



## By the Numbers: How we get to work!

For this week's "By the Numbers," we take a spin off of a U.S. Census press release from today that highlights how Americans commute to work. The Census found:

*"Driving to work was the favored means of commute of nearly nine out of 10 workers (87.7 percent), with most people (77 percent) driving alone. In contrast, 4.7 percent of commuters used public transportation to travel to work in 2005, an increase of about 0.1 percent over 2000 levels."*

In the press release, the Census also presents interesting data about which U.S. cities had the highest percentage workers taking public transportation, biking and walking to work and telecommuters. The Census used the **principle city** as the unit of measurement. You can see the detailed results here: [http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/american\\_community\\_survey\\_acs/010230.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/american_community_survey_acs/010230.html).

To compliment the work of the Census, we decided to look at which **METRO REGIONS** had the highest percentage of workers taking public transportation, biking, and walking to work and telecommuters. Here's the top ten for each that we found:

### Top Ten Regions: Highest Percentage of Workers Taking Public Transportation to Work

Rank	Metro	% of Workforce commuting by Public Transportation to Work
1	New York, NY	29.8%
2	San Francisco, CA	13.7%
3	Washington, DC	13.2%
4	Chicago, IL	10.8%
5	Boston, MA	10.7%
6	Bremerton, WA	9.2%
7	Bridgeport, CT	8.8%
8	Philadelphia, PA	8.8%
9	Trenton, NJ	8.3%
10	Honolulu, HI	7.9%

### Top Ten Regions: Highest Percentage of Biking to Work

Rank	Metro	% of Workforce Biking to Work
1	Eugene, OR	4.7%
2	Iowa City, IA	2.9%
3	Santa Barbara, CA	2.5%
4	Santa Cruz, CA	2.4%
5	Bellingham, WA	2.1%
6	Madison, WI	1.9%
7	Gainesville, FL	1.9%
8	Sacramento, CA	1.3%
9	Tucson, AZ	1.3%
10	Santa Fe, NM	1.3%

### Top Ten Regions: Highest Percentage of Workers Walking to Work

Rank	Metro	% of Workforce Walking to Work
1	Iowa City, IA	5.9%
2	New York, NY	5.7%
3	Madison, WI	4.5%
4	Boston, MA	4.3%
5	Honolulu, HI	4.1%
6	Utica, NY	4.0%
7	Portland, Me	4.0%
8	Santa Barbara, CA	4.0%
9	San Francisco, CA	3.9%
10	Kingston, NY	3.9%

### Top Ten Regions: Highest Percentage of Workers Telecommuting

Rank	Metro	% of Workforce Working from Home
1	Santa Cruz, CA	8.4%
2	Hilo, HI	8.3%
3	Santa Fe, NM	6.5%
4	Kahului, HI	6.1%
5	Santa Rosa, CA	6.1%
6	Provo, UT	5.9%
7	San Luis Obispo, CA	5.9%
8	Portland, ME	5.8%
9	Colorado Springs, CO	5.7%
10	Sarasota, FL	5.4%

Note: All data is from the U.S. Census, American Community Survey, 2005. Several small metros had no data reported.