

Amenity and Use



convenient facilities

Overview



Indicator name	Primary schools		
Indicator number	11	Indicator type	Supplementary
Objective	To measure the walkable access to primary schools and nearby public transport		
Application guidance	<p>Walkable communities offer opportunities for personal interaction and social involvement. Proximity to the local primary school can influence the health, equality and social connection of households with young children.</p> <p>This indicator will support practitioners to understand the accessibility time and distance of primary schools for young children. Based on the outcome of the assessment, practitioners can determine whether there are gaps in access to educational opportunities.</p> <p>Practitioners can use the <i>walkable access to primary schools</i> metric to measure the distance that students would be required to walk to access a primary school.</p> <p>Practitioners can use the <i>public transport access to primary schools</i> metric to measure the distance that students or parents would be required to walk to access the nearest public transport stop from the school.</p>		

Metric



- Walkable access to primary schools
- Public transport access to primary schools.

Recommendation



- Refer to related indicators for complementary assessments that could be undertaken to provide a more holistic perspective on walkability
- Consideration could be given to total journey time for students who fall outside a reasonable walking distance from the school, including travel by vehicle. This would be particularly relevant for independent and private schools where catchments are not requirements for enrolment and/or rural schools where catchments can be significantly larger
- Analysis could be expanded to include High Schools, although it is assumed that their journeys would be captured in the 4 Public transport accessibility indicator. This should include analysis for the more strenuous 2km crow flies catchment and 2.9km on-path catchment
- Analysis could be expanded to include cycling accessibility to primary schools.

Related indicators



Access and Connection

- 2 Walking paths
- 7 Equitable access
- 8 Steepness



Amenity and Use

- 10 Local living
- 12 Transport node facilities



Green and Blue

- 19 Tree canopy



Comfort and Safety

- 23 Road safety
- 25 Safe speed for environment
- 26 Community safety



Character and Form

- 29 Permeability



Metric – Walkable access to primary schools

Metric unit	Metres (m)												
Description	To measure the distance that children would be required to walk to access a primary school												
Spatial coverage	Applicable to all NSW												
Spatial application	This metric is most suitable for link-based analysis based on the road network												
Calculation methodology	<p>Obtain primary school data</p> <p>1. Collect primary school gate locations</p> <p>Perform network analysis</p> <p>2. Use school gate as network facility location</p> <p>3. Snap to the nearest road segment</p> <p>4. Calculate the walking distance from each primary school to the 2.3km on-path School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) exclusion zone</p> <p>Data representation</p> <p>5. Assign colour based on the classification below</p> <p>Unit: Metres (m)</p> <table><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>0 – 400</td><td>401 – 800</td><td>801 – 1,200</td><td>1,201 – 1,600</td><td>1,601 – 2,000</td><td>2,001 – 2,300</td></tr></table> <p><i>Note: 400m walking catchment is equivalent to approximately 5 minutes' walk, 800m walking catchment is equivalent to approximately 10 minutes' walk</i></p>							0 – 400	401 – 800	801 – 1,200	1,201 – 1,600	1,601 – 2,000	2,001 – 2,300
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Assumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Combined schools have been considered in the analysis• The SSTS exclusion zone defined by TfNSW, which determines the eligibility of a student for a free school travel pass, extends to 2300m or the equivalent of a 30-minute walk• SSTS exclusion zone for primary schools extends to 1.6km (straight line distance) or 2.3km (on-path via most direct practical walking route) from the nearest entry point to the school• The last half of the scale provided is unlikely to be representative of a walk to school unless other walkability factors (ie. tree cover, presence and quality of footpaths, priority pedestrian controls, etc) are also excellent												
Limitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School catchment boundaries are not considered in the analysis• TfNSW Road Track Path Network does not contain data on provision or quality of footpaths												
Data source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TfNSW, School Gates• TfNSW Road Track Path Network												



Metric – Public transport access to primary schools

Metric unit	Metres (m)
Description	To measure the distance that children or parents would be required to walk to access the nearest public transport stop from the school
Spatial coverage	Applicable to all NSW
Spatial application	This metric is most suitable for link-based analysis based on the road network
Calculation methodology	<p>Obtain primary school and public transport stop data</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Collect primary school gate locations2. Collect public transport stop data (ferry, bus, train) using TSN <p>Perform network analysis</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Use school gate as network facility location4. Snap to the nearest road segment5. Calculate the walking distance from each primary school gate to the nearest public transport stop (ferry, bus or train) <p>Data representation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Assign colour based on the classification below <p>Unit: Metres (m)</p> <div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div> <p>0 – 400 401 – 800 801 – 1,200 1,201 – 1,600 1,601 – 2,000 2,001 – 2,300</p> <p><i>Note: 400m walking catchment is equivalent to approximately 5 minutes' walk, 800m walking catchment is equivalent to approximately 10 minutes' walk</i></p>
Assumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analysis accounts only for the nearest public transport stop (ferry, bus or train) from each school gate• Children have access to free bus travel pass• Parents accompany children as part of a trip chain (ie. onward journey to work)• Parents or students only use the nearest public transport stop from each school gate• Combined schools have been considered in the analysis
Limitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Destination of onward journey is not considered• Any crossing requirements to access public transport stops have not been considered• TfNSW Road Track Path Network does not contain data on provision or quality of footpaths
Data source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TfNSW, School Gates• TfNSW, Road Track Path Network• TfNSW, Location Facilities: opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/dataset/public-transport-location-facilities-and-operators• TfNSW Transit Stop Number (TSN): opendata.transport.nsw.gov.au/dataset/travel-zones-2016/resource/54409857-f097-4ec5-9e45-1daeb7d60efa

Reference

- TfNSW, School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) factsheet (December 2016): apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/assets/documents/sSTSFactsheetEnglish.pdf
- TfNSW, School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS): apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/#/whosEligible
- NSW Department of Education, Education Standards and Facilities Guide (2014): efsg.det.nsw.edu.au/
- School Infrastructure NSW, School Transport Plan process