

# Star Local News

community news & voices

## News Update

### Collin County workers commute alone, farther than national average

[Print Page](#)

By Andrew Snyder,  
[asnyder@starlocalnews.com](mailto:asnyder@starlocalnews.com)

Published: Wednesday, March 6, 2013 12:03 PM CST  
 Traveling to work is a lonely task for Collin County workers, according to a study released Tuesday by the U.S. Census Bureau.



Photo courtesy of DART

The report looked at data from 2011 on the commuting trends of workers across the country, examining what kind of transportation they used and how long their commute lasted. Of the 408,974 workers in Collin County examined, 82 percent drove to work alone.

The average Collin County worker's one-way commute time of 27.2 minutes was higher than the national average of 25.5 minutes. The majority of residents work in the county, but the number who traveled outside its boundaries, 42 percent, is well above the one-in-four national average.

The study gave insight into where those workers are headed, showing that 142,042 county residents traveled to Dallas County for their jobs. That transfer of workers was the eighth-highest in the nation and trailed the split between Tarrant and Dallas counties by less than 500 workers.

"It is well-known that Dallas County draws a lot of commuters to work. The detailed information in the American Community Survey tells us where Dallas County workers are coming from, where its residents work, and how its commuting patterns compare to those of other large counties," said Brian McKenzie, a census bureau statistician, in a release about the study. "This information shapes our understanding of the boundaries of local and regional economies, as people and goods move across the nation's transportation networks."

The most popular time of day for Collin County workers to commute was between 9 a.m. and 11:59 a.m., and most have access to two or more vehicles. The highest percentage of workers spent 30 to 34 minutes traveling to work.

The study also included data on workers with **◆ megacommuters ◆** of at least 90 minutes and 50 miles. The census bureau found that 600,000 workers nationally make that kind of daily trip. Public transportation was a more popular option among those workers, with 23 percent of them using it to just 5.3 percent of total workers.

Only 1 percent of Collin County workers used public transportation.

"The average travel time for workers who commute by public transportation is higher than that of workers who use other modes," McKenzie said. "For some workers, using transit is a necessity, but others simply choose a longer travel time over sitting in traffic."

Copyright © 2013 - Star Local News

---

[\[x\] Close Window](#)