

# TRAFFIC

GETTING  
OUR REGION  
MOVING  
AGAIN

Traffic impacts all of us on a daily basis. Gridlock in the Seattle metropolitan area is among the worst in the country, and the region's continuing population and job growth will only increase congestion. Get the facts, and get on your way.

## 4th WORST COMMUTER STRESS INDEX IN THE US

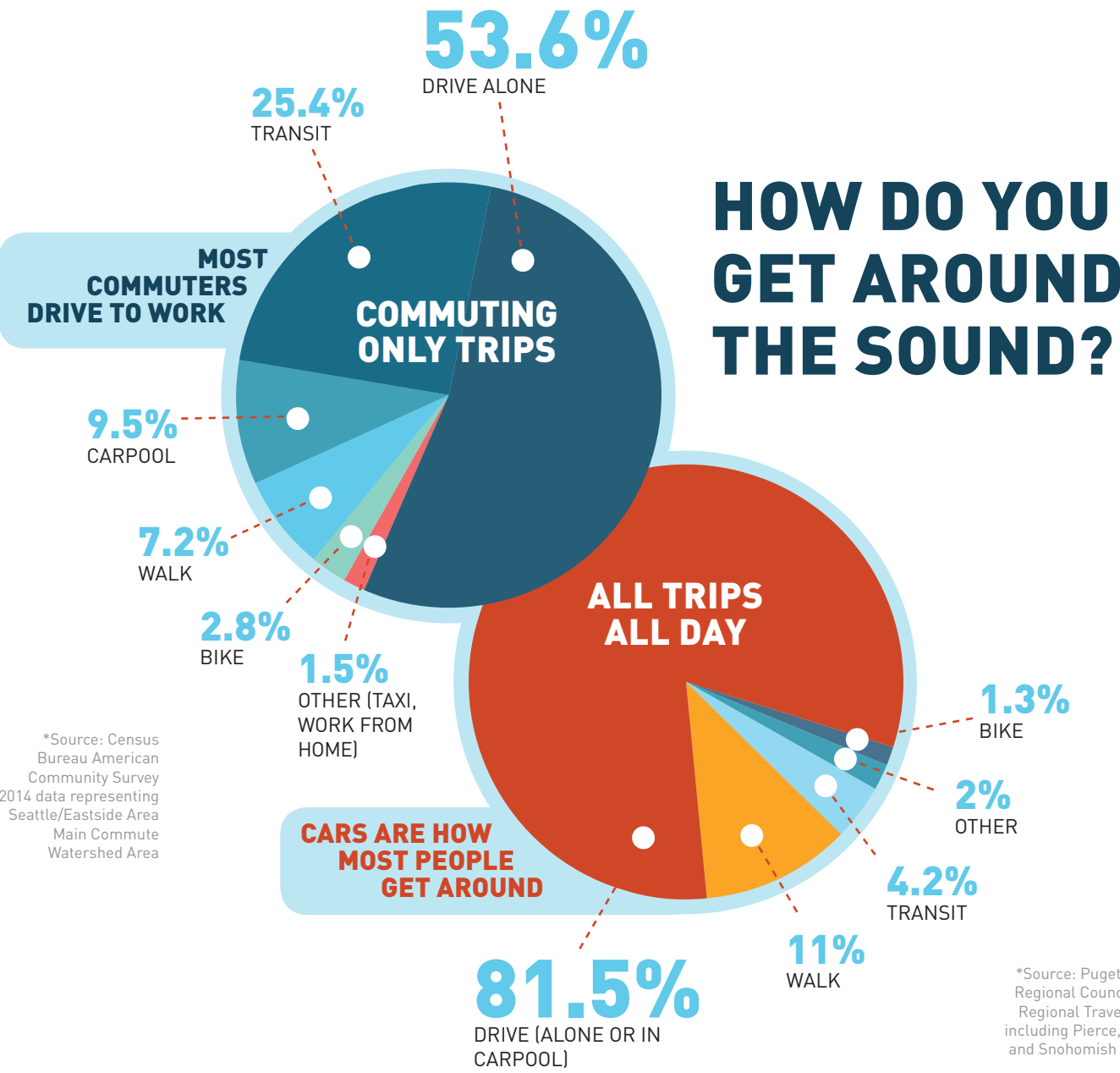
Seattle freeway commutes take 59% longer in the peak direction during peak times compared to the same trip at free-flow speeds.  
[Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute 2015 Urban Mobility Report]

## 66 HOURS

Seattle drivers lost 66 hours in traffic in 2015, as the 6th most-congested city in the country, right behind Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Houston and New York.  
[Source: INRIX]

## 2nd MOST BUS-RELIANT CITY IN THE COUNTRY

Seattle is the second most bus-reliant metropolis, after San Francisco. One in five commuters — 78,000 people — takes the bus to work.  
[Source: Seattle Times FYI Guy analysis of census data]



## DOWN THE ROAD

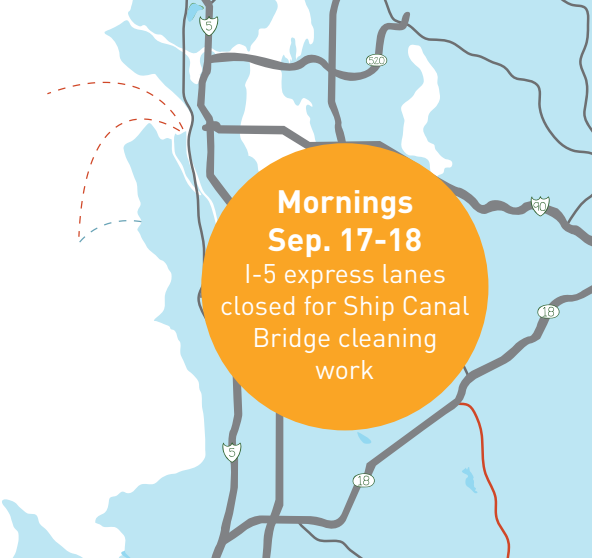
Transportation projects and their projected impact

### Signal improvements in Bellevue and Seattle

New traffic-network-control software is on the way for Seattle. The city is spending \$651,000 on a new system called Concert from tech firm Siemens to enable better signal-timing across the city and adapt to major incidents like freeway backups and stadium crowds. Bellevue already has signal-timing systems for 197 intersections, using software by TransCore. Learn more at <http://st.news/signals>

**11 p.m. Sept. 9 – 5 a.m. Sept. 12**  
Eastbound I-90 closed Seattle to Bellevue from Rainier Ave. South to East Mercer Way

**Mornings Sep. 17-18**  
I-5 express lanes closed for Ship Canal Bridge cleaning work



New technologies and ideas to improve mobility

## MOVING FORWARD



### Self-driving cars could be on roads in 5 years

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Chairman and CEO Sergio Marchionne says self-driving vehicles could be on the road in as little as five years. FCA and Google announced a partnership in May to work together to add self-driving technology to 100 Chrysler Pacifica minivans for testing purposes. It's the first time Google has worked directly with an auto company to install self-driving technology. The hybrid version of the Pacifica is being built for the partnership and will go on sale to the public at the end of this year. According to Business Insider, 10 million self-driving cars will be on the road by 2020.

[Sources: [seattletimes.com](http://seattletimes.com), Business Insider]



### ASK AN EXPERT

Bob Pishue, senior economist at INRIX, a Kirkland-based traffic-data and automobile-technology company

**Q What do you think is our region's best shot at traffic solutions?**

**A** Expanding roads reduces congestion, but is costly. Large shifts in transportation modes can also be expensive. We need to find ways to make the most impact with the least cost, such as car sharing. Partnering with the public sector is key — King County Metro runs the largest public vanpool fleet in the nation. Technology is already reducing congestion. Traffic lights in Bellevue now adapt to roadway conditions, a good example of how a small investment can pay off.