

The Barr Foundation Transportation Survey

Topline Results

Survey of 975 Kendall Square Association Employees

Field Dates: June 7 – July 13, 2021

How often have you worked from home during each of the following time periods?

	Every work day	2-3 times a week	2-3 times a month	Once a month or less	Never	Not an option for my work	Unsure
Before the COVID-19 pandemic	11%	10%	19%	21%	27%	10%	2%
During the pandemic	66%	13%	7%	3%	6%	5%	<1%

If given the option, how often would you prefer to work from home going forward as the state reopens from the pandemic?

Every workday	17%
A few times a week	51%
A few times a month	21%
Less than once a month	2%
Never	2%
Not an option for my work	6%
Unsure	1%

ASK THOSE FOR WHOM WFH IS AN OPTION

Has your employer asked employees for feedback on a plan to return to the office?

Yes	81%
No	12%
Unsure	7%

Has your employer given employees a date to return to the workplace?

Yes	43%
No	29%
We are already back in the workplace	19%
Unsure	9%

IF YES ASK:

When has your employer said that most employees will be back in the workplace?

June	7%
July	14%
August	5%
September	67%
October	<1%
November	0%
December	<1%
Sometime in 2022	1%
Unsure	6%

IF NO ASK:

Even though you haven't heard, when do you expect to return to the workplace?

June	7%
July	6%
August	6%
September	55%
October	5%
November	1%
December	1%
Sometime in 2022	8%
Unsure	11%

Would you like to see your employer offer each of the following policies as they reopen?

ROTATE ORDER	Yes	No	Unsure
Allowing immune-compromised employees or employees over a certain age to continue to work from home	89%	3%	8%
Offering staggered or flexible work hours	92%	3%	5%
Limiting the total number of employees in the workplace at any time	36%	44%	19%
Requiring all employees working in person to be vaccinated	66%	18%	16%
Requiring employees to wear masks in the workplace	15%	64%	21%

ASK THE FOLLOWING OF ALL EXCEPT THOSE THAT WORKED FROM HOME "DAILY" BEFORE THE OUTBREAK

Thinking back to before the COVID-19 pandemic (i.e., before March 2020), how often did you do each of the following as part of your commute to work? (If you work multiple jobs, please answer thinking of the job for which you commuted most often.)

ROTATE ORDER	Every work day	2-3 times a week	2-3 times a month	Once a month or less	Never	Not available for my commute	Unsure
Drive or ride in your own car	29%	9%	5%	10%	43%	3%	1%
Carpool or vanpool	2%	1%	1%	2%	88%	6%	1%
Take a taxi	<1%	<1%	1%	2%	92%	3%	1%
Take an Uber or Lyft	<1%	2%	5%	17%	72%	2%	1%
Ride a public bus (MBTA, Regional Transit Authority)	13%	8%	5%	10%	59%	4%	1%
Ride the MBTA subway	32%	14%	7%	9%	33%	4%	1%
Ride the MBTA commuter rail	12%	4%	1%	4%	70%	7%	1%
Take a ferry	<1%	0%	<1%	1%	82%	15%	1%
Ride your own bicycle	6%	9%	3%	4%	72%	5%	1%
Ride a shared bike (BlueBike, LimeBike, etc)	<1%	2%	2%	2%	86%	5%	1%
Walk	17%	9%	5%	9%	53%	6%	1%
Take a shuttle bus provided by your employer or a Transportation Management Association (TMA) your employer belongs to	3%	2%	2%	3%	76%	12%	2%

Thinking ahead to your work commute when your office reopens after COVID, how often do you think you will do each of the following? (If you work multiple jobs, please answer thinking of the job for which you commuted most often.)

	Every work day	2-3 times a week	2-3 times a month	Once a month or less	Never	Not available for my commute	Unsure
ROTATE ORDER							
Drive or ride in your own car	23%	20%	11%	9%	30%	3%	3%
Carpool or vanpool	<1%	2%	2%	2%	85%	6%	4%
Take a taxi	0%	<1%	1%	3%	91%	4%	1%
Take an or Uber, Lyft	<1%	2%	5%	12%	74%	4%	2%
Ride a public bus (MBTA, Regional Transit Authority)	5%	9%	6%	8%	63%	5%	4%
Ride the MBTA subway	14%	20%	10%	11%	36%	4%	6%
Ride the MBTA commuter rail	5%	6%	3%	6%	66%	10%	4%
Take a ferry	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%	77%	20%	1%
Ride your own bicycle	8%	10%	5%	4%	63%	8%	3%
Ride a shared bike (BlueBike, LimeBike, etc)	1%	3%	3%	4%	80%	7%	3%
Walk	11%	12%	7%	6%	53%	8%	2%
Take a shuttle bus provided by your employer or a Transportation Management Association (TMA) your employer belongs to	1%	2%	2%	4%	70%	17%	4%

If a transit agency or shuttle operator took each of the following precautions, how comfortable would you be commuting by transit as the state reopens?

	Completely comfortable	Pretty comfortable	Not too comfortable	Not comfortable at all	Unsure
ROTATE ORDER					
Require all staff and riders to wear masks	47%	34%	6%	4%	10%
Cleaning and disinfecting vehicles, platforms, and stations multiple times a day	45%	34%	8%	4%	9%
Providing real-time information about how crowded trains, buses and platforms are	46%	34%	7%	3%	10%
Providing assigned or reserved seating on shuttle buses	33%	27%	11%	5%	25%
Limiting passengers in vehicles, platforms, and stations to allow for social distancing	41%	37%	7%	4%	11%
Running more buses or trains to allow for social distancing	51%	33%	5%	3%	8%
Installing hands-free sanitizer dispensers on trains, buses and platforms	45%	33%	9%	4%	9%

Would you support the MBTA and other transit providers running trains and buses on a more consistent schedule throughout the day (every 15 or 30 minutes) rather than more service in the morning and afternoon and less during the middle of the day and at night?

Strongly support	36%
Somewhat support	26%
Somewhat oppose	14%
Strongly oppose	7%
Unsure	17%

Before the outbreak, did you own a monthly transit pass?

Yes	53%
No	45%
Prefer not to say	2%

IF YES ASK NEXT

Was your pass subsidized in any way by your employer(s)? Please check all that apply.

Paid for through pre-tax payroll deduction	42%
Employer paid for part of the pass	60%
Employer paid for all of the pass	14%
No, paid full price out of pocket	6%
Unsure	2%

Going forward, how likely are you to own a monthly transit pass, either purchased yourself or through your employer?

Very likely	26%
Somewhat likely	19%
Not too likely	23%
Not likely at all	31%
Prefer not to say	1%

How many cars does your household own or lease?

None	16%
One	44%
Two	32%
Three or more	9%

Since the start of the pandemic, did you buy, or are you considering buy, a first or additional car?

Bought a first or additional car	11%
Considering buying a first or additional car	9%
Neither	79%
Prefer not to say	1%

Does your employer(s) offer parking at work? If so, how is it paid for?

Yes, free parking	14%
Yes, discounted parking	70%
Yes, but I have to pay market prices	9%
No, it is not offered	3%
Prefer not to say	4%

Since start of the pandemic have done any of the following? Check all that apply.

Bought a bike (new or used)	13%
Fixed up an old bike	12%
Bought an electric bike	1%
Tried to buy a bike but was unable to	3%
None of the above	75%
Prefer not to say	1%

DEMOGRAPHICS

Race

White	71%
Black	3%
Latino	3%
Asian	14%
Other / more than one race	4%
Prefer not to say	4%

Age

18-29	26%
30-44	45%
45-59	21%
60+	5%
Prefer not to say	2%

Gender

Men	38%
Women	60%
Non-binary / some other gender	1%
Prefer not to say	2%

Education

High School or less	1%
Some college, no degree	4%
College graduate (BA/BS)	47%
Advanced degree	47%
Prefer not to say	1%

Income

Less than \$50,000	9%
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000	11%
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000	10%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	19%
\$150,000 to less than \$250,000	23%
\$250,000 or more	15%
Prefer not to say	14%

About the Poll

These results are from an online survey of 975 employees of members of the Kendall Square Association, collected June 7 – July 13, 2021. These responses were collected as part of a larger statewide commuter survey, which was distributed by business associations, chambers of commerce, and Transportation Management Associations across the Commonwealth. The project was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.