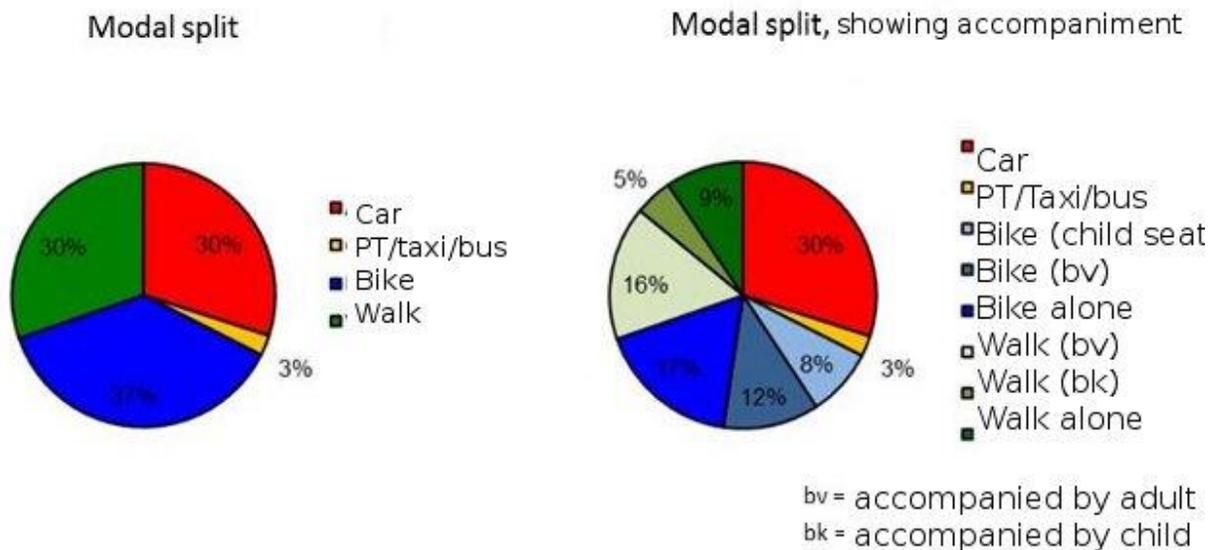


**Q3:**

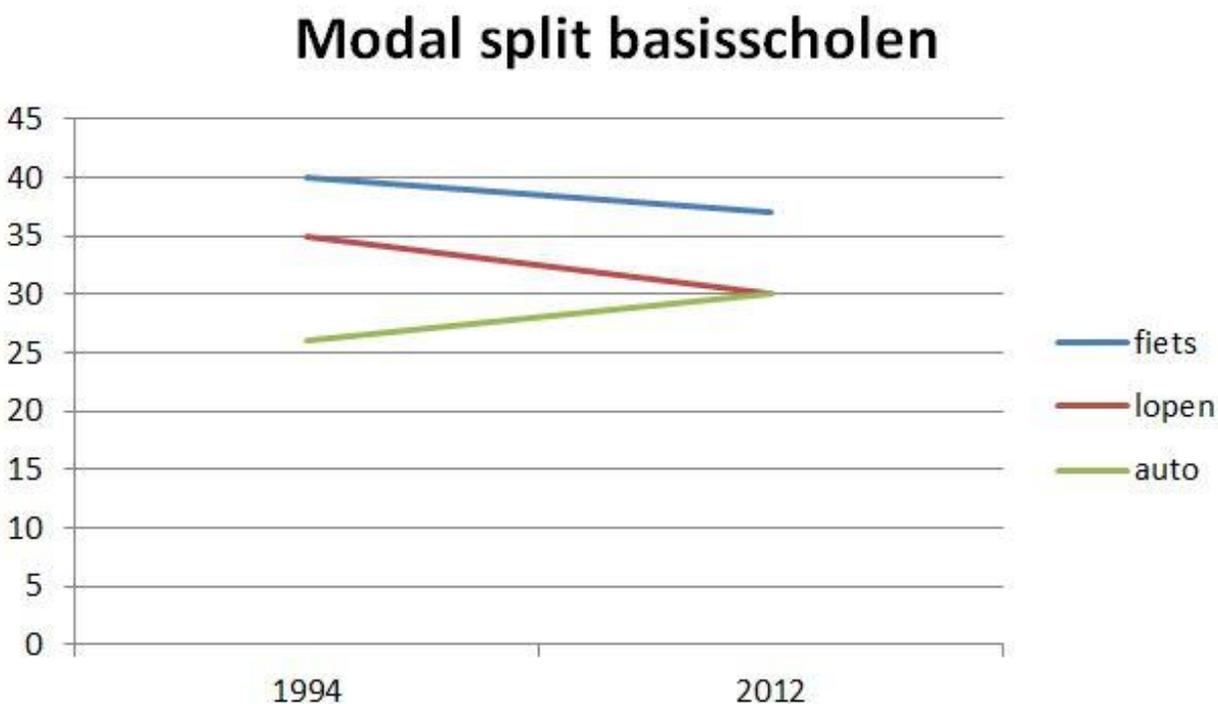
Good Morning, as requested, 3 questions to the Dutch Gov:

This is the way Dutch primary school children get to school:

(A KPVV graphic showing statistics for all schools for all weather conditions for primary school children)



This is the development of various modes of transport:



Already now, the location of the school is far from my workplace, some 15km bicycle distance. Originally, it was decided for the European School to be located in Bergen (instead of Petten or Schagen), because Bergen was the only “livelier” place in the region 50 years ago, so not only the school, but also European Commission STAFF HOUSING was provided there, with the Nuclear Reactor in remote Petten. The staff housing has been sold off in the meantime, whereas the school and the staff clubhouse and facilities still exist. Also, the area has developed a lot, and Petten is a lovely village today, and Schagen a lively town.

**Commission Officials, by the “Statut”, the staff regulations, are obliged to select their place of residence in the following way: Article 20: An official shall reside either in the place where he is employed or at no greater distance there from as is compatible with the proper performance of his duties.**

Following this “shall” requirement, I reside in the village of Petten, and have a 15min ride by bike to the office, my son has a 45 minute (fast) bike ride to school in Bergen, via a very safe route, for a total of 24km biking every day. 90 minutes on the bike every day is good exercise for him. As a comparison, Dutch children who go to ‘middelbare school’, are lauded for often cycling more than 10 kilometres a day: That is less than half of what my son does in primary. Every day! Going to school by public bus means changing at least once, for a good hour ride each way, if there is even a compatible departure time. Public transport by bus to Alkmaar Central Station is direct, about once an hour, and takes close to an hour ride. From the central station, it would be another 20 minutes to the Alkmaar school location. Thus, IMPOSSIBLE. Zaandam is probably 2 hours travel time. By car, it takes about 5 minutes to the office, and 25 minutes to school currently. To the Alkmaar school, it would be about 35 minutes by car. To Zaandam, certainly a lot more than an hour. For the new school location, *this would mean one of us has to spend in between 140 and 240 minutes per day driving to and from school, not even thinking about any after school activities.*

So relocating the school to places unreachable by bike for a child may follow the trend in the Netherlands as per above statistics, however it is diametrically opposed to the obligations of our staff regulations, as well as the “European Green Deal” and the pronouncements of Dutch politicians on promoting emission-free transport.

**How can the Dutch Government (who has been dragging their feet already for almost a decade to give us the promised European School when the JRC facility initially opened) now decide to relocate the school EVEN FURTHER AWAY FROM THE PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT it was built for (JRC Petten), and thus forcing us to spend several hours every day driving a car?**