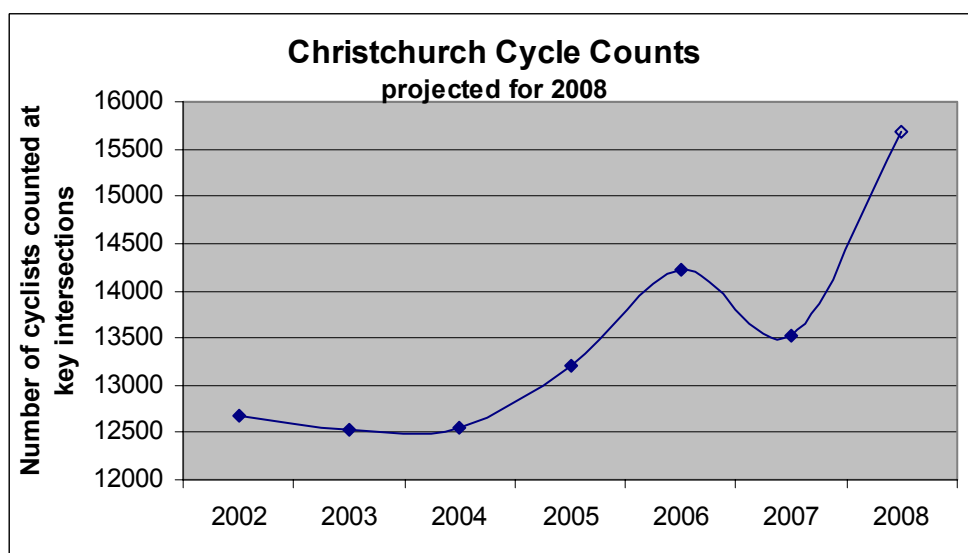


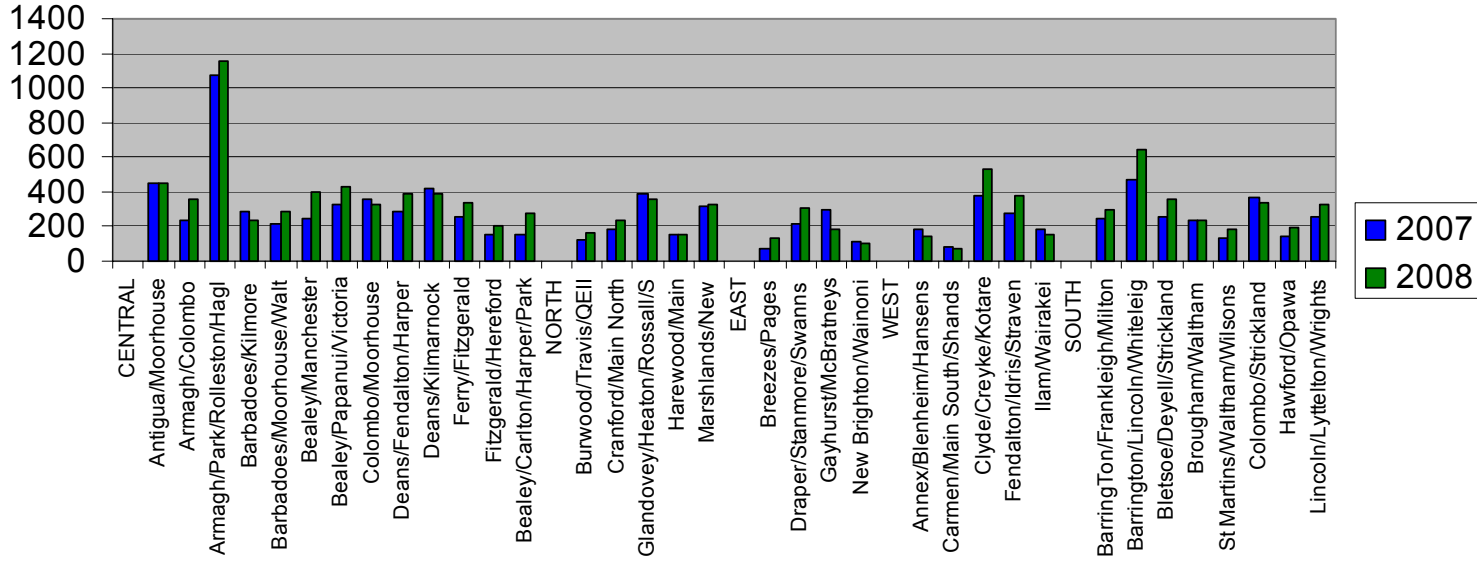
Ian Philips from Christchurch City Council’s transport planning team has analysed the counts of cyclists at 35 locations throughout Christchurch and there has been a 20% increase in cyclists in 2008 compared to 2007. 2007 had a 10% decrease from 2006, so the overall increase from 2006 is around 10%. Data from a further 17 locations should be available in early 2009. Petrol prices in 2008 appear to have had a positive effect in motivating people to get on their bikes, but the peak of prices was in May- September which is over winter when less people tend to cycle, so the effect was maybe not as significant as it could have been, had the price rise occurred in summer. Unfortunately the intersection counts are only done once a year and so do not pick up the month-month variations that could potentially show the link between petrol prices and the number of cyclists, and so I’m planning to start my own count of bikes on my way to work each morning. I will record the number of bikes seen, the number of cars for one cycle of lights at a busy intersection (see if any increase in cyclists results in a decrease of cars), the state of the weather (0=bad 5=good), the speed of my journey (0 = slow, 5 = fast as sometimes it is slower with kids biking too, so will have more time to see more bikes) and any general comments. If anyone else would like to have a go adding to the dataset then feel free to collect your own data and pass it on, or make suggestions about what and how to measure. I’m assuming the price of petrol will increase again sometime over the next five years so tracking it’s effect could be very interesting.

This article with graphs and a sample data collection form can be viewed at [www.cycletrailers.co.nz/petrolprices.pdf](http://www.cycletrailers.co.nz/petrolprices.pdf)



## Christchurch Cycle Counts 2007-2008

**Number of Cyclists during morning & afternoon peaks at key intersections**



## Regular Petrol Retail Price (NZ c/ltr)

