

Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Survey (HTS) Program

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Puget Sound Regional Council

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Presentation Highlights

- What is the Household Travel Survey (HTS) Program?
- Finishing the 2021 survey:
Dataset publication in March
- Starting the 2023 survey:
Call for “add-on” data samples



Puget Sound Regional Travel Studies

More frequent snapshots allows for more timely analysis and monitoring of trends. Data can be combined.



Webpage: <https://www.psrc.org/household-travel-survey-program>



2017-2019-2021 HTS Program

Goal: The surveys seek to capture quality, regionally representative data for residents' activity and travel behavior on a typical weekday.

6-year program, 3 waves

- 2017 and 2019 completed
- 2021 data to be published in March

Motivations

- Frequent snapshots, ability to combine years
- “Smoother” budgets and labor roles
- Opportunities for “add-on” samples



Uses of the HTS Data

Analysis

- Most recent regional travel patterns
- Trends: comparisons with previous surveys

Model development

- SoundCast
 - Activity-based (travel) model system
 - Estimate activity/travel choice models
- UrbanSim
 - Parcel-based land use model system
 - Estimate residential location choice model



Information in the HTS Data

Who? Household, person socio-demographics

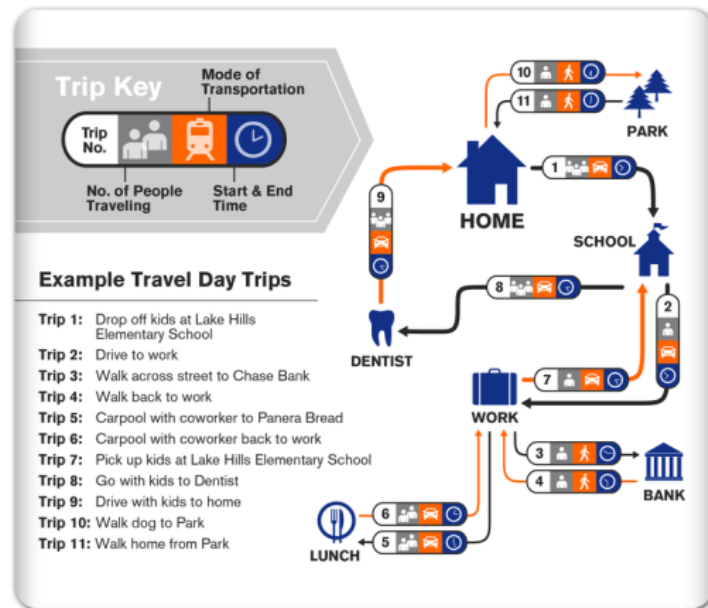
What? Vehicles; Homes; Work/school status

Where? Home/work/school locations; Activity/trips

When? Home relocations; Activity/trip times

Why? Home location factors; Trip purposes; Attitudes

How? Usual ways to commute; Modes; Deliveries



Planning/Policy-Relevant Questions

HTS Can Help Answer:	Additional Data is Needed to Fully Answer:
• How does transit use vary by income, race? How do people access transit? • How does parking relate to car ownership and use? How many car trips does the average resident make? • Who has been displaced from their homes? From where and why? • How many home deliveries does the average resident get a day? • Which workers telecommute and how often? What trips do they make?	• Where do visitors go in the region? What travel modes do they use? • How much do ride-hail drivers (e.g., Lyft, Uber operators) drive without any passengers? • How many airplane trips does the average resident make? • Where does freight travel around the region?



Common Metrics for HTS Data

Metrics:	Example:
Counts and distributions	81% of households own one or more cars.
Person/Vehicle trip rates	The average person makes 4.5 trips/day .
Person-/Vehicle-miles traveled	The average person travels 29 miles/day .
Vehicle occupancy factors	The average personal car on the road has 1.9 people in it.
Person-/Vehicle-time use	The average personal car is used for 65 minutes/day .
Top box or top two box	28% of people are very or somewhat interested in using an autonomous car in the future.
Elasticity or shares	On average, people value their time at \$25/hour while traveling.



New Data in the 2021 HTS

- Work location and commuting mode before 2020 March 15 AND now
- Telecommuting before 2020 March 15 AND now
- Employment changes due to COVID-19
- Employment industry
- Home relocation because of COVID-19



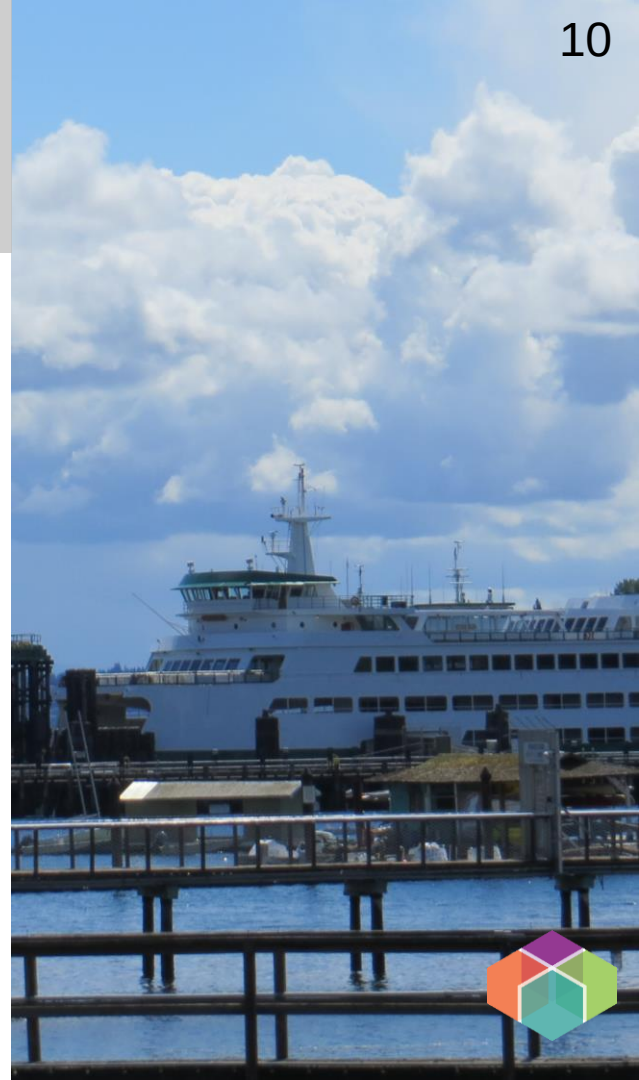
Future of Puget Sound Regional HTS

Current HTS Program

- Produces timely, relevant data to reveal trends and support long-range regional planning and policy needs
- Provides flexibility for member agencies to purchase “add-on” data samples in each survey year focused on their jurisdictions or areas of interest

Next HTS Program

- Developing second multi-year, multi-wave HTS Program
- Planning for a spring 2023 data collection period to help support the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan
- Considering 2025 and 2027 surveys (to be confirmed)



2023 “Add-on” Data Sample FAQ

What is an add-on data sample?

- Puget Sound Regional HTS data is primarily designed for use at regional/county levels – more survey responses are needed for use in smaller geographies
- Members can “add-on” to the regional HTS & buy more data in areas of interest
- Previous add-on partners include cities of Bellevue, Redmond, Seattle, & Tacoma

How much would an add-on data sample cost in the 2023 HTS?

- Costs can vary depending on questions posed & people/household qualities of interest
- Assume ~\$200/household & at least ~500 households for rough budgeting purposes
- PSRC staff can help determine appropriate data sample sizes

What questions will be included in the 2023 HTS?

- 2023 survey questions will be very similar to ones asked in the current program
- See the 2019 questionnaire: <https://www.psrc.org/sites/default/files/psrc2019-questionnaire-files.zip>



2023 “Add-on” Data Sample FAQ

How will the 2023 HTS project be managed? How will add-on partners be involved?

- PSRC will manage the project & hire a consultant to collect/deliver the data
- Add-on partners will help define scope of work (e.g., sampling needs in areas of interest) & provide support for outreach (e.g., official mailings encouraging survey responses)

Can an add-on data sample emphasize some parts of a jurisdiction or certain communities?

- Yes, some places can be oversampled (e.g., Redmond focused on their downtown)
- Similar for different populations (e.g., PSRC aims for representation of People of Color, rural communities, transit users, & other relatively smaller groups)

How does HTS data compare to other data?

- Survey data can reveal patterns of behavior (plus sometimes the reasons behind them) AND relate them directly to characteristics of people & households
- Other observational data (e.g., counts, location-based service) are less expensive but usually cannot directly link to people/households & may have uncorrected biases



Proposed 2023 HTS Timeline

- 2022**
- Jan:** RSC presentation & follow-up announcement
 - Mar:** Seek contract authority for consultant services (PSRC portion only)
 - Apr:** **Member commitments due for “add-on” data samples in the 2023 HTS**
 - May:** Issue Request for Proposals
 - Jun:** Seek contract authority for consultant services (PSRC & “add-on” portions)
 - Jul/Aug:** Select consultant & negotiate scope of work;
Sign MOUs with “add-on” members; Sign consultant contract
 - Sep:** Start 2023 HTS project with consultant
- 2023**
- Apr-Jun:** Data collection
 - Jul:** Start collaborative process with consultants to clean & weight data
- 2024**
- Mar:** Final data delivery & publication





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Thank you.

