

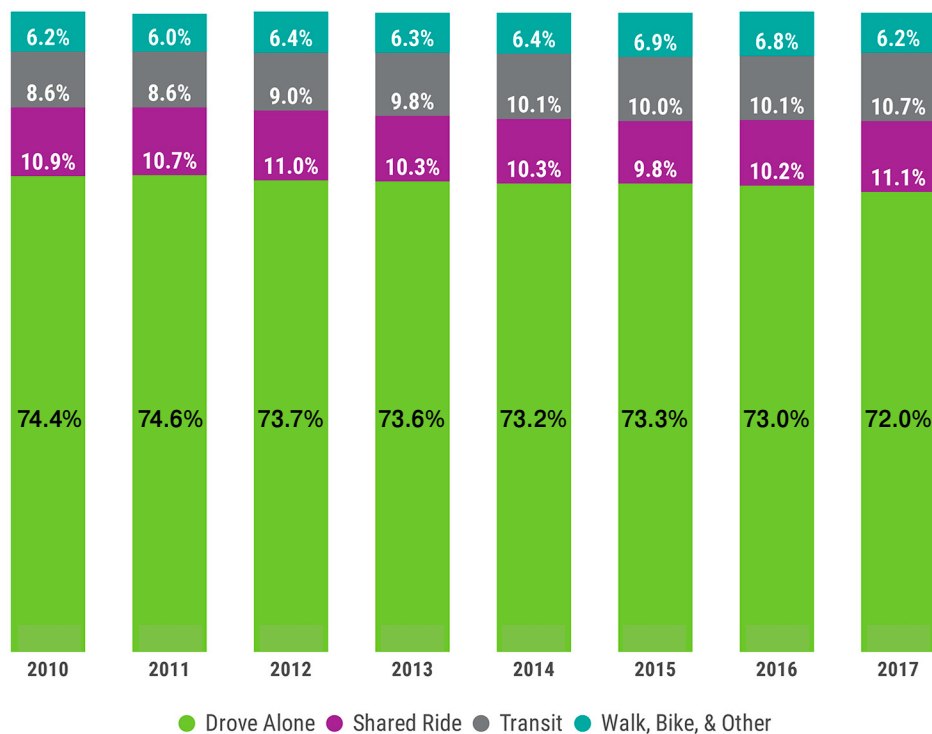
Driving Alone to Work Continues to Decline

How are overall mode shares to work changing in the region?

Across the central Puget Sound region, the share of people driving to work is decreasing. Between 2010 and 2017, the share of people traveling to work in a vehicle, whether alone or sharing a ride, decreased 2% from 85% in 2010 to 83% in 2017.

Meanwhile, transit shares increased approximately 2% over the same period. Walking, biking, and other modes remained consistent at approximately 6% of the total daily work trips. The decrease in the share of people traveling to work in a vehicle is significant considering the strong economy and robust increases in population and employment in the region since 2010.

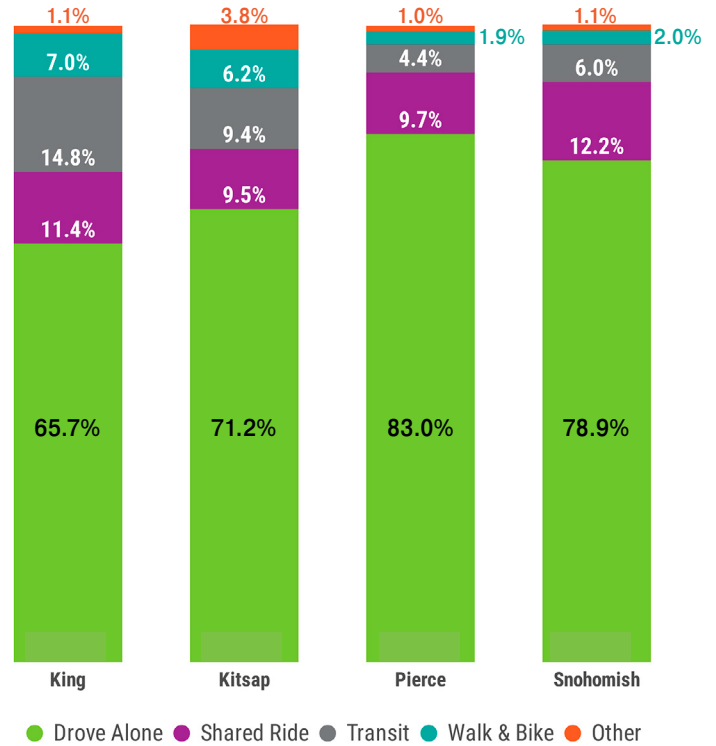
Mode Shares to Work, Central Puget Sound Region, 2010-2017 (excludes teleworking)



How do mode shares vary by county?

Pierce County had the highest share of workers who drove alone or shared a ride to work in 2017 at 93%, followed by Snohomish County at 91%. King and Kitsap counties had the lowest overall shares of people who drove to work alone or with a carpool partner at 77% and 80%, respectively. King County had the highest share of workers using transit at 15%, followed by Kitsap County at 9%, Snohomish County at 6% and Pierce County at 4%.

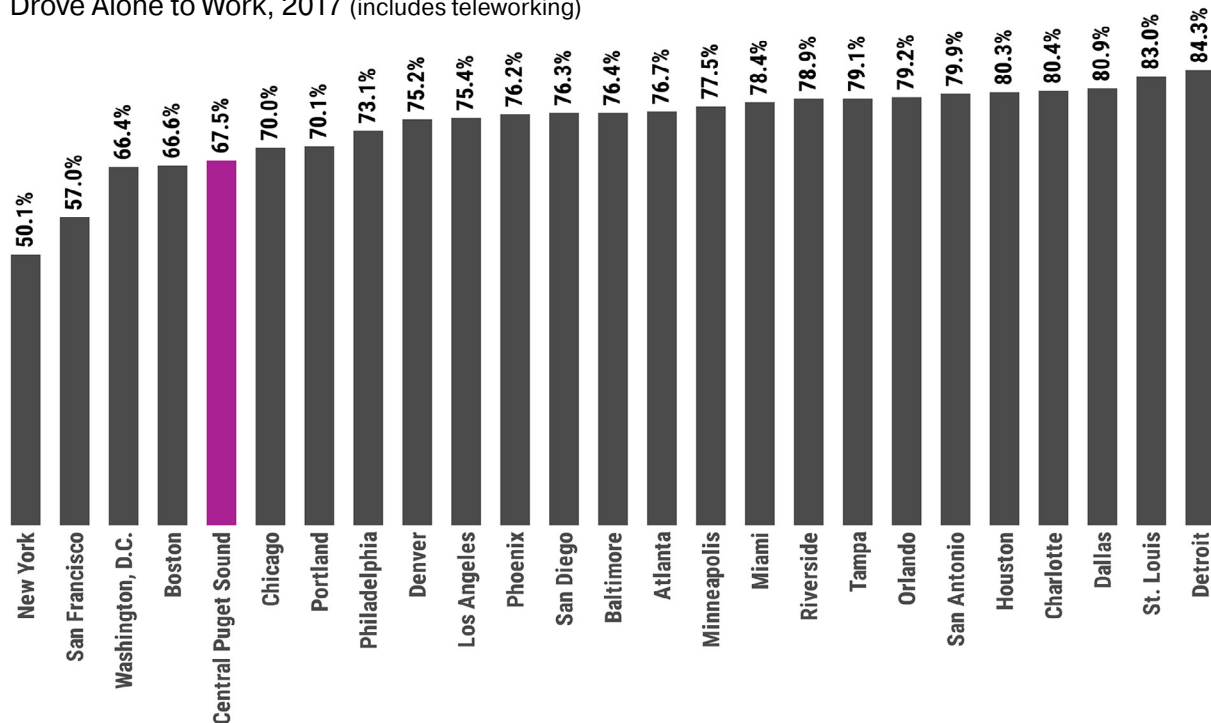
Mode Shares to Work by County, 2017 (excludes teleworking)



How do we compare nationally?

A comparison across metropolitan areas shows that the share of people driving alone to work in the central Puget Sound region is at the lower end of the spectrum. Only four other metropolitan areas — New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco, and Boston — have lower shares of commuters driving alone to work.

Drove Alone to Work, 2017 (includes teleworking)



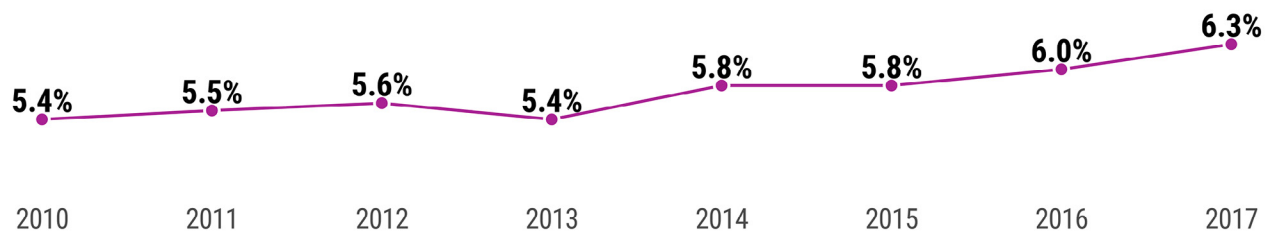
This finding is noteworthy considering these four metropolitan areas have had legacy transit systems with supporting infrastructure in place for over a century. Comparable regions such as Portland, Denver, and Minneapolis-St. Paul have higher shares of commuters driving alone to work.

The central Puget Sound region performs similarly well for other modes, ranking fourth for carpoolers, sixth for transit commuters and fifth for commuters walking and biking. Overall, a third of central Puget Sound residents chose shared auto or non-auto modes of transportation to get to work.

What about teleworking?

The number of people who work from home in the region has been steadily increasing in the past few years and is now at 6%. The steady increase is likely reflective of the nature of regional jobs conducive to teleworking. A breakdown by county shows that Kitsap County had the highest share of people who work from home at 7.3%, followed by King County (7.0%), Snohomish County (5.5%) and Pierce County (5.1%).

Percent Telework, Central Puget Sound Region, 2010-2017



Data Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Table B08301, Means of Transportation to Work, Retrieved from <https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>.