



Smart Commute collected responses to the third annual North Metro Commuter Survey in September 2020. A total of 1,290 individuals completed the survey - a slight decrease compared to last year, which Smart Commute anticipated.

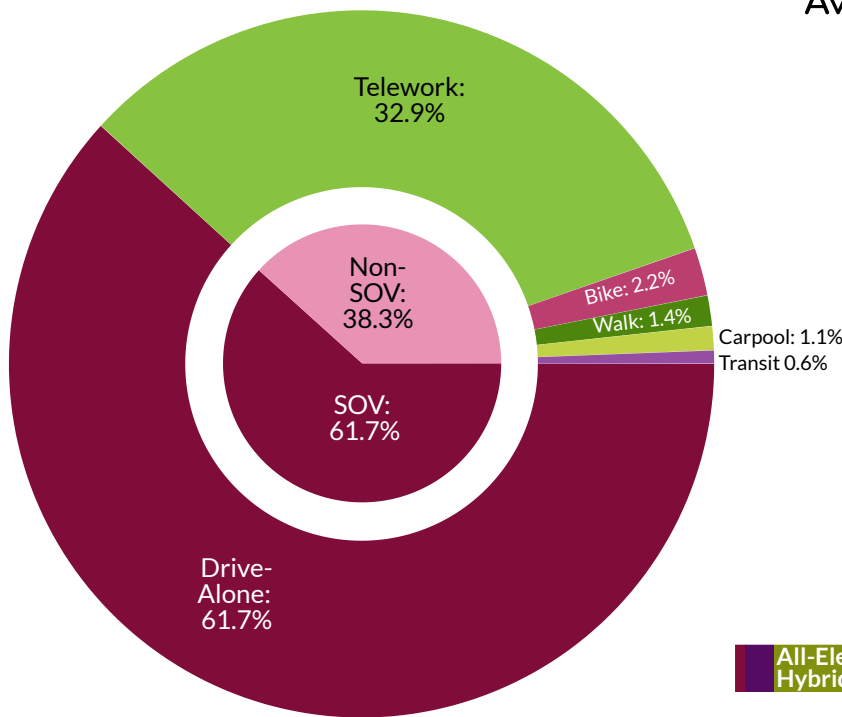
The 2020 data differed significantly compared to the 2019 data, particularly due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, which substantially altered commute patterns mid-March. The survey asked several new questions of respondents, including asking about changes to their commute due to the pandemic.

The North Denver Metro includes the communities of Adams County, Brighton, Broomfield, Commerce City, Dacono, Erie, Federal Heights, Firestone, Frederick, Lafayette, Longmont, Northglenn, Thornton, and Westminster.



SmartCommuteMetroNorth.org
info@SmartCommuteMetroNorth.org

Commute



Average One-Way Trip in Miles

12.2 All Modes

0.7 Walk

3.7 Bike

11.5 Transit

12.1 Drive Alone

18.1 Carpool

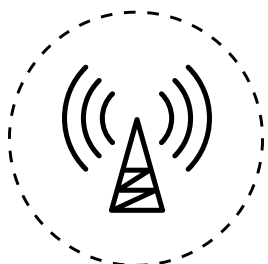
Electric Vehicle?

All-Electric: 2.2% No: 90.4%
Hybrid-Electric: 5.9%

Chauffeur kids?
Yes: 21.3%

Compressed Work Week?
Yes: 27.3%

Corridor?



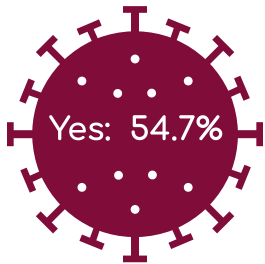
As expected, teleworking increased significantly, from 2.5% of all commutes in 2019, to 33% of all commutes in 2020.



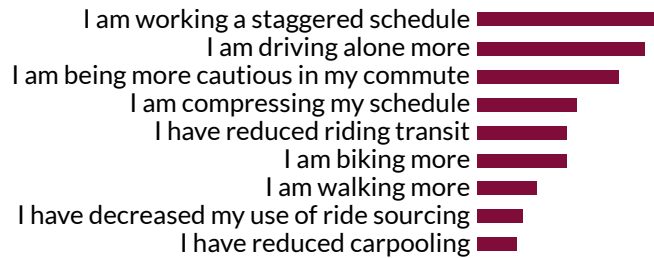
Compared to 2019 levels, driving alone, biking, carpooling, riding transit and vanpooling all decreased. However, walking stayed about steady (1.3% in 2019).

COVID-19

Has your commute changed due to COVID-19?



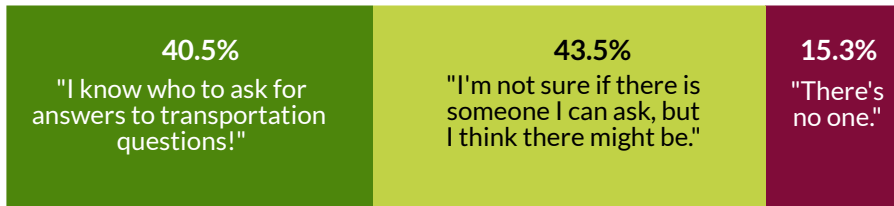
How Has COVID Changed Your Commute?



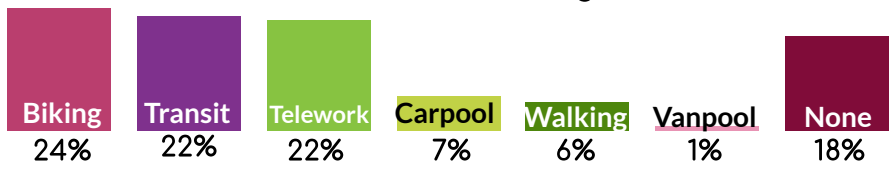
48.1% are teleworking more due to COVID.

Workplace

In-Office Transportation Helper



Most Interested In Learning About...



Smart Commute Program Participation

Participation recollection in programs was commensurate with the "new normal" work environment, with reduced in-person participation opportunities.



Top 3 Desired Policies



#1: Flexible Work Schedules



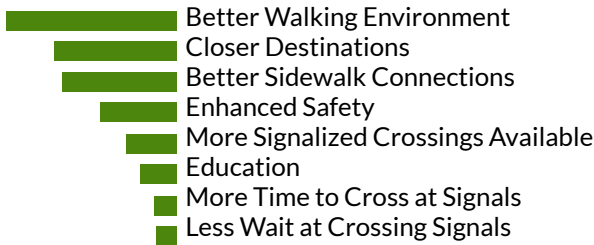
#2: A transit pass program (EcoPass/FlexPass) or a transit subsidy/discount.



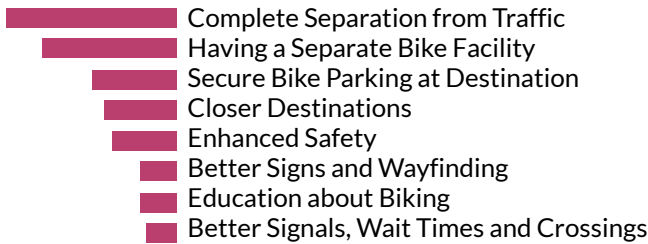
#3: Opportunity to work a compressed work week.

What improvements would encourage you to...

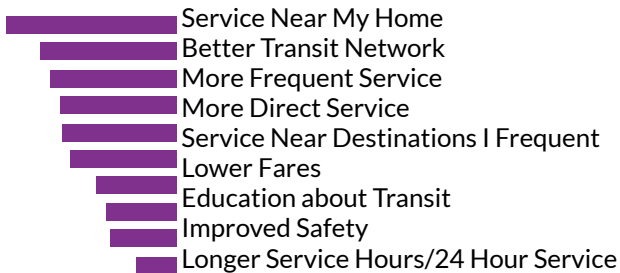
WALK more?



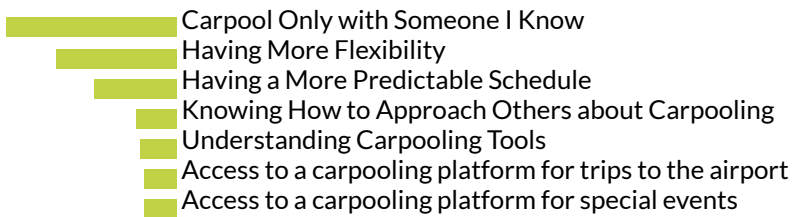
BIKE more?



RIDE TRANSIT more?



CARPOOL more?



Smart Commute read over 1,600 write-in comments in order to understand concerns for Biking, Walking, Riding Transit, and Carpooling.

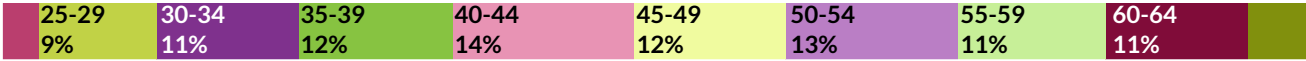
Select Comments

- "In the snowy months, SHOVELD sidewalks. Seriously... I'm pretty sure I'm going to break something on my walks because people don't shovel their sidewalks after it snows."
- "pedestrian zones/ car-free zones in urban areas"
- "Improve the South Platte bike trail and connections. This is basically I-25 only for bicycles."
- "I have biked less often than usual this summer due to the smoke and poor air quality."
- I don't own a car. I've been biking all year, all weather, everywhere I go, 100+ mi/wk, in the Denver area for over 20 years. IMO the #1 thing that would improve biking here is education. Drivers AND cyclists are ignorant of cyclists' legal rights and duties, leading to constant, life-threatening confusion and conflict between bikes and cars.
- "I come from a very small town in Arizona that had NO bus system, so this system has literally made me cry from happiness due to accessibility when I've lost the ability to use my car(s) in the past. I only wish there were more routes on weekends or late at night."
- "I love riding the bus to work, but it is hard right now with COVID. Many previous bus commuters want to make sure there is space for individuals who may not have other options."
- "Having the HOV lanes have helped shorten my commute, I like having them and I am very happy they are being extended."
- "I'm not comfortable carpooling during COVID"
- "Carpooling is anathema to the nature of owning your own vehicle. If you are going to give up your freedom to ride with others, why not just take a bus?"
- "I really appreciate all that you all do, and that you are taking the time to solicit information about our individual experiences and how they can be improved!"

Demographics



Age?



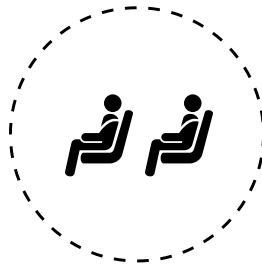
Males age 30-34 and Females age 60-64 are the most likely to drive alone to work regularly.



Males age 20-24 are more likely than any other group to bike to work, nearly twice as likely than most cohorts.



In nearly every cohort, females are more likely than males to primarily telework.



Females under 25 are more likely than any other group to carpool, more than twice as likely than other cohorts.

North
Metro
Commuter
Survey



What do these results tell us?
Why are they important?

Smart Commute conducts an annual regional survey in order to track changes in commuting behavior and interests over time. This information is important, and not only helps us to evaluate programmatic effectiveness, it also helps us to make the case to decision makers for increased investment in transportation.

Would you like to get more involved?
There are three ways to help:

One: Become a Transportation Coordinator where you work, volunteer or live. We will provide you with education and support to help you help others where you work and live to connect to our transportation network.

Two: Write for Smart Commute. We love to feature real stories from commuters highlighting the benefits, and challenges, in commuting by RTD, carpool, bike, etc.

Three: Join Smart Commute's newsletters and social media, and help forward on information and news that is pertinent to your network.



SmartCommuteMetroNorth.org

Prepared: 11/27/2020