

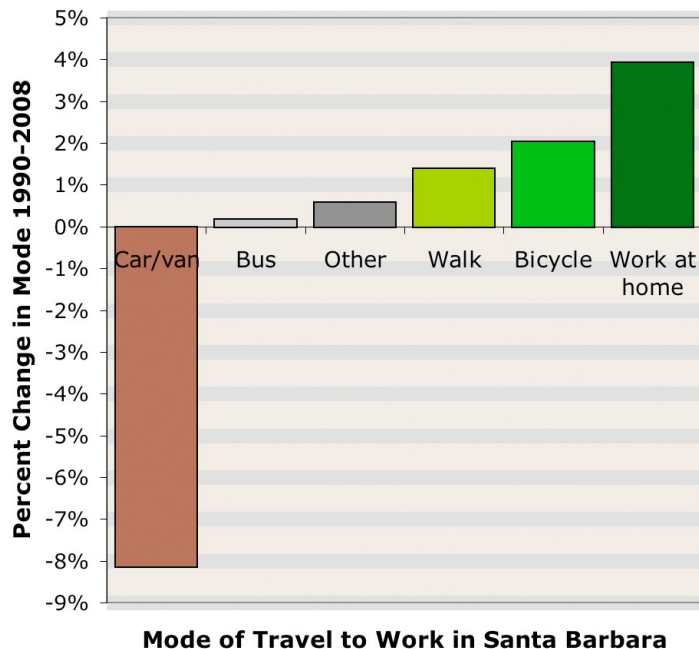
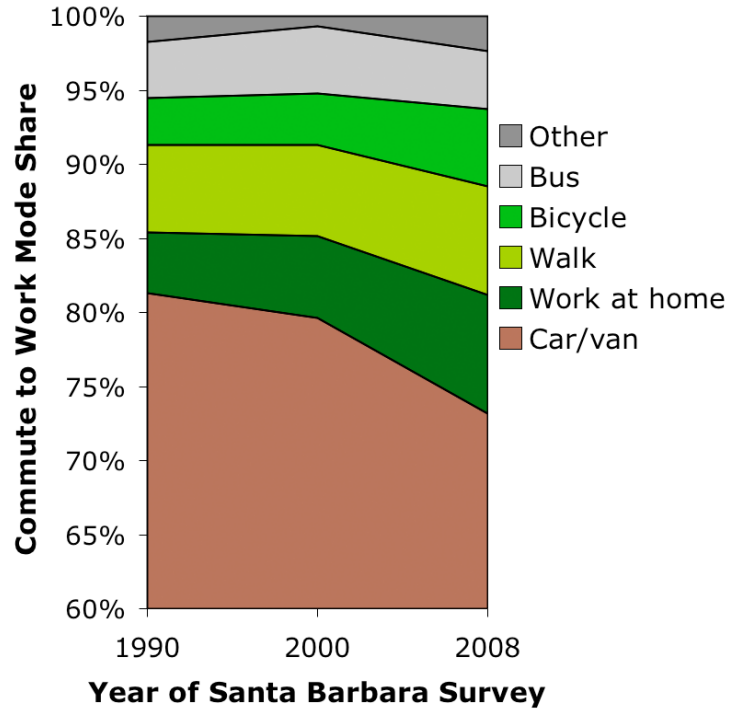
US Census data show that fewer Santa Barbara residents are driving to jobs. Instead, they're walking, biking and working at home.

In late September, the US Census Bureau released data for their 2008 American Community Survey. That new data, combined with US Census data from 1990 and 2000, gives us a clear picture of how people in Santa Barbara are changing how they commute to work.

Santa Barbara residents are driving less and replacing those trips with working from home, plus walking and bicycling to their jobs.

The graph at the right shows that between 1990 and 2000, modest changes in behavior took place. People drove less and instead worked more from home and took the bus. Changes accelerated between 2000 and 2008, as more Santa Barbara residents bicycled, walked, and worked from home. They drove less. The table has the Census percentages.

The graph below shows how city residents changed their mode of travel to work between 1990 and 2008. Over 8% are driving less, 4% have switched to working at home, 2% to bicycling, 1% to walking, and 1% to "other"—mostly motorcycling.



	Car/van	Bus	Other	Walk	Bicycle	Work at home
1990	81%	4%	2%	6%	3%	4%
2000	80%	5%	1%	6%	3%	6%
2008	73%	4%	2%	7%	5%	8%

The data used for this report come from two sources, both collected by the US Census Bureau, as follows:

US Decennial Census. Every ten years, the Census Bureau conducts the census in April. One out of every six households receives the "long form" that asks extra questions, including "How did you usually get to work last week?" to those 16 and older.

American Community Survey. Every year since 2005, the Census Bureau has conducted a survey of one out of every 35 US households. Questions include "How did you usually get to work last week?" for those 16 and older. Data for cities with over 65,000 residents are tabulated. While the smaller household sampling for a given year raises concerns about statistical reliability, averaging the data from 2005 to 2008 produces results similar to 2008 alone.

The data are available at <http://factfinder.census.gov>.



This report was prepared by the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition. We are a countywide nonprofit resource and advocacy organization that promotes bicycling for safe transportation and recreation. Learn about us at www.sbbike.org.