



Figure 1. Respondents' modes of commuting (126 responses)

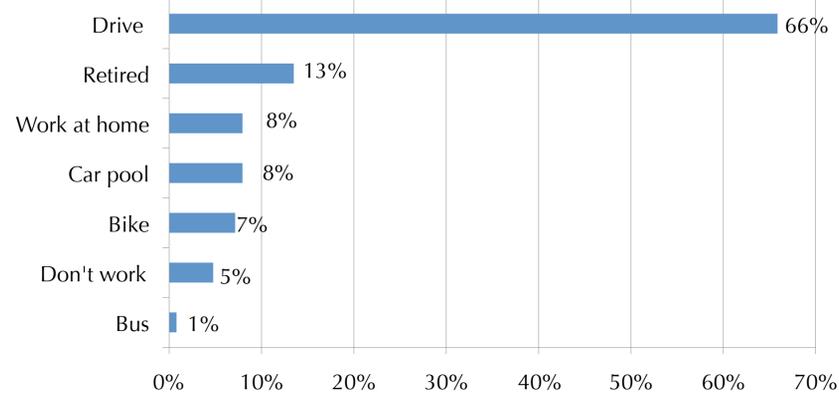


Figure 1 shows the modes of transportation that Mount Vernon respondents use to get to work. Eighty-two percent of study participants in Mount Vernon are employed. A clear majority (66%) drive alone, while 8% carpool. None of the respondents walk to work and 7% bike. Please note that some respondents indicated more than one mode; therefore, the percentages do not equal 100.

Table 1. Respondents' demographic information (107 responses)

	ISU survey	U.S. Census
Average age	52.0	36.6
Female	33.0%	53.2%
Male	67.0%	46.8%
Married	88.8%	51.5%
Single/divorced	9.3%	44.7%
Widowed	1.9%	3.3%

Preferred Commuting Routes

This map shows the commuting routes identified in the survey. Study participants who work out of town primarily go west on US Highway 30, south on Highway 1, north on Springville Road, and northwest on Mt. Vernon Rd. Some commuters take US 30 east and some go north on Highway 1. First Street W, College Boulevard, and 10th Avenue are heavily traveled, as many residents work at Cornell College.

The circulation patterns that emerge when survey participants' biking, running, walking, and commuting routes are overlaid are useful indicators of important areas where transportation enhancements may be employed. Such improvements could include reducing the conflicts between vehicular and pedestrian traffic by creating better visibility, defining crossing points, and improving signage.

Methodology

Mount Vernon has a population of 3,656. A random sample of Mount Vernon residents received postcards requesting that they complete the survey. The sample size desired was 337 responses, and a total of 102 surveys were completed, for a response rate of 17.9%. The demographics of the respondents are somewhat different from the actual demographics of Mount Vernon. The respondents' average age was 51, while the actual average age is 41.7 years old. Married people are over-represented in the survey (ISU –77.8%, Census – 54.7%), while divorced and widowed people are under-represented. Of the responses received, 81.4% or 83 were from the original random sample. The remaining 19 responses were self-selected—that is, the participants did not receive postcards.



Intersection of 1st St and 1st Ave. Source: Nicholas Gulick



Intersection of Hwy 30 and Hwy 1. Source: Robin Hamadani

Mount Vernon

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