

District of Columbia

STATE DATA CENTER FACT SHEET



By
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These indicators were derived from data produced by the U.S. Census Bureau and may differ from data produced by other entities.

Bike to Work Week: May 12-16, 2014

Biking to Work More Than Tripled in Just Over a Decade in Washington, DC

Washington, DC had 4.1 percent of commuters bike to work in 2012, according to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) statistics which focused on commuting patterns of workers 16 years and over. The number of people who biked to work increased from about 3,035 in 2000 to 13,370 in 2012, a 340 percent increase. Nationally, 0.6 percent of workers commute by bike.

"In recent years, many communities have taken steps to support more transportation options, such as bicycling and walking," said Brian McKenzie, a Census Bureau sociologist. "For example, many cities have invested in bike share programs, bike lanes and more pedestrian-friendly streets."

While bicyclists still account for just 0.6 percent of all commuters nationally, some of the nation's largest cities have more than doubled their rates since 2000. In 2012, Madison, WI, had the highest bicycle-commuting rate at 6.2 percent, up from 3.2 percent in 2000. Portland, OR, had the second highest bicycle-commuting rate at 6.1 percent, up from 1.8 percent in 2000. In Minneapolis, MN, the rate increased from 1.9 percent to 4.5 percent. In Washington, DC, the rate increased from 1.2 percent in 2000 to 4.1 percent in 2012.

2012 Transportation Highlights for Washington DC

- Among the 326,000 workers in the District, 38.6 percent took public transportation, 4.1 percent biked, 11.9 percent walked and 4.6 percent worked at home.
- Of workers who did not work from home, the average travel time to work was 29.9 minutes.
- Traveling alone by car was among the most common commute modes.

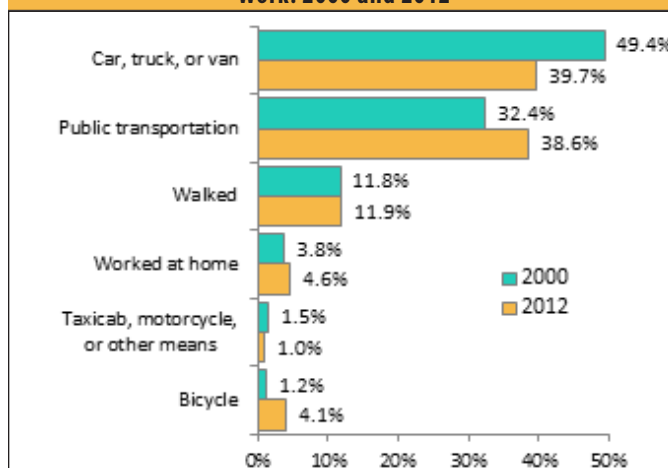
The figures in this release come from data collected from questions in the Census Bureau's 2012 American Community Survey. The questions asked include:

- How did this person usually get to work last week? If this person usually used more than one method of transportation during the trip, mark (X) the box of the one used for most of the distance.
- How many people, including this person, usually rode to work in the car, truck, or van last week?
- What time did this person usually leave home to go to work last week?



DC Office of Planning Staff, Bike to Work 2010

Figure 1. Percentage of Workers by Means of Transportation to Work: 2000 and 2012



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census and 2012 ACS

- How many minutes did it usually take this person to get from home to work last week?

Organizations use the statistics from this question to design programs that ease traffic problems, reduce congestion and promote carpooling. In addition, police and fire departments use the statistics to plan for emergency services in areas where many people work. The American Community Survey provides local statistics on a variety of topics for even the smallest communities.

Note: Additional information on commuting patterns in DC in 2012 can be found at <http://goo.gl/ZGE79N>.

