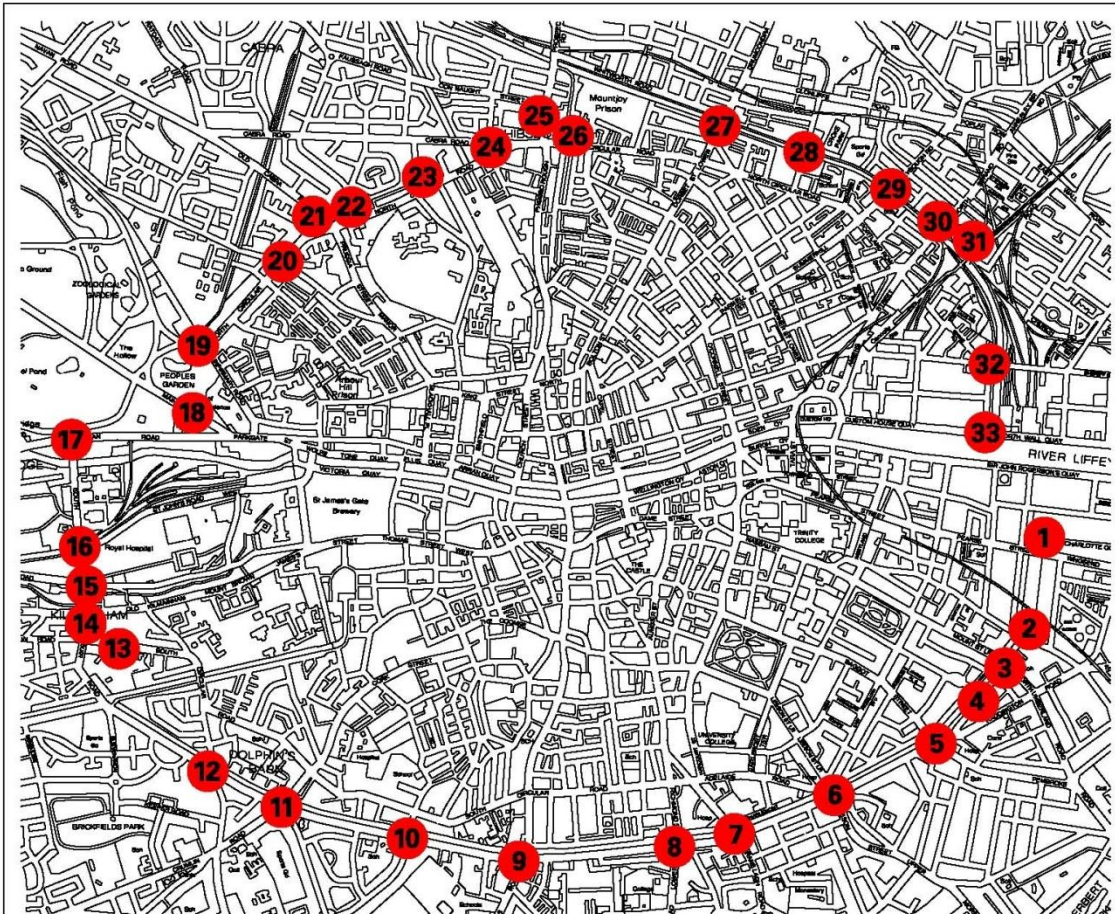
On non-QBC / bus routes between 2005 and 2010 the number of cars and taxis crossing the cordon increased by 3.5%.

<b>Table 5 Canal Cordon Counts 2010 (Inbound 07.00 to 10.00hrs) – 33 locations</b>										
	<b>Main Bus Routes</b>	<b>Cars and Taxis</b>			<b>BAC (Dublin Bus)</b>			<b>Other Bus</b>		
		<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>05-10</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>05-10</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>05 – 10</b>
1	Ringsend Rd (McMahon Bridge)	1891	2115	+12%	35	62	+27	4	3	-1
3	Mount Street Bridge	1985	2092	+5%	37	47	+10	11	4	-7
5	Baggot Street Bridge	2465	1956	-21%	27	58	+31	2	1	-1
6	Lesson Street Bridge	4252	4159	-2%	135	151	+16	45	59	+14
7	Charlemont Street Bridge	1358	1343	-1%	15	8	-7	4	1	-3
8	Rathmines Road (Portobello Br.)	1704	1983	+16%	82	99	+17	8	3	-5
9	Harold's Cross Bridge	2523	2921	+16%	67	54	-13	2	3	+1
10	Sally's Bridge	2157	1742	-19%	11	11	0	0	2	+2
11	Dolphins Barn Bridge	2139	2535	+19%	93	83	-10	7	21	+14
13	SCR at St Patrick's Home	1657	1953	+18%	18	27	+9	2	1	-1
14	Old Kilmmainham	1808	1980	+10%	42	35	-7	10	2	-8
16	St. John's Road West	2153	2734	+30%	69	70	+1	45	62	+17
17	Conyngham Road	2370	2592	+9%	69	45	-24	6	3	-3
20	Blackhorse Avenue	2086	1876	+10%	13	14	+1	0	2	+2
21	Old Cabra Road	1515	1590	+6%	59	50	-9	3	8	+5
24	New Cabra Road	1445	1749	+21%	67	80	+13	23	16	-7
25	Phibsborough Road	2685	2769	-3%	47	63	+16	16	9	-7
27	Drumcondra Road (Binn's Br.)	4798	5391	+12%	133	134	+1	57	53	-4
29	Clarke's Bridge	4501	3682	-18%	19	17	-2	2	15	+13
30	Newcomen Bridge	2813	3525	+25%	168	165	-3	9	24	+15
2	Grand Canal Street Bridge	1799	1688	-6%	0	0	0	2	1	-1
32	Sheriff Street Bridge	1339	1007	-28%	1	48	+47	1	10	+9
	<b>Total</b>	<b>51443</b>	<b>53377</b>	<b>+3.8%</b>	<b>1334</b>	<b>1315</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>+14%</b>
	<b>Non Bus Routes</b>									
4	Huband Bridge	460	395	-14%	0	0		0	0	
12	Herberton Bridge	1879	2184	+16%	0	0		2	11	
15	Kilmmainham Lane	506	887	+75%	0	0		0	0	
18	Phoenix Park (Main Road)	1664	916	-45%	0	0		0	1	
19	Phoenix Park (Back Road)	1355	1360	0%	0	0		0	0	
22	Annamoe Road	517	547	-6%	0	0		0	5	
23	Charleville Road	665	608	-9%	0	0		0	2	
26	Royal Canal Bank	288	24	-92%	0	0		0	1	
28	Russell Street Bridge	1436	1311	-9%	0	2		0	4	
31	Ossory Road	170	251	+48%	0	0		0	3	
33	North Wall Quay	217	999	+360%	3	11		3	39	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9157</b>	<b>9479</b>	<b>+3.5%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>66</b>	

**Table 6** outlines the changes in the number of persons travelling by car, taxi and on foot from 2005 to 2010 and the changes in occupancy rates for the different modes.

Between 2005 and 2010 the number of persons coming into the city during the morning peak by car has decreased by 5.2%. Over the same 5-year period the number of persons coming into the city during morning peak by taxi has increased by 72.2% while the number of pedestrians crossing the cordon has decreased by 7.6% .

<b>Table 6. Number of Persons Crossing the Cordon (Inbound 07.00 – 10.00 hrs.)</b>								
		<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>% 05-10</b>
<b>Number</b>	Cars	57,537	58,664	58,686	58,897	58,232	58,047	+0.9%
	Taxis	3,063	3,825	4,583	5,079	4,980	4,809	+57.0%
	Pedestrians	16,332	17,114	18,594	18,360	14,618	15,092	-7.6%
<b>Occupancy</b>	Cars	1.32	1.31	1.22	1.15	1.22	1.24	-6.1%
	Taxis	1.34	1.38	1.47	1.38	1.55	1.47	+9.7%
<b>Persons</b>	Cars	75,949	76,850	71,597	67,732	71,043	71,978	-5.2%
	Taxis	4,104	5,278	6,737	7,009	7,719	7,069	+72.2%
	Pedestrians	16,332	17,114	18,594	18,360	14,618	15,092	-7.6%
	<b>Total</b>	96,385	99,242	96,928	93,101	93,380	94,139	-2.3%



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### Canal Cordon Count Locations

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Ringsend Rd (McMahon Bridge)    | 17 Conyngham Road               |
| 2 Grand Canal Street Bridge       | 18 Phoenix Park (Main Road)     |
| 3 Mount Street Bridge             | 19 Phoenix Park (Back Road)     |
| 4 Huband Bridge                   | 20 Blackhorse Avenue            |
| 5 Baggot Street Bridge            | 21 Old Cabra Road               |
| 6 Lesson Street Bridge            | 22 Annamoe Road                 |
| 7 Charlemont Street Bridge        | 23 Charleville Road             |
| 8 Rathmines Road (Portobello Br.) | 24 New Cabra Road               |
| 9 Harold's Cross Bridge           | 25 Phibsborough Road            |
| 10 Sally's Bridge                 | 26 Royal Canal Bank             |
| 11 Dolphins Barn Bridge           | 27 Drumcondra Road (Binn's Br.) |
| 12 Herberton Bridge               | 28 Russell Street Bridge        |
| 13 SCR at St Patrick's Home       | 29 Clarke's Bridge              |
| 14 Old Kilmainham                 | 30 Newcomen Bridge              |
| 15 Kilmainham Lane                | 31 Ossory Road                  |
| 16 St. John's Road West           | 32 Sheriff Street Lower         |
| 33 North Wall Quay                |                                 |