Employee Survey of Transportation  
August 1991

Employees of major employers in the Des Moines metropolitan area are being asked to participate in a study being conducted in the Des Moines area for the Iowa Department of Transportation. The purpose of this study is to identify attitudes and potential use of alternative commuting patterns in the community. Findings from the Employee Survey will help planners and engineers determine what improvements should be made to the transportation system serving your community through the year 2020. Your employer has made a commitment to this study and has provided us with this opportunity to contact you. Please do your part to support the study by completing the questionnaire and returning it to the designated location in your company.

In appreciation of employee participation, a drawing will be held for a $100 cash prize from among those employees returning the completed form and including their name and a daytime telephone number. Employees of Wilbur Smith Associates, the Dunbar/Jones Partnership, and their immediate families are ineligible.

Thank you for your assistance in this important local study. Your input can have an impact on the future of your community.

1. Work Site: 63 reporting employers (Total employee surveys = 14,481)

2. Home Location:  
   A. Please identify the zip code in which you live? (N=14,455) 213 reported zip codes
   B. What is your home address or the street intersection nearest you? NA

3. Travel Time:  
   A. Home to work? (N=14,394) Mean = 20.4 Minutes
   B. Work to home? (N=14,323) Mean = 21.9 Minutes

4. Work Schedule: Which schedule most closely approximates your current work schedule for Monday thru Friday? (N=14,438)  
   91% = Day shift  3% = Evening shift  2% = Night shift  4% = Irregular shift

5. Current Means of Transportation: (check all that apply) (N=14,481)  
   92% = Automobile  1% = Bicycle  9% = Metro Bus Service
   9% = Carpool or Vanpool  3% = Walking  1% = Other

6. I-235 Usage: Do you currently use I-235 to travel from: (N=14,081)  
   A. Home to work? 39% = Always or nearly always 7% = Sometimes or irregularly 54% = Rarely or never
   B. Work to home? 38% = Always or nearly always 9% = Sometimes or irregularly 53% = Rarely or never

7. Transportation Alternatives: Have you ever used any of the following alternatives for transportation to work? If yes, how often did you use this form of transportation? If improved or enhanced, would you be likely to use the following transportation alternatives to travel to work in the future? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)  

   Transportation Alternative a. Used in Past or Present b. Frequency of Use c. Would Use in Future  
   A. Bicycle 5% = Yes 1% = Daily 8% = Yes
   2% = 2-3 times per week 2% = 1-2 times per month

   B. Metro Bus Service 26% = Yes 13% = Daily 33% = Yes
   4% = 2-3 times per week 7% = 1-2 times per month

   C. Carpool or vanpool 29% = Yes 17% = Daily 38% = Yes
   5% = 2-3 times per week 5% = 1-2 times per month

8. Current Transportation Determinants: Which of the following factors most influences your decisions regarding transportation alternatives to and from work at the present time? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)  
   80% = Convenience 24% = Cost 26% = Weather 6% = Do not own a bicycle
   14% = Job requires a car 10% = Energy consumption 2% = Do not own a car 37% = Travel time
   49% = Home location 38% = Work location 26% = Bus route not available 16% = Other
9. **Future Transportation Determinants**: If initiated, which of the following factors might influence your decisions regarding transportation alternatives to and from work in the future? (check all that apply) (N=14,481)

- Greater convenience of public transit (i.e., additional routes, neighborhood transit stops) 44%=
- Equal employee subsidies for parking and transit (i.e., employer pays equal amount on parking and transit cost) 22%=
- Work rescheduling alternatives (i.e., different schedule or location) 18%=
- I-235 ramp metering (i.e., traffic signals for entrance ramps to regulate traffic flow) 9%=
- Energy consumption and air pollution concerns 26%=
- Greater housing availability in downtown Des Moines (i.e., convenience to job) 4%=
- Change in job requirements (e.g., car no longer required, different dress required) 13%=
- Availability of job site lockers, showers, bicycle storage, and bikeways 12%=
- Availability of rail transit system (commuter train) 24%=
- Greater availability of carpool or vanpool participants 23%=
- Special lanes on I-235 for busses and carpools 12%=
- Construction or improvement of new highways and local streets 22%=
- Improving traffic flows on major streets, such as Grand Avenue and University Avenue 27%=
- Increased cost of driving (e.g., increased cost for parking or gasoline prices of more than $2.50 per gallon) 41%=
- Greater congestion on I-235 20%=
- Other: Child care/errands/irregular hours/health reasons 7%=

10. **Demographics**: Please help us understand who you are by completing the remainder of this survey.

A. **Age at last birthday**: (N=14,224)
   - 8% = Under 25
   - 75% = 25 to 50
   - 16% = Over 50

B. **Sex**: (N=14,117)
   - 65% = Female
   - 35% = Male

C. **Marital Status**: (N=14,140)
   - 32% = Single (never married/divorced/widowed)
   - 68% = Married

D. **Educational level completed**: (N=14,204)
   - <1% = Less than high school
   - 9% = Technical degree
   - 23% = High school
   - 26% = 4-year college degree
   - 27% = Some college
   - 14% = Professional or graduate degree
   - 8% = No response

E. **Occupational category in which you work**: (N=13,813)
   - 16% = Managerial
   - 31% = Professional
   - 29% = Technical, sales, & administrative support
   - 2% = Precision production, craft & repair
   - 18% = Service
   - 4% = Operators, fabricators, & laborers

F. **Income (gross household income for 1990)**: (N=14,481)
   - 8% = Less than $15,000
   - 20% = $35,000 to $49,999
   - 21% = $15,000 to $24,999
   - 17% = $50,000 to $74,999
   - 18% = $25,000 to $34,999
   - 7% = More than $75,000
   - 8% = No response

Thank you for your participation. Please return your completed survey by __________ 1991 to:

If you wish to participate in the random drawing for the $100 cash prize, please complete the bottom portion of this form. The drawing will be held on or about September 15, 1991. The winner will be announced in the transportation study newsletter and in the Des Moines Register.

**Contest participant**: 71% = Yes