

Boulder Valley Transportation Survey: Comparison of Survey Results

Boulder Valley Employees

Downtown Boulder Employees

University of Colorado Boulder Campus Faculty and Staff

University of Colorado Boulder Campus Students

April 2006



Survey Background

The Boulder Valley Employee Transportation Survey has been implemented six previous times: in 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999 and 2001. In each of the previous implementations, the survey administration was handled by a research and evaluation division within the City of Boulder. In previous implementations, data were collected in the summer months. A similar effort for Downtown Boulder employees was conducted in the fall of several of the same years. In 2005, it was decided that these efforts could be combined to achieve some cost savings for all the involved agencies. The University of Colorado was also interested in joining the effort, and the study was expanded to include an Internet-based survey of students on the Boulder campus and a hard copy and Internet survey of faculty and staff. All participating agencies had previously implemented some kinds of transportation surveys. As much as possible, in 2005 the same set of questions was used across all the study groups, to allow comparisons, and to realize the cost-efficiency savings.

Where questions were similar enough to allow direct comparison, results have been included in this report. A separate report of results was produced for each surveyed group.

Survey Results by Surveyed Group

Primary Mode of Transportation on Survey Day

How did you get to work today?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Drove alone	69%	36%	42%	10%
Drove with at least one other person	8%	9%	12%	2%
Walked	3%	8%	7%	24%
Biked	3%	6%	13%	18%
Rode a bus or buses	9%	34%	31%	26%
Multi-mode	2%	6%	6%	15%
Worked at home	4%	0%	2%	2%
Other	1%	1%	2%	2%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Typical Mode of Transportation Used for Work Commute

During a typical week, how many days do you commute to work in each of the ways listed below?	Average Percent of Trips			
	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Drive alone	68%	36%	38%	11%
Drive with at least one other person	9%	10%	10%	3%
Multi-mode (e.g., car then bus, bike then bus, etc.)	3%	9%	7%	7%
Walk	3%	8%	5%	27%
Bike	4%	8%	4%	21%
Ride a bus(es)	8%	28%	13%	26%
Work at home	5%	1%	21%	2%
Other	0%	1%	2%	.

Teleworking

Do you ever telework?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff
Yes	18%	16%	31%
No	82%	84%	69%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

Distance of Commute in Miles

About how far is your home from work?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
0 to 2 miles	18%	31%	12%	56%
3 to 5 miles	22%	26%	11%	17%
6 to 10 miles	17%	18%	17%	5%
11 to 20 miles	30%	15%	37%	18%
over 20 miles	13%	9%	22%	5%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%
Average Distance of Commute in Miles	11.2 miles	7.9 miles	14.9 miles	5.8 miles
Median Distance of Commute in Miles	xx	xx	xx	xx

Duration of Work/School Commute in Minutes

About how many minutes did it take?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Average Length of Time	22.9 minutes	25.1 minutes	28.1 minutes	16.9 minutes
Median Length of Time	20 minutes	20 minutes	25 minutes	15 minutes

Made Stops on Commute to Work/School

Did you come straight to work/school from home today?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Yes	79%	85%	80%	92%
No	21%	15%	20%	8%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Number of Stops Made on the Way to Work/School

How many stops did you make on your way to work/school?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
No stops	80%	85%	82%	94%
1 stop	15%	10%	13%	4%
2 stops	4%	3%	4%	1%
3 or more stops	1%	1%	1%	1%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%
Average Number of Stops by ALL Respondents	0.3 stops	0.2 stops	0.2 stops	0.1 stops
Average Number of Stops by Those That Made Stops	1.4 stops	1.5 stops	1.4 stops	1.6 stops

Number of Stops Made on Commute Home

Yesterday, or on the last day you worked, how many stops did you make on your way home?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Average Number of Stops by ALL Respondents	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9
Average Number of Stops by Those That Made Stops	1.7	2.1	1.9	2.3

Work Day Trips

Did you make any trips during your workday yesterday (or on the last day you worked), not including your work commute?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff
No	42%	48%	53%
Yes	58%	52%	47%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

Number of Work Day Trips

How many one-way trips did you make during your workday yesterday (or on the last day you worked), not including your work commute?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff
Average number of trips made during the previous workday of ALL respondents	1.6	1.5	1.0
Average number of trips made during the previous workday of those that made trips	2.7	2.9	2.1

Work Day Errands

Does your job require you to run errands or attend meetings away from the work site?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff
Yes	54%	36%	57%
No	46%	64%	43%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%

Vehicle Availability for Work Day Errands

If you run errands or attend meetings for your job, is there a work vehicle available to you or must you provide your own transportation?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees*	Downtown Boulder Employees*	CU Faculty/Staff*
I must use my own vehicle or other means of transportation	88%	88%	78%
I use an employer-provided vehicle	13%	14%	15%
I use an employer-provided bicycle	1%	1%	3%
Other	3%	8%	15%

**Percents may add to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer.*

Employee Parking

Generally, who pays for employee parking at your organization?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees
Free parking is provided by employer or landlord	86%	27%
Employees pay for their own parking	8%	54%
Employer pays for employee parking (e.g., reimbursement or permit)	5%	17%
Employee and employer share the cost of parking (e.g., employer pays part of permit, etc.)	1%	1%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Distance to Nearest Bus Stop

How far from your home is the nearest bus stop that you would use to ride to work?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Less than 2 blocks	28%	32%	24%	55%
2-5 blocks	30%	31%	32%	25%
6-10 blocks	11%	15%	10%	5%
11-15 blocks	4%	2%	6%	2%
More than 15 blocks	13%	14%	23%	6%
Don't know	15%	5%	4%	6%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

ECO-Pass Status

Do you have an ECO-Pass or a sticker on your BuffOne Card?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Yes, have an ECO-Pass or sticker	27%	82%	99%	94%
No, do not have an ECO-Pass or sticker	73%	18%	1%	6%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Transit Use for Work Commute

Do you ever ride a bus to work/school?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Yes	24%	71%	70%	78%
No	76%	29%	30%	22%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Transit Use for Non-work trips

During a typical week do you ever use the RTD bus or Light Rail system for trips that are not for commuting, but are for pleasure or personal business?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
No	80%	49%	63%	38%
Yes	20%	51%	37%	62%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Transit Use for Non-work trips

During a typical week, how many one-way trips do you make on an RTD bus or Light Rail that are not for commuting to work but are for pleasure or personal business?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Average Number of Trips by ALL Respondents	0.8	2.2	1.2	2.1
Average Number of Trips by Those That Made Trips	4.0	4.4	3.3	3.5

Motor Vehicle Availability

Is a car or other motor vehicle usually available to you for commuting to work?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Yes	87%	78%	89%	68%
No	13%	22%	11%	32%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Bicycle Availability

Is a bicycle usually available to you for commuting to work?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Yes	53%	57%	61%	63%
No	47%	43%	39%	37%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Respondent's Place of Residence

Where do you live?	(All) Boulder Valley Employees	Downtown Boulder Employees	CU Faculty/Staff	CU Students
Boulder (within the city limits)	38%	55%	36%	82%
Unincorporated Boulder County	10%	5%	9%	2%
Ward/Nederland/Jamestown	1%	0%	1%	0%
Lyons	1%	0%	1%	0%
Superior	2%	2%	2%	1%
Lafayette	5%	4%	7%	2%
Louisville	5%	3%	6%	2%
Longmont	14%	10%	9%	0%
Erie	2%	2%	2%	2%
Broomfield	3%	4%	4%	2%
Westminster	6%	3%	4%	1%
Arvada	1%	1%	3%	2%
Denver or other metro-area suburb	5%	7%	7%	0%
Berthoud/Loveland/Fort Collins	1%	0%	2%	0%
Weld County	1%	1%	3%	3%
Other	5%	3%	3%	0%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%