COMMUTE TRENDS

More people in the region are working at home compared to a decade ago. The share of at-home workers in the King-Pierce-Snohomish county area increased from 3.4 percent in 1990 to 4.7 percent in 2000. Commuting by public transportation increased from 6.3 percent in 1990 to 7.1 percent in 2000.

The share of those driving alone to work fell slightly from 73.5 percent in 1990 to 72.2 percent in 2000, while carpooling remained level at just under 12 percent. A decline appears to have occurred in the share of those who commute to work by biking and walking, from 4.0 percent in 1990 to 3.1 percent in 2000. The Census Bureau, however, cautions that this decline in the share of those biking and walking may be due to the exclusion of the group quarter population, which skews the estimates for specific categories, especially walking, which in turn may affect the estimates in other categories.¹

![Figure 1](image1.png)

Travel times to work have increased within the central Puget Sound region compared to a decade ago. While the majority of commuters, including those who work at home, still have a maximum travel time of less than 30 minutes (60.6 percent in 2000), the share of commuters with maximum travel times of 30 minutes or more increased from 34.9 percent in 1990 to 39.4 percent in 2000.

![Figure 2](image2.png)

The data presented here comes from the 1990 Census and the Census 2000 Supplementary Survey. The Supplementary Survey Summary Tables are now available for the United States as a whole, the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and most cities and counties in the United States with populations of 250,000 or more. For Washington state, this includes Clark, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane counties, as well as the city of Seattle.


¹ Group quarter population consists of persons residing in institutional and non-institutional facilities such as military barracks, correctional facilities, college dormitories, and other congregate residences such as nursing homes, group homes, shelters, etc.