

The Cost of Commuting

A Look at How Transportation Costs Add Up

When thinking about an area's cost of living...

Most consider Housing
But forget about Transportation

Both are Major Living Cost Factors

72%
of an average income
goes toward housing and transportation

42%

30%

Affordability of Major Metro Areas

- Areas with the most affordable housing may not actually as affordable as you think
- Make sure to consider how much you'll be spending on day-to-day transportation and you'll see that the costs add up fast

By Housing*

most affordable
1. Pittsburgh

2. St. Louis

3. Cincinnati

4. Philadelphia

5. Minneapolis

6. Baltimore

7. Detroit

8. Houston

9. Dallas

10. Denver

11. Washington D.C.

12. Portland

By Housing & Transportation

most affordable
1. Washington D.C.

2. Philadelphia

3. Baltimore

4. Minneapolis

5. Boston

6. San Francisco

7. Pittsburgh

8. St. Louis

9. Denver

10. New York

11. Seattle

12. Cincinnati

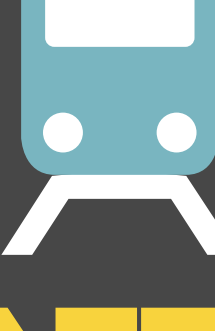
Some areas with high housing costs jump in affordability when considering their cheaper transportation costs



DC
Washington D.C.



SF
San Francisco



NY
New York City

#1

#6

#10

10

13

11

#11

#19

#21

Today, it's even more important
to consider possible savings

From 2000-2010, each of the top 25 metro areas witnessed housing and transportation costs rise faster than incomes

Ways to Save:



1. Use Public Transit

If you live in a large city, use public transit to save on gas. There's bound to be a bus or subway station within a short distance of where you want to go.



2. Commute by Bike

Buying and using a bike to get around saves money on gas, car payments, insurance, and also gives you an extra opportunity to exercise.



3. Car Pool

If you have co-workers that live in your area, car pooling is a great way to save money on gas as well as wear and tear on your car.



4. Car Sharing Services

If you really just need a car, car sharing services like Zip Car and I-Go provide low cost membership plans to borrow a car for short periods of time.



5. Drive Slower

Agressive driving, speeding, and abrupt starting and stopping can reduce your gas milage by 33%, or up to \$1.07 per gallon of gas wasted.



6. Telecommute

Some industries that do a lot of work online give employees the opportunity to work from home, or telecommute. Telecommuting saves loads on transportation costs.