

**Norfolk-Portsmouth Travel Study: Help Improve Travel between Norfolk and Portsmouth  
Fact Sheet  
May 2009**

**What was the purpose of the Norfolk-Portsmouth Travel Study?**

The study was intended to provide data on the value of time for the traveling public and users of the Downtown Tunnel, Midtown Tunnel and MLK Extension. Specifically, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) intended to use the survey to gain a better understanding of the public's frequency in using the facilities and what users would be willing to pay in order to realize shorter commute times.

**How was the survey distributed?**

On Wednesday, April 29, VDOT mailed 1,000 postcards to drivers of passenger vehicles and 200 postcards to drivers of commercial vehicles.

Respondents were selected if they were observed using the Downtown or Midtown Tunnels. License plate information was captured by VDOT's survey consultant and addresses were provided to VDOT, so that the postcards could be mailed to potential respondents. Postcards directed respondents to a Web site to complete the survey.

Additionally, between April 21 and 28, computer kiosks were set up in local (Norfolk and Portsmouth) establishments encouraging individuals to complete the survey. Survey crews consisting of trained interviewers solicited participation from passers-by. After an initial screening process, to determine if the person had recently traveled on the facilities, the interviewer invited the individual to take the survey.

**When does VDOT expect to obtain results of the survey?**

VDOT anticipates receiving preliminary survey results in June 2009.