

# Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) survey explanation

## 1. What is CTR?

CTR is shorthand for Commute Trip Reduction. It's a state law and program that focuses on reducing congestion and improving air quality. It encourages local governments (which we refer to as "jurisdictions") to develop programs that reduce drive-alone trips and vehicle miles traveled for CTR-affected worksites and employees.

## 2. Is CTR everywhere in Washington?

No. The CTR law affects Washington's nine most populous counties: Clark, King, Kitsap, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima. Employers in these counties participate if they have 100 or more full-time employees who begin work between 6 -9 a.m. These employers are required to have CTR programs that provide their employees with the tools, knowledge, and resources to explore their commute options. Statewide, there are around 1,000 worksites and over 600,000 employees who participate in the program.

## 3. What is the CTR survey?

The CTR survey helps employers understand the commute patterns of their employees so they can help improve their commutes. The survey also helps cities, counties, transit agencies, and the State understand commutes so they can make changes to improve commuting.

The CTR law requires WSDOT to report on CTR program performance every two years. The survey helps us understand and report reductions in air pollution and energy use, as well as monitor the effectiveness of CTR programs implemented at various worksites.

## 4. How will the results of the survey be used?

These surveys help your employer provide employees with better commute options. They provide data about what strategies are working, which ones aren't, and what might work better. Options an employer might provide include, but are not limited to:

- Allowing more flexibility for when people work (e.g., telework, compressed work weeks, more start and stop time options for shifts).
- Increasing transit pass subsidies.
- Having a car-share available for people who don't drive but need to run errands on their breaks or lunches.
- Installing bike racks and lockers to support an expanded interest in cycling to work and more.

## 5. Who will see these survey results?

Your survey data is anonymous and may be shared with your employer, jurisdiction, and state government, after combining your data with others at your worksite, company, city, county, or state. Results are shared at an individual commuter level.

When requested, the data may also be shared with transit agencies, community planners, research institutions (e.g., University of Washington, University of South Florida), and others to offer insights into mobility and help make decisions about how to best improve the transportation network.

6. Why do you ask me to specify an address or intersection near the beginning of my commute?

This allows us to calculate an average commute distance for everyone at the worksite. It also provides insight on what corridors employees (in general) are potentially using to get to work. This information can help the State improve system performance, reduce delays due to construction, and inform local and regional planning and transportation investments.

7. I am a virtual worker; why am I filling out a survey about commuting when I don't "commute"?

While it might not be the first thing you think of, we define a commute as how you get to *your work*, not just your workplace! In fact, telework is one of the best ways to virtually get to work while saving time, money, and wear and tear on the roads, as well as your vehicle. Teleworking is a valuable strategy for supporting CTR goals, and it is important to know how many people telework.

8. What about data privacy?

We do not collect any personally identifiable information. All stored data is encrypted and protected.

9. Anything else we should know?

The CTR program team really appreciates you for taking this survey! Regardless of how you get to work, it is important to have your commute represented in the data. It allows your employer to make the best decisions possible when thinking about mobility solutions.

Thank you for your help!