

Media release

20 December 2018

POINT-TO-POINT TRANSPORT SURVEY RESULTS

Demand for point-to-point transport in Sydney continues to grow, with around half of Sydneysiders in 2018 reporting that they have used rideshare services such as Uber, Ola, or Taxify, up from a third in 2017.

The use of ridesharing in urban areas outside of Sydney (Newcastle, Wollongong, Gosford and Wyong) more than doubled from 10% to 28% over the same period.

The survey of point-to-point transport use, commissioned by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), also found a small increase in the use of limousines and other hire vehicles (car and driver) up from 11% in 2017 to 13% in Sydney in 2018. Car share services such as GoGet and Car Next Door also increased in awareness in other urban areas, though participation remains around 5%.

IPART Chair, Dr Peter Boxall, said the November 2018 survey shows that, even with the increase in ridesharing, the use of taxis has remained largely stable over the past year. 52% of Sydneysiders reported they had caught a taxi in the last six months, and 15% of Sydneysiders said they did so at least once a week – both about the same as last year.

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

"Pooled rideshare services involve multiple customers sharing the costs of a similar trip and, although they are relatively new, 16% of respondents in Sydney had used a pooled rideshare service in the last 6 months."

The survey was undertaken in November 2018 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.