

Transport needs for an ageing society: long-term drivers and generational effect

Summary

Over the next 30 years, the Aprilers Generation will increase the 65+ population in Portugal and will comprise a new older generation with different associated travel needs rooted in their historic personal mobility and activity patterns. Our society needs to focus on the elderly individual. Focusing on the needs and expectations of the future elderly will mean preparing for large future demands, i.e. preparing for what can be called the "Age-Friendly Mobility" (AFM).

This study investigates empirically whether personal mobility history and experience since early primary school days influences later propensity for out-of-home activities and drives travel behavior. Primary data gathered from 1900 to 2014 by means of a life-time retrospective survey is used to estimate discrete models. Multiple imputation is used to impute missing survey data. The odds of engaging in recreational out-of-home activities in the present for an individual which has engaged in the same activities during primary school life-time are over two times the odds for an individual which has not engaged in those out-of-home activities during primary school life-time or adolescence.

The implications for policy is that preparing for future elderly transportation demand, disregarding the fact that childhood and adolescence mobility history and experience set some of the drivers that the new future generations of elderly will be influenced by both in transportation preferences and mobility expectations, will not be adequate.

Keywords

Life-time retrospective survey, Age-Friendly Mobility (AFM), personal mobility history, policy, elderly.



PhD student

Rafaela Gonçalves da Silva
Arriaga de Oliveira Andrade de
Sousa

PhD program

Transportation Systems (IST,
University of Lisbon)

Supervisor

José Caré Viegas (CERIS, IST,
University of Lisbon)

Co-supervisor

Moshe Ben-Akiva (MIT,
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology)

Period

2017-2018

Funding

FCT scholarship

