



Mobility Survey Report 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Scope of the Report	2
Executive Summary	3
Response Rate	4
Days commuting to the Hertie School	6
Distance to the Hertie School	10
Mode of transportation	15
Hertie's Sustainable Campus Initiative	19
Annex	20



SCOPE OF THE REPORT

This report presents the results of the 2023 Hertie Mobility Survey, which collected data on the Hertie community's commuting behaviour. The data was collected in a Qualtrics survey that ran from 13 September through 30 October 2023. All members of the Hertie School were encouraged to participate.

The survey was conducted to provide data on commuting behaviour that is needed to calculate the Hertie School's carbon footprint. The three main areas of interest were how often people commute to the Hertie School, how far their commute is, and what modes of transportation they use.

This report will showcase the data collected in this survey. It represents a part of the Hertie School's work on quantifying the efficacy of its sustainability initiative but does not include other data that have been collected for the carbon footprint analysis. This will be presented in a separate report.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In a first of its kind for the Hertie School, this survey examines how all members of the our community commute to the school. It collected 502 responses, representing 42.36% of the entire school population.

Looking specifically at how many days people commute, from how far away, and with what mode of transportation, this survey shows that the majority of the Hertie community commutes in line with the School's Guidelines for a Sustainable Campus, finding:

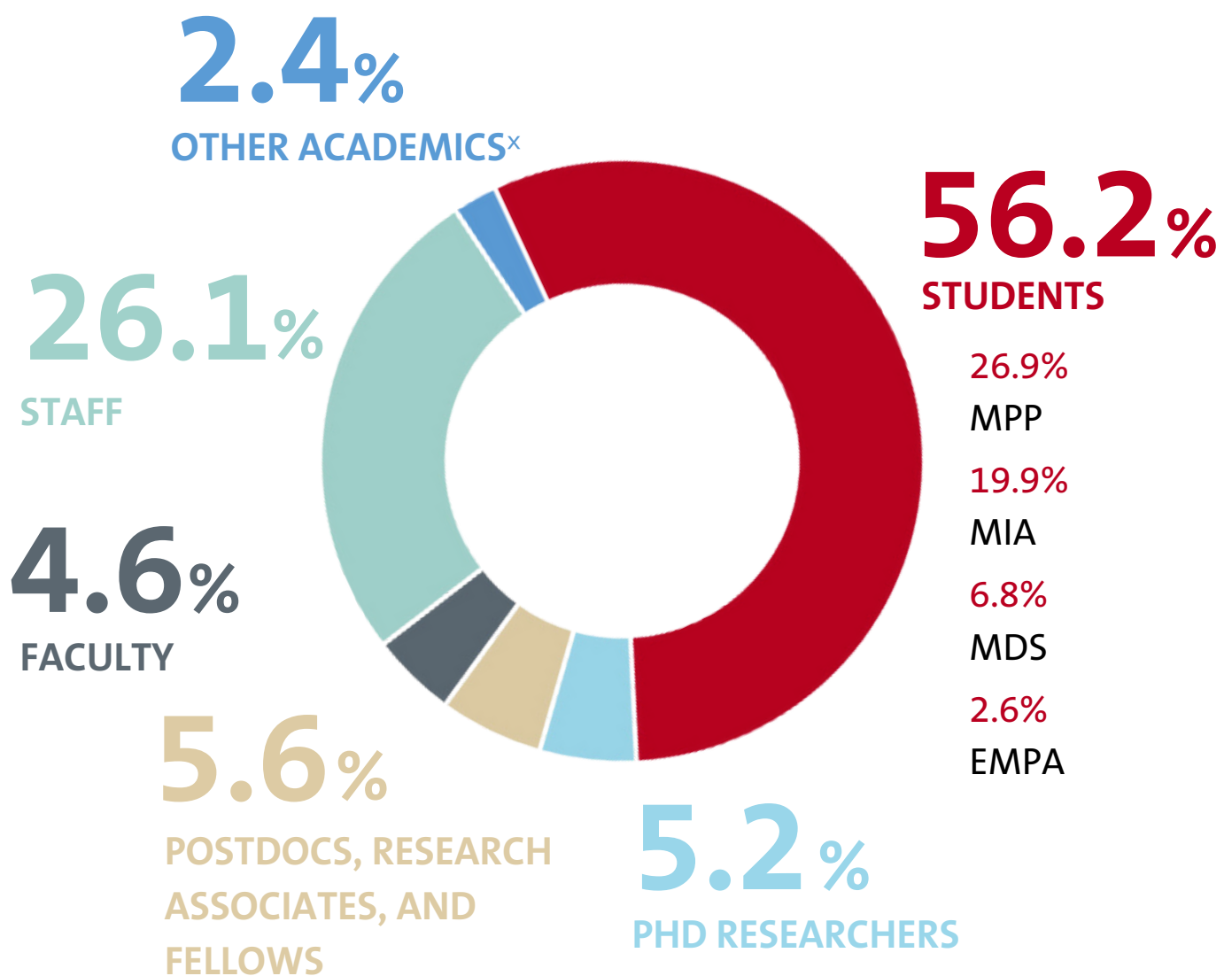
- On average, all groups (except EMPA students) commute to the School between three and four days per week.
- Those studying or working at Friedrichstraße 180 live on average 8.2km away, but this varies drastically both between and within groups. While students, researchers, and faculty live closer, staff and external lecturers and adjuncts live on average more than 10km away, driven in part by a sizable minority of staff respondents that live more than 15km away.
- Those working at Alexanderstraße 3 tend to live closer to the school, an average of 5.9km. There is also less variation among groups here.
- Across almost all groups, the dominant mode of transportation to commute to the school is public transportation (67.2% of all commutes) followed by cycling (23.9% of all commutes).
- There is very little use of cars (either privately owned or through car-sharing apps or taxis) to commute to the university. This represents a combined 1.8% of all commutes.



RESPONSE RATE

The 2023 Hertie Mobility Survey received responses from 502 people, representing 42.36% of the total Hertie School community. The breakdown of responses by group is presented below.

of 502 total responses...



^x The category “Other academics” is comprised of external lecturers, adjuncts, and visiting fellows.

Responses as a percentage of total group

Group	Responses	Total group	Percentage of total group
Students	282	737	38.26%
PhD	26	61	42.62%
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	28	92	30.43%
Faculty	23	34	67.65%
Staff	131	232	56.47%
Other academics	12	29	41.38%

Responses by office location



84.5%

work at Friedrichstr. 180



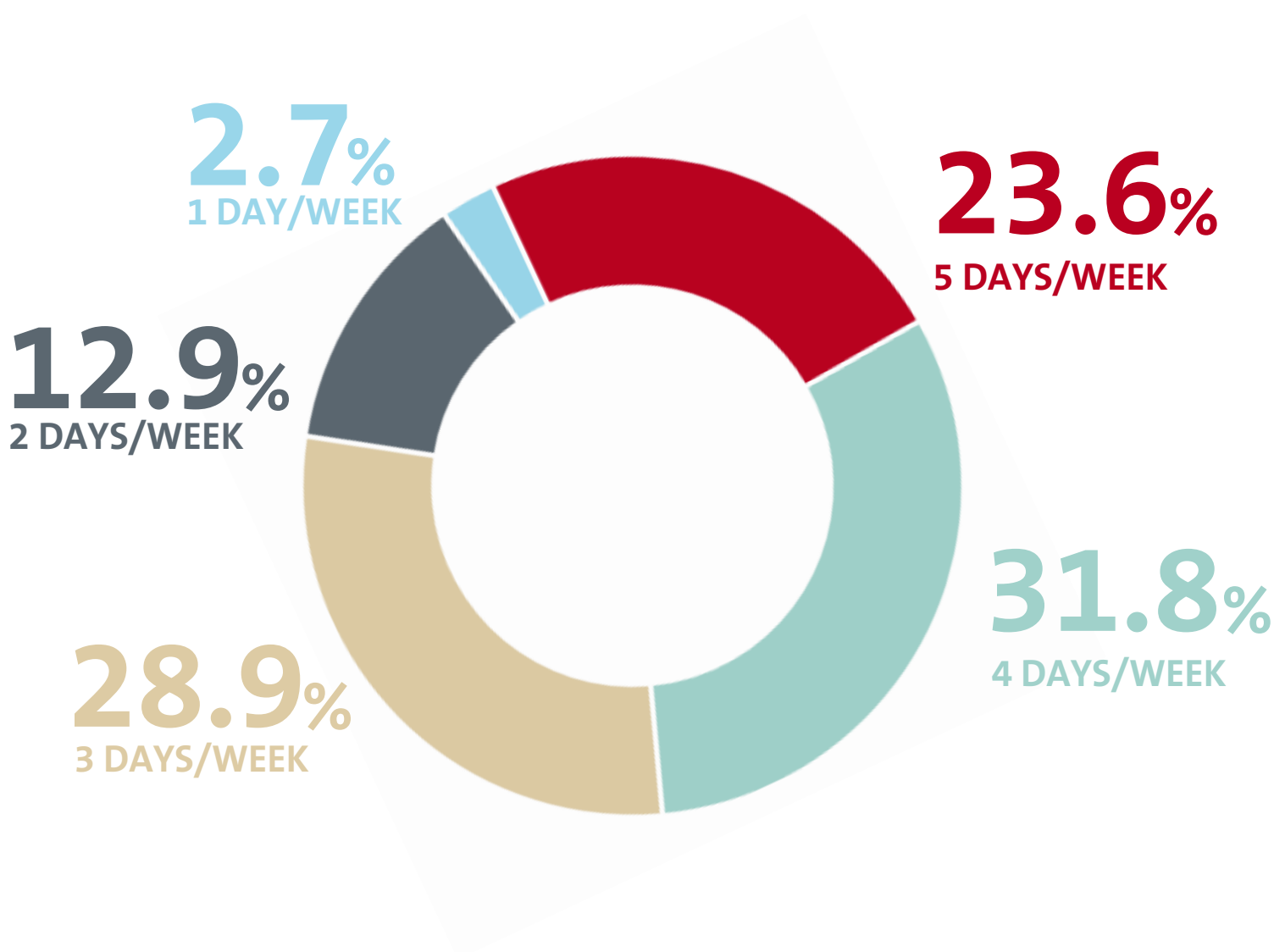
15.5%

work at Alexanderstr. 3

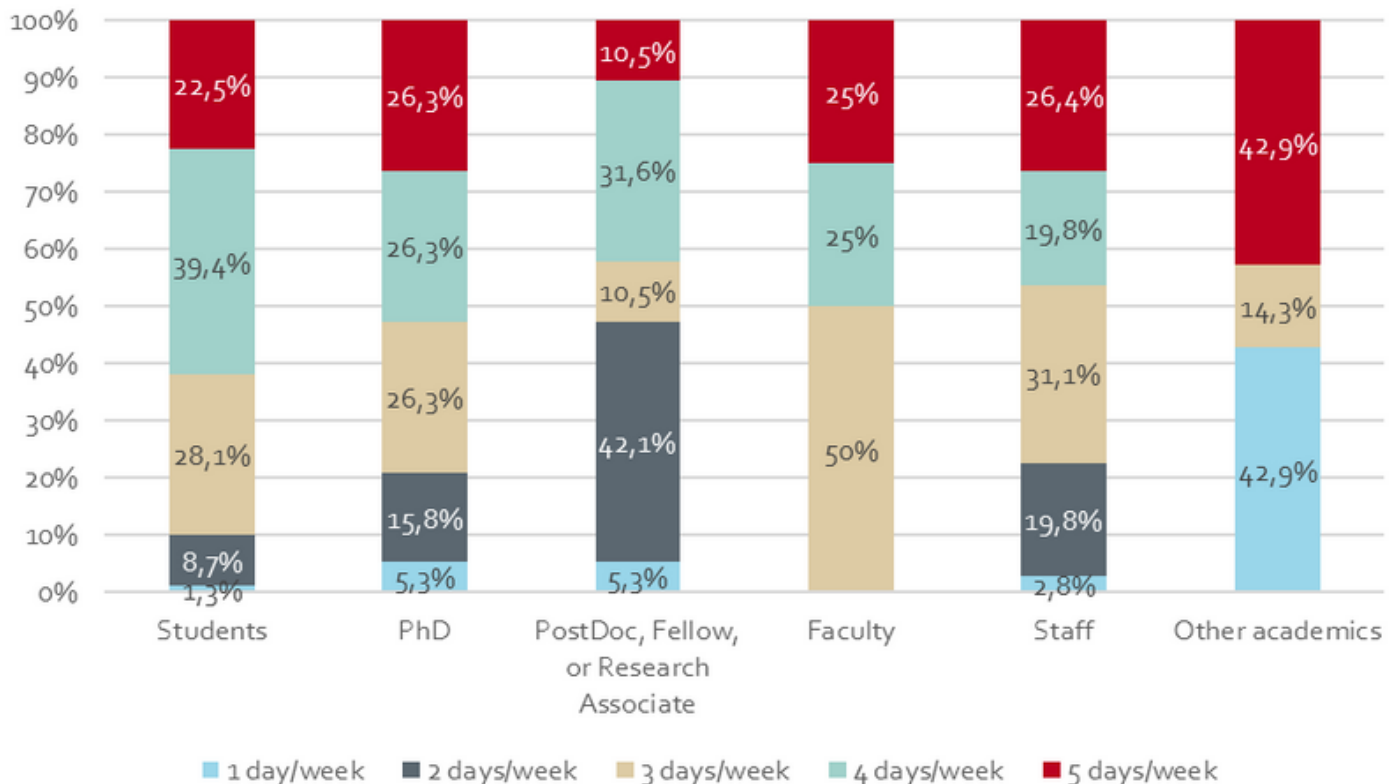
DAYS COMMUTING TO THE HERTIE SCHOOL

402 respondents answered the question of how frequently they commute to the Hertie School per week. Across the entire sample, the overwhelming majority commute to Hertie between three and five days per week, with very few only coming to the school one day per week. The average days commuted to Hertie per week was 3.6, and the median was 4.

Average days commuting to Hertie (all respondents)



Average days commuting to Hertie by group



Across groups, we see more variation in how many days per week members of the community commute to the school. For students, PhD researchers, faculty, and staff, between 75 and 100% of respondents reported commuting an average of between three and five days per week. For PostDocs, Fellows, and Research Associates, 42.1% commute only two days per week. We see a similarly low commuting rate for other academics, a group made up of adjunct professors, external lecturers, and visiting fellows, where 42.9% commute only one day per week.



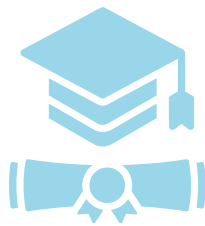
Average commuting days by group



STUDENTS

3.7

days per week



PHD RESEARCHERS

3.5

days per week



POSTDOCS ET AL

3.0

days per week



FACULTY

3.8

days per week



STAFF

3.5

days per week



OTHER ACADEMICS

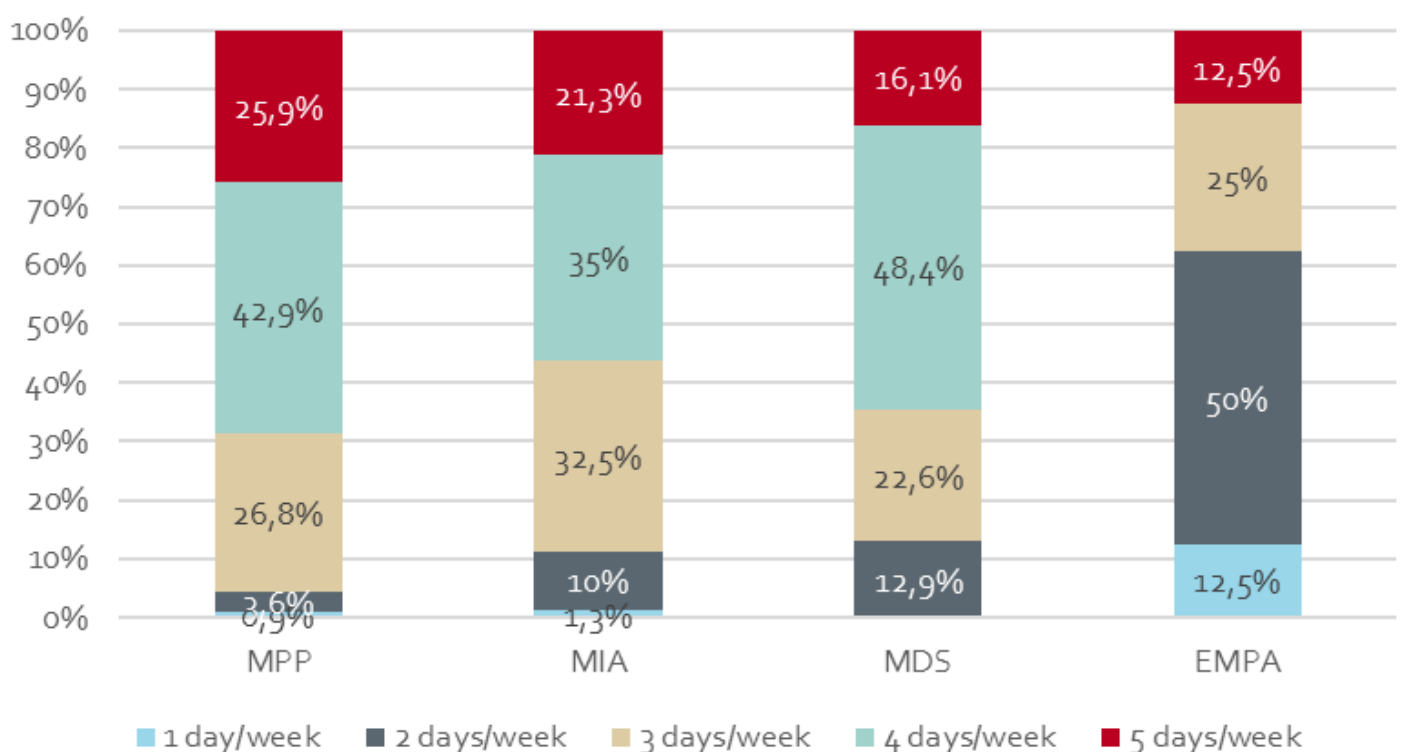
3.0

days per week



Average days commuting to Hertie by master's programme

Across master's students, we see different behaviours by programme. Students in the MPP, MIA, and MDS programmes report have an average of between 3.6 and 3.9 days commuting with incredibly few students reporting coming in one day per week, likely due to the constraints of their class schedules. EMPA students have a lower average of 2.5 with more than half coming in only one or two days per week, likely due to the nature of the professional programme.



Average commuting days (students)



3.9

days per week



3.7

days per week



3.7

days per week



2.5

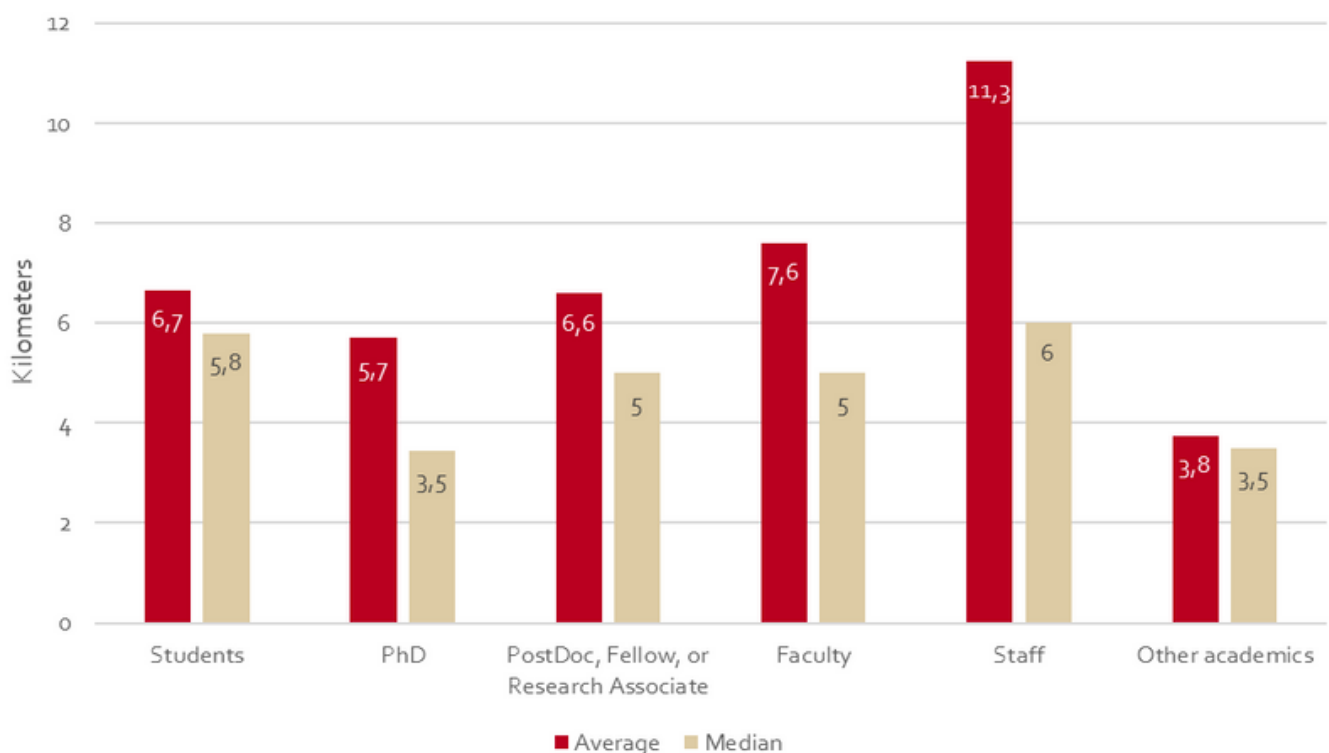
days per week

DISTANCE TO THE HERTIE SCHOOL

The second series of questions examined how far members of the Hertie community live away from the school (in kilometers, one way). The data presented has been broken down by group and/or working location.

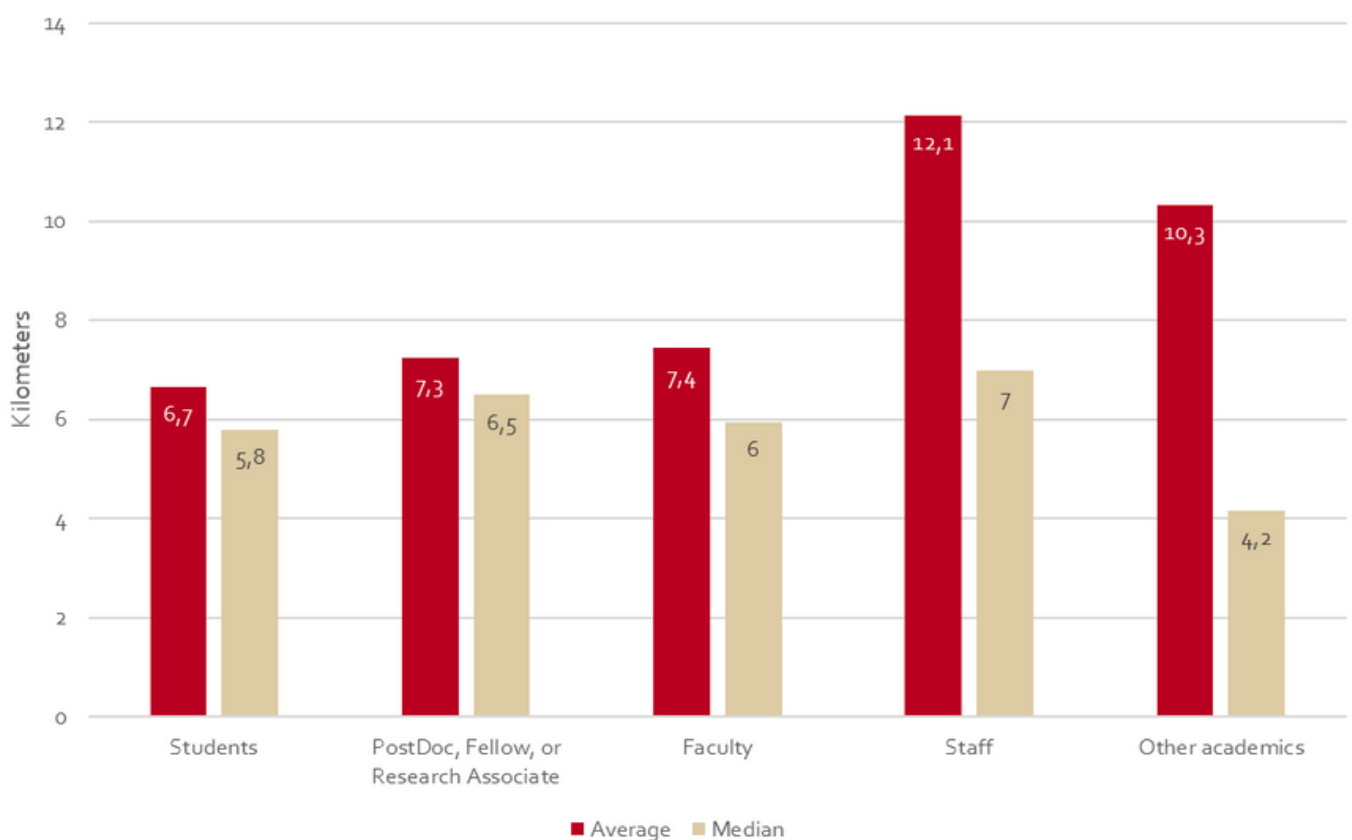
This data is also limited to the group that responded they live in or near Berlin, excluding 17 instances. That data has been summarised in the annex and will be accounted for in the carbon footprint analysis.

Average and median distance to the Hertie School, all respondents



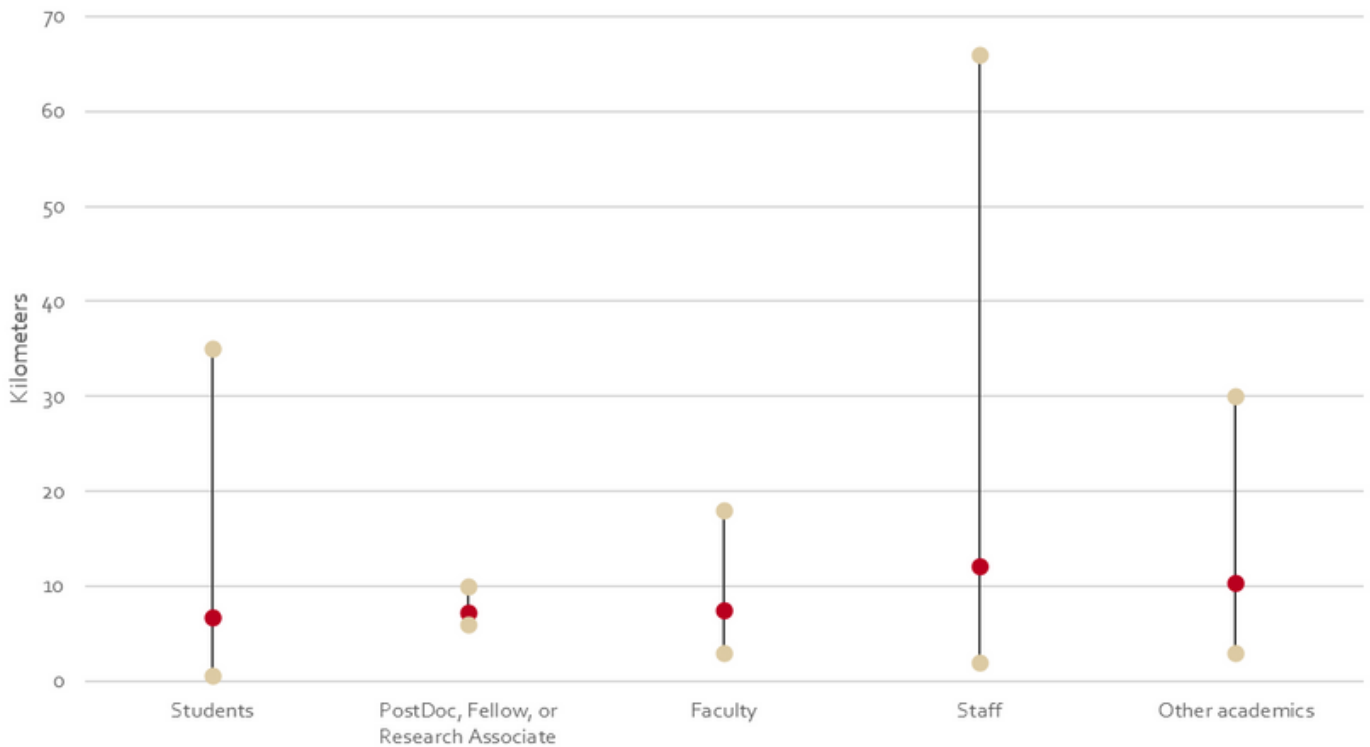
Average and median distance to Friedrichstraße 180

The members of the Hertie community working and studying at Friedrichstraße 180 on average live about 8.2km from the school, but this varies drastically between groups. For students, postdocs, research associates, fellows, and faculty, the average is closer to 7km, while the staff and other academics on average live further away (12.1km and 10.3km respectively). This higher average, in particular among staff, is driven by a few members who live fairly far from the school. 16.4% of the staff who responded (18 of 110) live more than 15km from campus.



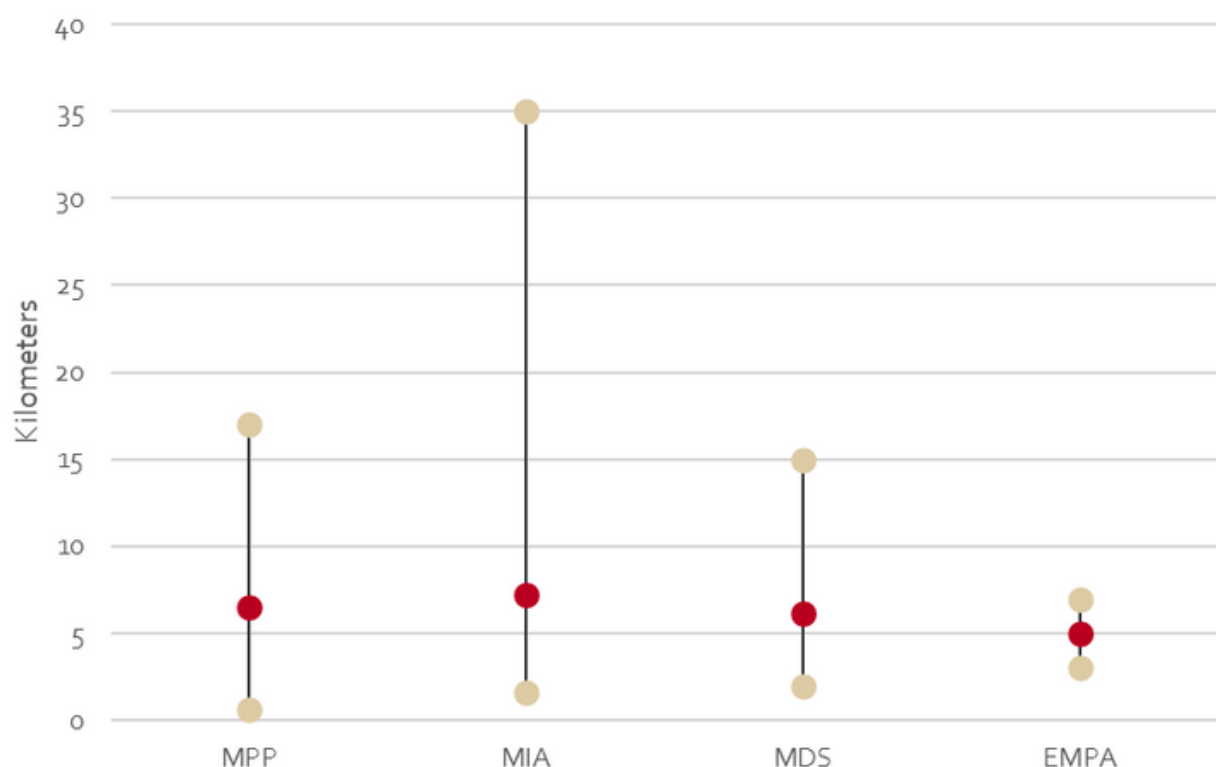
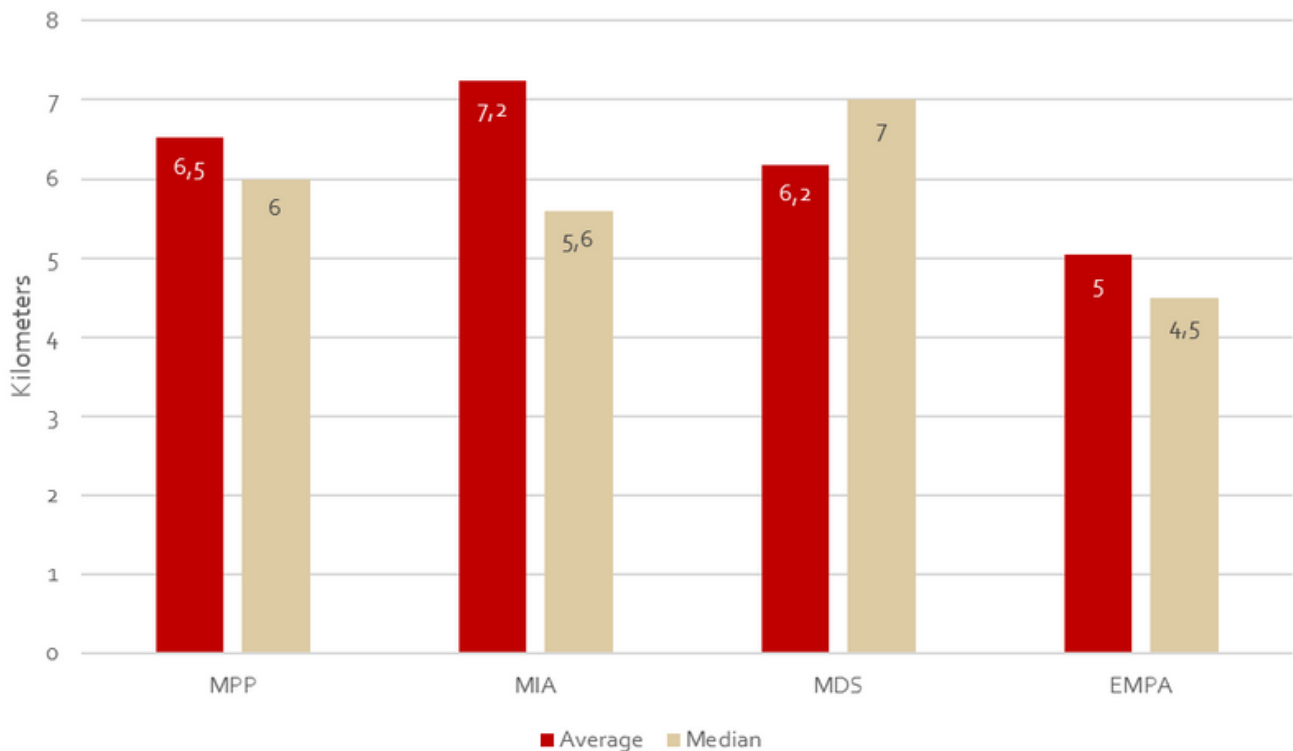
Average, maximum, and minimum

The graph below plots the average, maximum and minimum one-way commuting distance for those that work at Friedrichstraße 180. PostDocs, Fellows, and Research Associates as well as faculty generally live relatively close to the school with no one commuting more 20km one way. For students and other academics, there is a larger range, but the greatest difference is amongst the staff with a minimum of 2km and maximum of 66km.



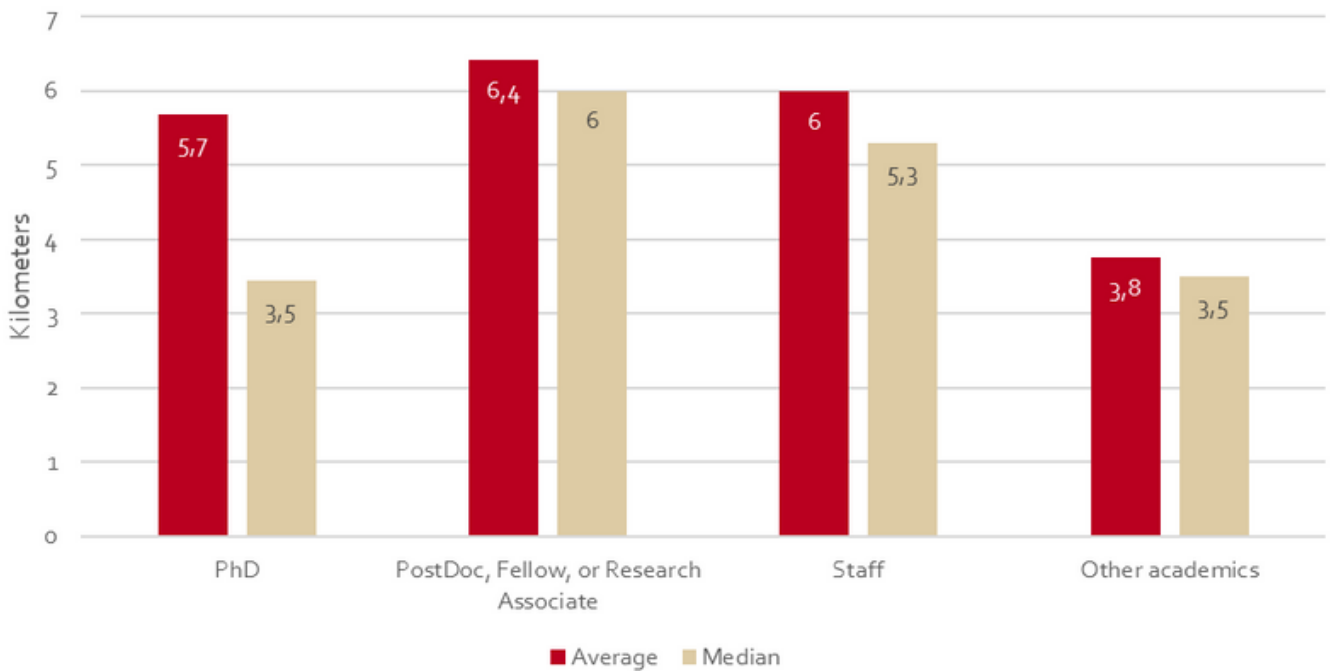
Average commuting distance, students by programme

The student body on average lives fairly close to the school. A little more than (52.1%) live fewer than 5km away, and only 7 students (2.5%) reported living more than 15km away. Additionally, the average commuting distances are largely similar across the MPP, MIA, and MDS programmes (between 6 and 7km), while EMPA students live slightly closer (5km).



Average and median distance to Alexanderstraße 3

For the researchers and staff working at Alexanderstraße 3, they commute a shorter distance than those at Friedrichstraße 180, an average of 5.9km across all groups. The range for these groups is also significantly less with the highest being 25km for PhD researchers.



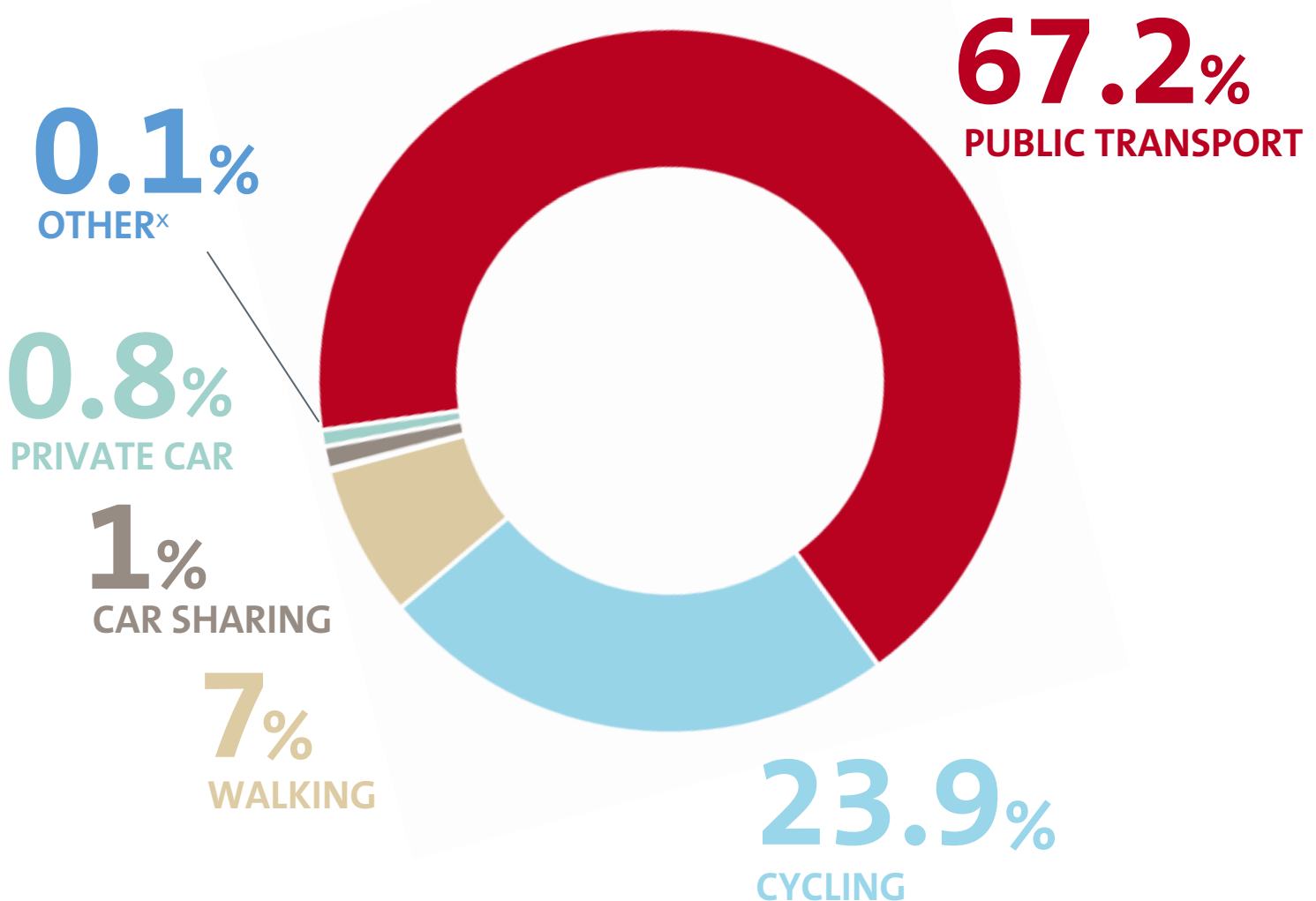
Average, maximum, and minimum



MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

The Hertie School community mainly uses climate-friendly modes of transportation to commute to the university. An average of 67.2% of commutes were by public transportation, 23.9% by bicycle, and 7% on foot. Car use (both private and through car-sharing apps or taxis) is exceptionally low, making up a combined less than 2% of all commutes.

Mode of transportation (all respondents)



^x If respondents answered "Other," they were asked to elaborate. The only answer was rental electric scooters.

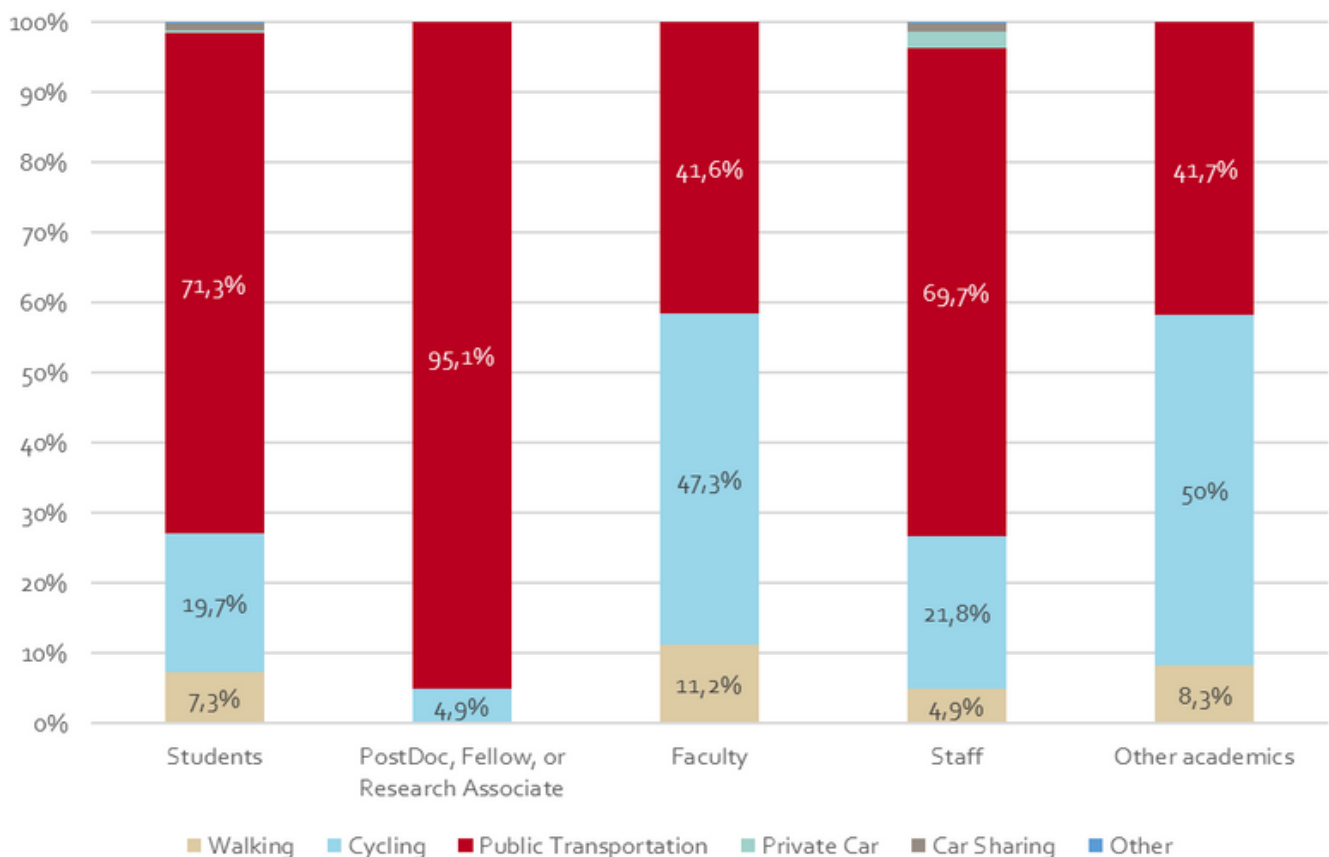
Mode of transportation (Friedrichstraße 180)



For the students, researchers, and staff who commute to Friedrichstraße 180, public transportation is the overwhelming favourite method of commuting to the school with cycling a distant second. For faculty, external lecturers, and visiting fellows, cycling has a slight edge over public transportation, likely because these

groups live closer to the school on average.

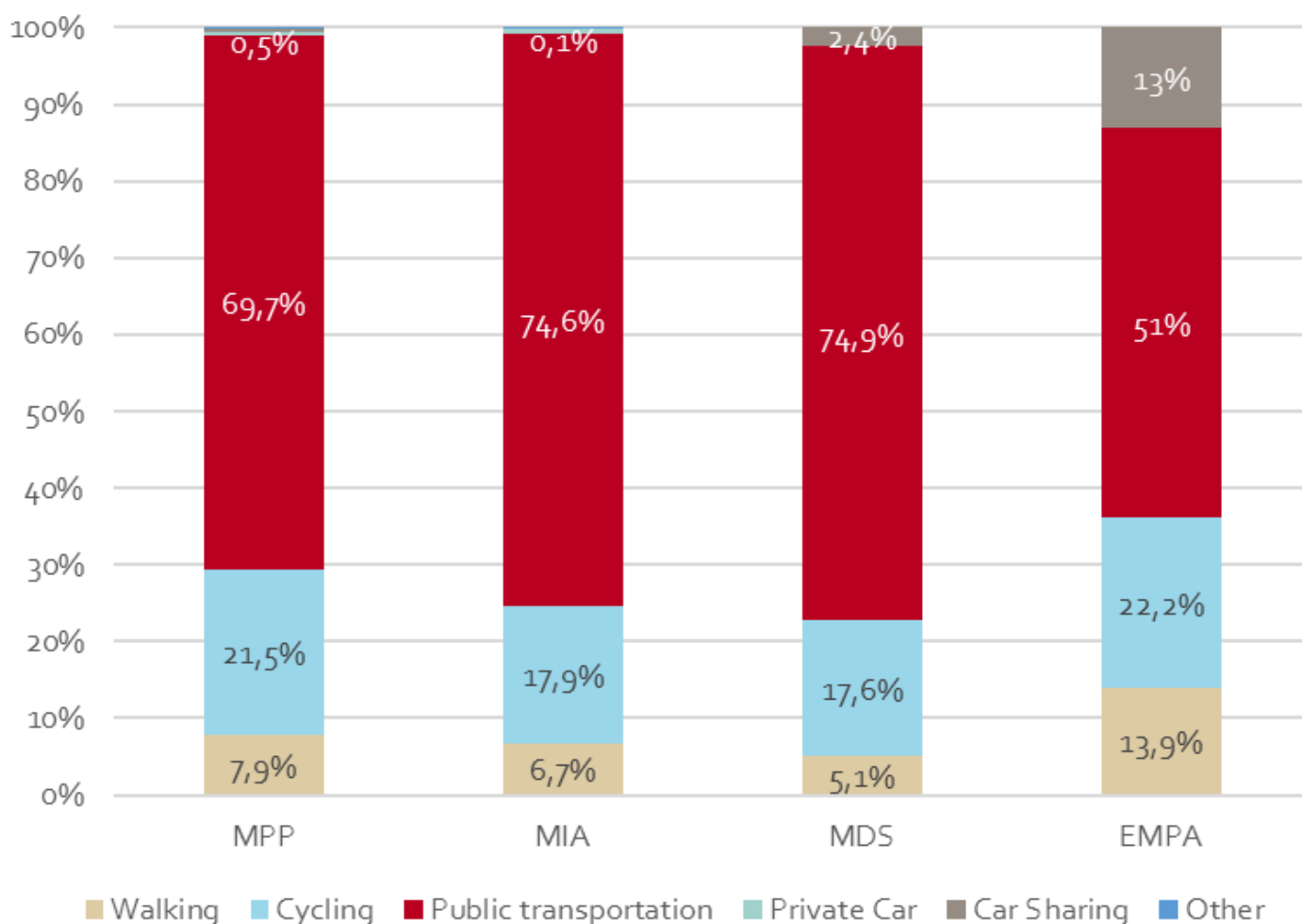
Car usage (both of privately owned vehicles and via car sharing apps or taxis) was only reported among staff (a combined 3.5% of all commutes) and students (a combined 1.5% of all commutes). No one in the faculty, researchers, and other academics groups commuted by car, either privately owned or through a car-sharing app or taxi.



Mode of transportation, students by programme

When the student responses are broken down by programme, it shows that there are few differences amongst the MPP, MIA, and MDS students. Students in these three programmes overwhelmingly take public transportation to commute to the Hertie School with cycling a distance second place. These student rarely take cars to the university, either private or through car-sharing apps.

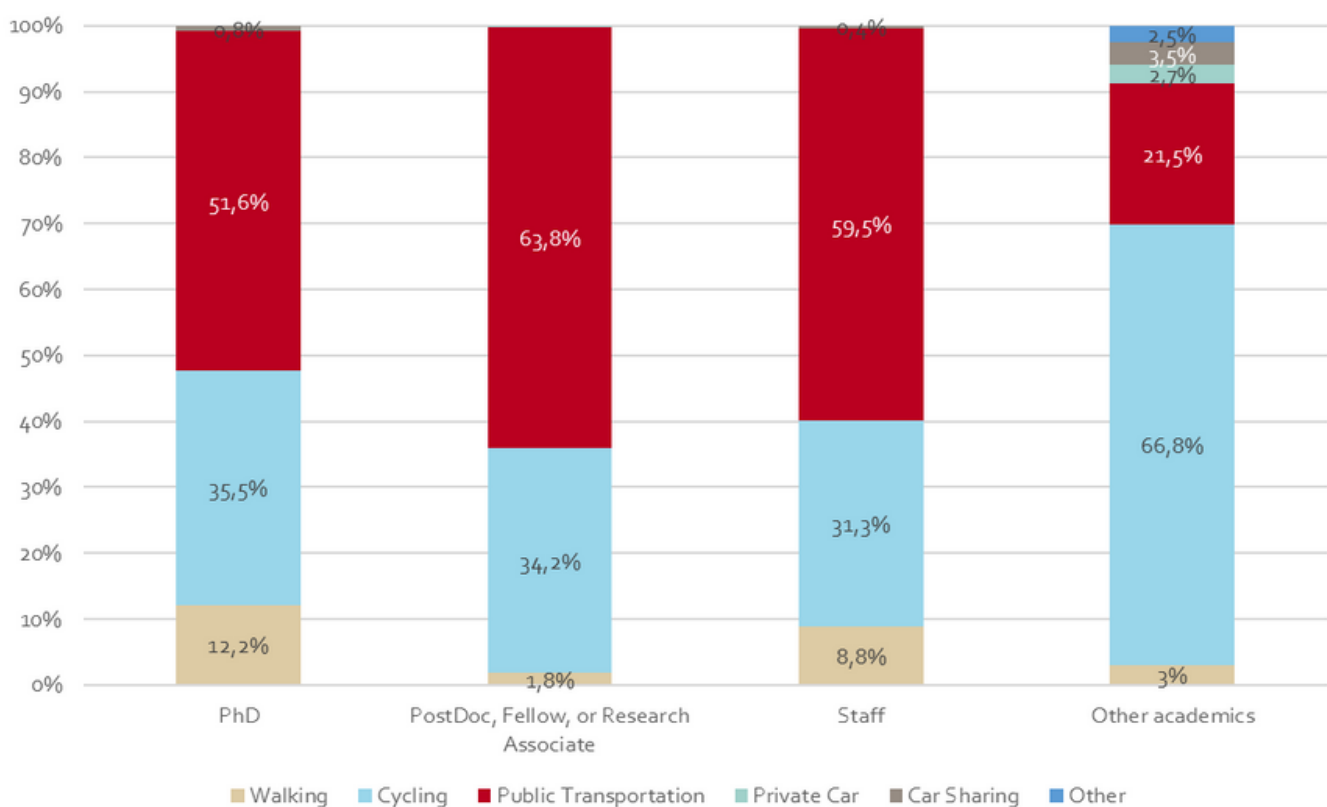
The student in the EMPA programme have slightly different commuting behaviour. While public transportation is still the mode of transportation for most commutes (51%) and cycling the second (22.2%), the percentage of commutes via car-sharing apps or taxis is larger than any other group in the university (13%).



Mode of transportation (Alexanderstraße 3)

For those working at Alexanderstraße 3, there is a slightly more even split between those who cycle to work and those who take public transportation, but amongst all groups except other academics, the preferred mode of transportation is public transportation. The group comprised of PostDocs, Fellows, and Research Associates relies most heavily on public transportation (63.8% of all commutes). That figure is 59.5% for staff and 51.6% for PhD researchers.

Respondents in these three groups opted to cycle for roughly one-third of all commutes, and for other academics, it was two-thirds. This could arise from the fact that these groups tend to live closer to Alexanderstraße 3 than their counterparts at Friedrichstraße 180.



Car usage is even lower at Alexanderstraße 3 than at Friedrichstraße 180. External lecturers and adjuncts used a private car for 2.7% of all commutes, and PostDocs, Fellows, and Research Associates for 0.3% of all commutes. None of the PhD or staff respondents reported commuting with a private car but did use car-sharing apps or taxis 0.8% and 0.4% of all commutes respectively.

HERTIE'S SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS INITIATIVE

Our Sustainable Campus initiative aims to minimise the school's environmental footprint and raise awareness for sustainability issues. The initiative seeks to implement pragmatic but impactful measures and is at the same time developing a broader sustainability strategy for the Hertie School.

Our goal is to create a community that supports the well-being of all its members, while working to achieve the same for future generations. At the core of the initiative is the Green Campus Committee. It leads and oversees sustainability activities on campus and the Green Campus Action Programme, which lays out the measures that will help us achieve our goals.

The Green Campus Committee is a permanent governance body jointly chaired and co-led by Christian Flachsland, Professor of Sustainability and Director of the Hertie Centre for Sustainability, and Dr. Axel Baisch, Managing Director. Caroline Forscht and Sarah Lawton-Görlach act as the Hertie School's Green Campus Officers and coordinate the Committee's work. The Committee includes representatives of diverse units at the Hertie School and cooperates closely with its leadership. Beyond reducing the Hertie School's environmental footprint, special attention will be given to measures that support individual well-being and promote a healthy working and studying environment.

Green Campus Officers

If you have questions about this report or sustainability at the Hertie School, do not hesitate to get in touch with our Green Campus officers.



Caroline Forscht



Sarah Lawton-Görlach

Data collected and report authored by Sarah Lawton-Görlach

ANNEX

In this annex, you will find all data related to this report in table format.

Response rates

Group	Responses	Percentage of survey respondents	Total group	Percentage of total group
Students	282	56.2%	736	38.3%
<i>MPP</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>26.9%</i>	<i>357</i>	<i>37.8%</i>
<i>MIA</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>19.9%</i>	<i>265</i>	<i>37.7%</i>
<i>MDS</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>6.8%</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>54.8%</i>
<i>EMPA</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>2.6%</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>25%</i>
PhD	26	5.2%	61	42.6%
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	28	5.6%	92	30.4%
Faculty	23	4.6%	34	67.7%
Staff	131	26.1%	232	56.5%
Other academics	12	2.4%	29	41.4%

Days commuting to the Hertie School

Instances

Group	Average	1 day per week	2 days per week	3 days per week	4 days per week	5 days per week
Students	3.7	3	20	65	91	52
PhD	3.5	1	3	5	5	5
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	3	1	8	2	6	2
Faculty	3.8	0	0	10	5	5
Staff	3.5	3	21	33	21	28
Other academics	3	3	0	1	0	3

Instances, students by programme

Group	Average	1 day per week	2 days per week	3 days per week	4 days per week	5 days per week
MPP	3.9	1	4	30	48	29
MIA	3.7	1	8	26	28	17
MDS	3.7	0	4	7	15	5
EMPA	2.5	1	4	2	0	1

Percentages

Group	1 day per week	2 days per week	3 days per week	4 days per week	5 days per week
Students	1.3%	8.7%	28.1%	39.4%	22.5%
PhD	5.3%	15.8%	26.3%	26.3%	26.3%
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	5.3%	42.1%	10.5%	31.6%	10.5%
Faculty	0%	0%	50%	25%	25%
Staff	2.8%	19.8%	31.1%	19.8%	26.4%
Other academics	42.9%	0%	14.3%	0%	42.9%

Percentages, students by programme

Group	1 day per week	2 days per week	3 days per week	4 days per week	5 days per week
MPP	1.3%	8.7%	28.1%	39.4%	22.5%
MIA	5.3%	15.8%	26.3%	26.3%	26.3%
MDS	5.3%	42.1%	10.5%	31.6%	10.5%
EMPA	0%	0%	50%	25%	25%



Distance to the Hertie School

All figures in this section are in kilometers. Respondents were asked to report on the distance of their commute one-way.

Friedrichstraße 180 respondents

Group	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum
Students	6.7	5.8	0.6	35
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	7.3	6.5	6	10
Faculty	7.4	6	3	18
Staff	12.2	7	2	66
Other academics	10.3	4.2	3	30

Student responses by programme

Group	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum
MPP	6.5	6	0.6	17
MIA	7.2	5.6	1.6	35
MDS	6.2	7	2	15
EMPA	5	4.5	3	7

Alexanderstraße 3 respondents

Group	Average	Median	Minimum	Maximum
PhD	5.7	3.5	1.9	25
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	6.4	6	3	15
Staff	6	5.3	3	15
Other academics	3.8	3.5	3	5

Respondents living outside Berlin

17 respondents reported living outside of Berlin. While it was expected that this group would largely consist of external lecturers or adjuncts, this was only 3 of the 17 respondents. 10 of the 17 were master's students (including 3 EMPA students), who presumably were only temporarily living outside of Berlin due to visa or housing issues. The remainder of the respondents were either staff or PostDocs, Fellows or Research Associates.

The utility of these responses was weakened by the fact that only 5 of the 17 respondents reported how many kilometers they live away from the Hertie School. These responses ranged from 170km to 8000km (average: 630km).

Additionally only half respondents (9 of 17) answered how they commute to the school. Of those respondents, one reported travelling by plane 100% of the time, and four some of the time (between 20% and 50%).

Mode of transportation

Friedrichstraße 180 respondents

Group	Walking	Cycling	Public transport	Private car	Car sharing	Other
Students	7.3%	19.7%	71.3%	0.4%	1.1%	0.1%
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	0%	4.9%	95.1%	0%	0%	0%
Faculty	11.2%	47.3%	41.6%	0%	0%	0%
Staff	4.9%	21.8%	69.7%	2.2%	1.3%	0.2%
Other academics	8.3%	50%	41.7%	0%	0%	0%

Student responses by programme

Group	Walking	Cycling	Public transport	Private car	Car sharing	Other
MPP	7.9%	21.5%	69.7%	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%
MIA	6.7%	17.9%	74.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.1%
MDS	5.1%	17.6%	74.9%	0%	2.4%	0%
EMPA	13.9%	22.2%	51%	0%	13%	0%

Alexanderstraße 3 respondents

Group	Walking	Cycling	Public transport	Private car	Car sharing	Other
PhD	12.2%	35.5%	51.6%	0%	0.8%	0%
PostDoc, Fellow, or Research Associate	1.8%	34.2%	63.8%	0.3%	0%	0%
Staff	8.8%	31.3%	59.5%	0%	0.4%	0%
Other academics	3%	66.8%	21.5%	2.7%	3.5%	2.5%

