



Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

State of the Region 2010

Issue: People

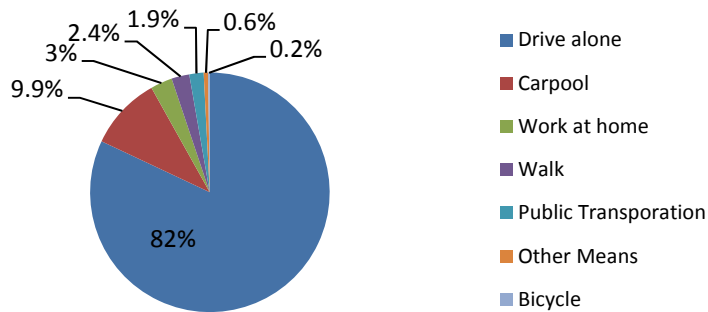
Metric: Commuting Methods

The vast majority of central Ohio residents drive alone to work. But alternatives are available, such as carpooling, public transit, walking, and bicycling. These methods are often cheaper, less stressful, and better for the environment than driving alone. MORPC's RideSolutions program offers benefits to people who carpool, bike, walk, or take buses to work, such as Guaranteed Ride Home, which assures that commuters will not be stranded. Last year, MORPC partnered with the City of Columbus and local cycling groups to produce a Columbus Metro Bike Users Map.

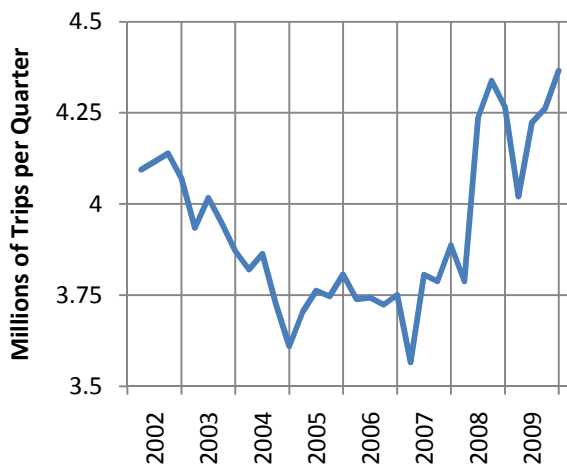
Mass transit ridership is on the rise in Central Ohio. Between 2008 and 2009, COTA (Central Ohio Transit Authority) ridership increased by over 200,000 trips, with a yearly total of 16.9 million. Other public transit agencies in the region include DATA in Delaware County, EarthWorks Transit and LCT in Licking County, and LPTS in Fairfield County.

This page shows some information about public transit and commuting methods in central Ohio. In 2000, Knox County had the lowest percentage of people driving alone to work (78%), while Delaware County had the highest (86%).

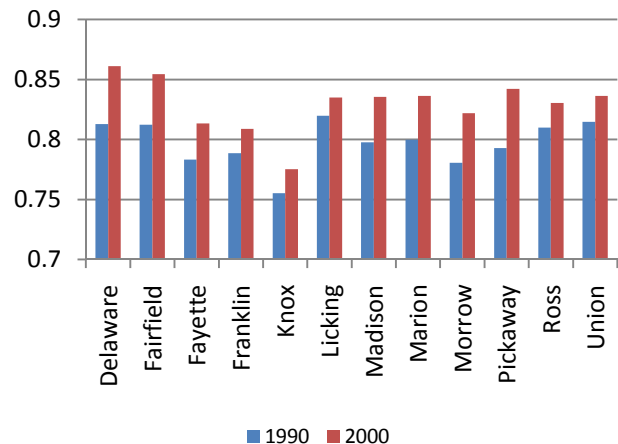
Commuting Methods in Central Ohio, 2000



COTA Ridership



Percentage of People Driving Alone to Work



Sources: [U.S. Census Bureau](http://www.census.gov)
[Federal Transit Administration National Transit Database](http://www.federaltransit.gov)

In central Ohio, a fair amount of commuting between counties takes place. At the time of the 2000 census, 77.1% of workers in the region lived and worked in the same county. While 22.9% worked outside their county of residence, 3.1% of workers residing in central Ohio were working outside the 12-county region.

The chart below shows the wide variation in the percentages of workers who are employed in their counties of residence. Only 33% of workers residing in Morrow County also work there, while 93 percent of workers who live in Franklin County work there.

