

SJSU Transportation Solutions Fall 2008 Student Commute Survey Report

1 Survey results

Transportation Solutions (TS) completed its eight annual survey administered at the end of fall 2008 semester. This was TS's sixth online survey using zoomerang.com. The survey provided significant results that prove this department's effectiveness in reducing reliance on single occupant vehicles and meeting the modal shift targets.

The survey instrument was the same as the one used in the fall 2007 commute survey. The survey questionnaire was approved by TS grant source, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA Regional Funds).

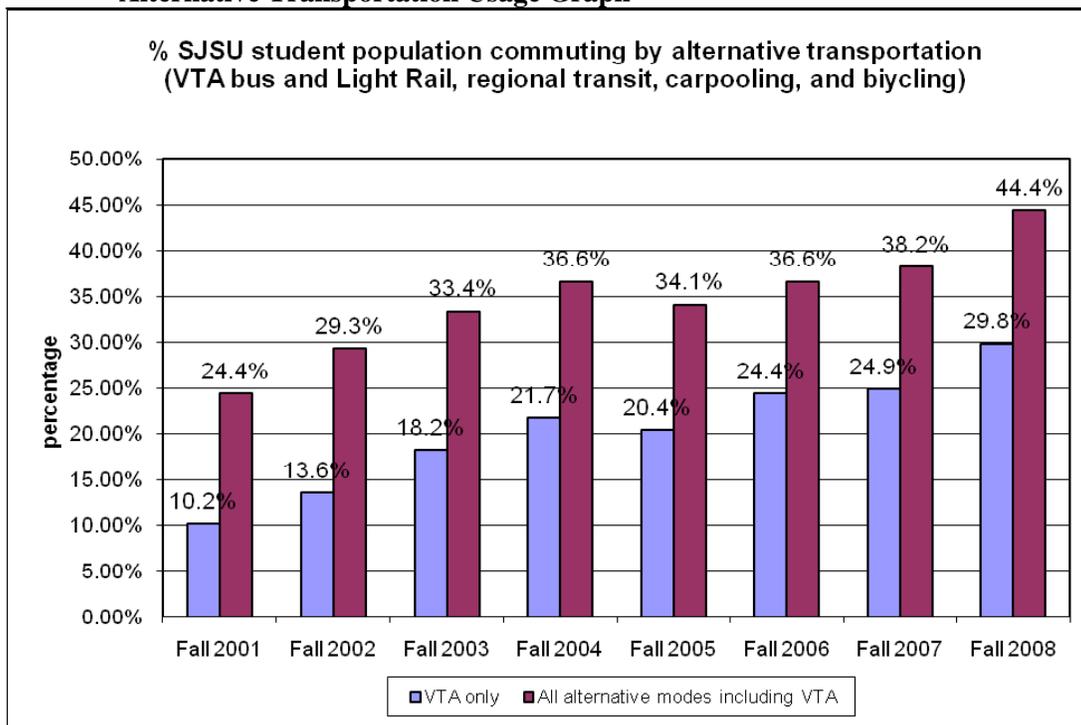
The survey was carried out from November 7 through 21, 2008. It was placed on the web and an email with the survey's link was sent to over 32,000 people, 4,075 participated with a response rate of 13%.

1.1 Analysis

This survey produced consistencies in all response ratios compared with the previous years' results. The overall alternative transportation usage increased by 6.2% from 38.2% in 2007 to 44.4% in 2008. Extrapolated over the population of 32,000, alternative transportation users were estimated at 14,208.

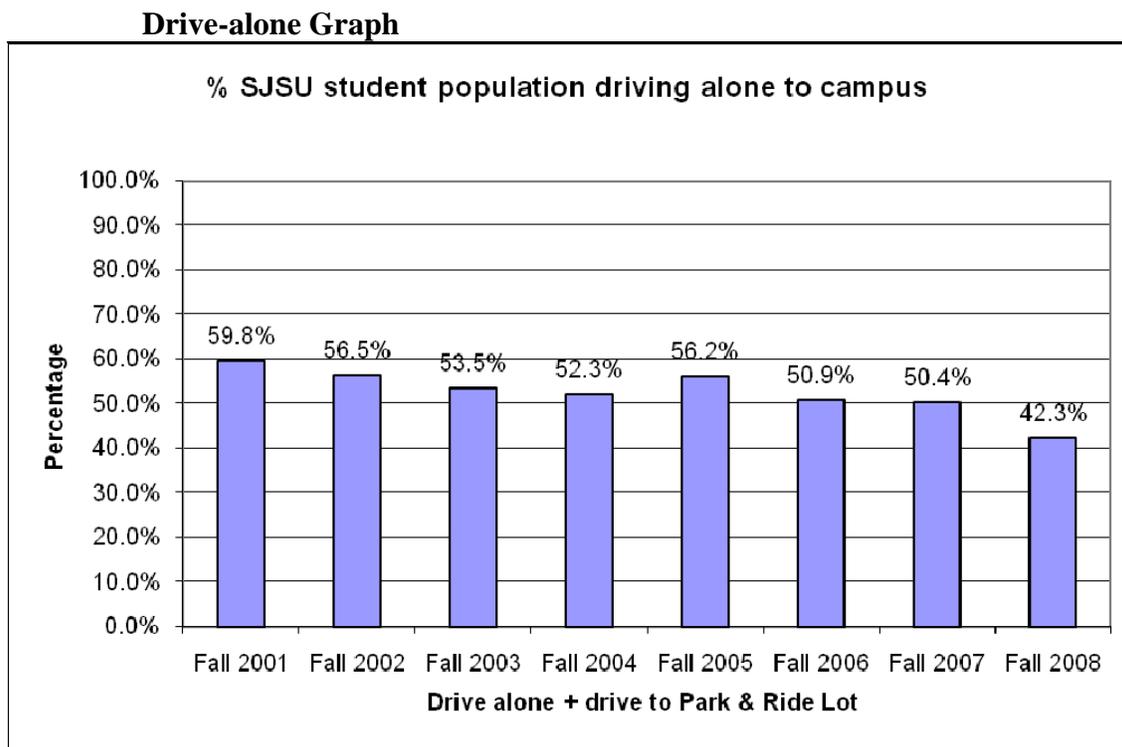
The local transit (VTA) ridership to campus increased to 29.8%, or 9,536 riders, a 4.9% jump since 2007. The last time a sharp increase in transit ridership (4%) occurred was in 2006, when VTA opened a new Light Rail line from Campbell to downtown San Jose.

Alternative Transportation Usage Graph



(Regional transit include: Caltrain, BART, Highway 17 Express, Altamont Commuter Express (ACE) train, Amtrak Capitol Corridor and Monterey-Salinas Transit)

The chart below shows the decrease in drive-alone rate to campus among SJSU students since fall 2001.



The solo-driving to campus decreased significantly from 50.4% in 2007 to 42.3% in 2008, an 8.1% drop. The high gasoline cost and the poor economy were most probably the main contributors to this trend. A major milestone was reached in 2008. It was the first time the drive-alone rate dropped below 50%.

The total transit users (local and regional) made up 35.5% or 11,360 people. Some of the other significant findings are as follows:

- a) Average frequency of travel to campus: 3.72 days per week, from the results of Question 4
- b) One-way trip distance (home to campus): 14.6 miles (average), from the results of Question 9. The TS GIS technician also calculated this average to be 14.12 miles using the student address data. This was done by running the student population address data through the GIS Network Analyst software application. It should be noted that the Network Analyst finds the shortest path between the student residence and SJSU.
- c) Number of days per week using transit/carpool/alternative commute mode: 3.7 days/week, from the result of q4xq5
- d) Mode of travel when not using transit:

The responses from Questions 5 provide the percentages for all the commute modes. Based on this, of the 32,000 students:

- 42.3% or 13,536 drive-alone,
- 6.4% or 2,048 carpool,
- 2.5% or 800 bike,
- 12.5% or 4,000 walk

- 0.9% or 288 use other modes
- e) Mode of travel prior to use of SJSU-Associated Students services: The results of questions 17 and 18, mode of transportation before and after using TS services, show TS effectiveness with 13.2 % decrease in drive-alone rate.
- f) Net reduction in vehicle trips to campus (based upon prior travel mode):
 Population 32,000 x 13.2% decrease in drive-alone = 4,224 cars x 2 trips/day = 8,448 trips/day

Other important results include:

- 48% of the new students use alternative transportation to campus (q2xq5), an 8% increase since 2007.
- 35% of the people who always have access to a car and 74% of the people who sometimes have access to a car choose to take alternative transportation to campus (q3xq5).

The following table provides the detailed results and analysis of the findings for each survey question:

1.2 Zoomerang Survey Results

San Jose State University
 Transportation Survey Fall 2008
 Response Status: 4,075 Completes & Partial
 Filter: No filter applied
 Nov 26, 2008 10:40 AM PST

1. Enter contact information for prize notification:	Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
3927 Responses	To 1 decimal point			

2. Is this your first semester at SJSU?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
Yes	1295	32%	31.7%	37.6%	33.8%	36.4%
No	2785	68%	68.3%	62.4%	66.2%	63.6%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

3. Do you have a car available for getting to San Jose State University (SJSU)?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Always	2934	72%	71.9%	74.9%	76.3%	79.7%
B. Sometimes	525	13%	12.9%	12.4%	11.7%	10.9%
C. Never	621	15%	15.2%	12.7%	11.9%	9.4%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

4. In a typical week, how many days do you come to SJSU?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. One day a week	217	5%	5.3%	5.8%	7.3%	6.5%
B. Two days a week	792	19%	19.4%	18.3%	18.8%	19.2%
C. Three days a week	573	14%	14.0%	14.1%	14.2%	13.7%
D. Four days a week	1375	34%	33.7%	35.3%	33.4%	33.6%
E. Five days a week	790	19%	19.4%	19.1%	18.6%	20.3%
F. Six days a week	113	3%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%	2.2%
G. Seven days a week	220	5%	5.4%	4.7%	4.8%	4.5%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Average frequency of travel to campus		3.72	Days per week			

5. In a typical week, which transportation mode do you mostly use to come to SJSU? (Mark only one mode you use in the longest part of your trip to campus)			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005	Fall 2004
A. ACE train	17	0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
B. Amtrak/Capitol Corridor/Thruway Bus	8	0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%
C. BART + connecting mode (e.g. VTA Bus 180/181)	46	1%	1.1%	0.7%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%
D. Bicycle	100	2%	2.5%	2.1%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%
E. Bus (VTA)	563	14%	13.8%	11.1%	10.2%	9.2%	11.6%
F. Light Rail (VTA)	651	16%	16.0%	13.8%	13.4%	10.5%	9.6%
G. Caltrain	96	2%	2.4%	2.2%	2.5%	1.9%	2.3%
H. Carpool with other SJSU students or employees	162	4%	4.0%	4.4%	4.0%	5.1%	5.9%
I. I get dropped off	101	2%	2.5%	2.4%	2.5%	2.7%	3.6%
J. Drive alone	1566	38%	38.4%	46.2%	47.3%	52.0%	47.4%
K. Drive to Park & Ride Lot and take SJSU Shuttle	159	4%	3.9%	4.2%	3.6%	4.2%	4.9%
L. Highway 17 Express bus	64	2%	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%	1.5%	1.4%
M. Monterey Salinas Transit bus line 55	3	0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%		
N. Motorcycle	28	1%	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%
O. Outreach (VTA)	8	0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
P. Skateboard/roller blade/scooter	20	0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
Q. Walk, (live on/near campus)	488	12%	12.0%	10.4%	11.3%	9.6%	10.2%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

6. If you selected VTA Bus in Question 5, please pick the Bus route you mostly use. If not, go to the next Question.			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
11	1	0%	0.1%			
22	67	10%	10.0%	13.4%	14.1%	12.7%
23	77	12%	11.5%	9.4%	9.2%	9.5%
63	25	4%	3.7%	3.3%	2.5%	2.6%
64	63	9%	9.4%	1.9%	1.9%	3.4%
65	4	1%	0.6%	3.1%	3.4%	4.4%
66	48	7%	7.2%	2.9%	3.8%	4.4%
68	10	1%	1.5%	2.6%	1.9%	3.0%
72	40	6%	6.0%	5.8%	4.8%	5.6%
73	57	9%	8.5%	8.0%	5.3%	4.8%
81	28	4%	4.2%	8.4%	9.4%	10.1%
82	4	1%	0.6%	1.0%	1.7%	2.2%
168	19	3%	2.8%			
180	55	8%	8.2%	18.5%	19.1%	17.5%
181	43	6%	6.4%			
304	1	0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
522	104	16%	15.6%	17.3%	17.9%	16.1%
DASH	22	3%	3.3%	2.7%	1.7%	2.0%
Total	668	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

7. Your trip to SJSU normally starts from:			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Home/dorm/current residence/friend or relative's house	3548	87%	87.0%	86.9%	86.3%	85.4%
B. Work	449	11%	11.0%	11.2%	12.3%	13.0%
C. Other location	83	2%	2.0%	1.9%	1.5%	1.7%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

8. Where do you go after leaving the University?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Home/dorm/current residence/friend or relative's house	3503	86%	85.9%	83.1%	83.6%	82.7%
B. Work	459	11%	11.3%	13.9%	13.2%	14.2%
C. Other location	118	3%	2.9%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

9. How far is your daily one-way trip to SJSU?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
less than 0.5 mile	386	9%	9.5%	8.7%	9.6%	7.4%
0.5 to 1 mile	184	5%	4.5%	3.6%	4.1%	2.7%
1 to 2 miles	180	4%	4.4%	3.5%	2.5%	2.7%
2 to 5 miles	398	10%	9.8%	8.7%	9.0%	8.5%
5 to 10 miles	932	23%	22.8%	24.2%	21.6%	22.8%
10 to 15 miles	684	17%	16.8%	17.0%	18.1%	18.4%
15 to 20 miles	329	8%	8.1%	9.0%	8.8%	9.3%
20 to 25 miles	222	5%	5.4%	5.9%	6.2%	6.0%
25 to 30 miles	167	4%	4.1%	4.5%	4.5%	4.9%
30 to 35 miles	156	4%	3.8%	3.9%	4.0%	4.4%
35 to 40 miles	144	4%	3.5%	3.1%	2.8%	3.2%
40 to 45 miles	67	2%	1.6%	1.7%	2.0%	2.1%
45 to 50 miles	69	2%	1.7%	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%
50 to 55 miles	58	1%	1.4%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%
55 to 60 miles	33	1%	0.8%	0.9%	1.4%	1.3%
60 to 70 miles	38	1%	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	1.0%
70 to 80 miles	8	0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%
80 to 90 miles	8	0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
over 90 miles	17	0%	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.8%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Average one way trip distance		14.6 Miles				

10. How long is your daily one-way trip to campus?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
less than 5 minutes	296	7%	7.3%	7.2%	8.1%	7.2%
5 to 10 minutes	365	9%	8.9%	7.8%	8.1%	7.8%
10 to 15 minutes	586	14%	14.4%	13.0%	13.1%	13.8%
15 to 20 minutes	655	16%	16.1%	17.3%	15.8%	18.5%
20 to 30 minutes	695	17%	17.0%	18.5%	18.2%	17.7%
30 to 40 minutes	469	11%	11.5%	12.2%	11.8%	11.8%
40 to 50 minutes	361	9%	8.8%	7.9%	8.4%	9.0%
50 to 60 minutes	235	6%	5.8%	6.0%	5.9%	5.1%
1 hr. to 1 hr. 15 mins.	207	5%	5.1%	4.3%	4.9%	4.3%
1 hr. 15 mins. to 1 hr. 30 mins.	91	2%	2.2%	2.4%	2.3%	2.0%
1 hr. 30 mins. to 1 hr. 45 mins.	45	1%	1.1%	1.4%	1.2%	1.2%
1 hr. 45 mins. to 2 hrs.	25	1%	0.6%	0.8%	0.9%	0.6%
2 hrs. to 2 hr. 30 mins.	21	1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
2 hrs. 30 mins. to 3 hrs.	14	0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
over 3 hrs.	15	0%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Average		30 Minutes				

11. If you come to the University by carpooling, bus or train (in Question 3), how do you get to your bus stop, train station or carpool location? If not, skip to Question 13.			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Walk/skateboard/roller blade/scooter	639	43%	43.1%	39.1%	39.8%	36.9%
B. Bicycle	70	5%	4.7%	4.5%	3.4%	3.4%
C. Bus/light rail/train/ferry	79	5%	5.3%	6.7%	6.3%	6.2%
D. Carpool	87	6%	5.9%	8.5%	5.8%	6.6%
E. I get dropped off	101	7%	6.8%	7.1%	7.0%	9.1%
F. Drive alone	505	34%	34.1%	34.0%	37.5%	37.6%
G. Motorcycle	2	0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.3%
Total	1483	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

12. How far do you travel to this bus stop, train station or carpool pick-up location (miles)?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
0 to 0.25 mile	492	31%	31.0%	29.6%	30.6%	32.0%
0.25 to 0.5 mile	222	14%	14.0%	15.3%	14.0%	14.9%
0.5 to 0.75 mile	104	7%	6.5%	7.0%	6.5%	6.0%
0.75 to 1 mile	145	9%	9.1%	9.5%	10.2%	9.4%
1 mile to 1.5 miles	139	9%	8.7%	7.4%	8.5%	6.6%
1.5 miles to 2 miles	99	6%	6.2%	5.9%	6.2%	5.2%
2 miles to 2.5 miles	64	4%	4.0%	3.7%	3.6%	3.8%
2.5 miles to 3 miles	62	4%	3.9%	3.3%	2.1%	3.5%
3 to 4 miles	45	3%	2.8%	3.6%	3.5%	3.2%
4 to 5 miles	48	3%	3.0%	3.6%	3.4%	4.1%
5 to 6 miles	38	2%	2.4%	1.8%	2.3%	1.5%
6 to 8 miles	27	2%	1.7%	1.5%	2.0%	2.5%
8 to 10 miles	36	2%	2.3%	2.5%	2.7%	2.1%
Over 10 miles	68	4%	4.3%	5.3%	4.4%	5.1%
Total	1589	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Average Distance 1.8 Miles

13. Do you know about "Spare the Air Days"?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
Yes	2817	69%	69.0%	69.6%	70.8%	59.9%
No	1263	31%	31.0%	30.4%	29.2%	40.1%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

14. If yes, do you use bus, rail, bicycle or carpool to campus because of an announced "Spare the Air Day"?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
Yes	962	31%	31.2%	31.6%	28.4%	23.9%
No	2126	69%	68.8%	68.4%	71.6%	76.1%
Total	3088	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

15. How did you first learn about the Transportation Solutions (TS) or any of the TS services? TS provides AS Eco Pass Sticker (VTA bus/light rail pass), trip planning, carpool matching, Bicycle Enclosure and TS website.			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Website	333	8%	8.2%	6.5%	6.6%	6.1%
B. Student Orientation	944	23%	23.1%	20.8%	21.6%	19.9%
C. Campus fair or tabling event	70	2%	1.7%	1.6%	1.9%	1.5%
D. Email	329	8%	8.1%	7.4%	9.7%	12.3%
E. Friend/classmate/colleague	608	15%	14.9%	14.3%	13.3%	11.9%
F. I was mailed a letter + brochure	1310	32%	32.1%	37.0%	34.6%	32.9%
G. Poster/sign/brochure	56	1%	1.4%	1.6%	1.1%	1.6%
H. Spartan Daily	27	1%	0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.5%
I. I don't know of Eco Pass Sticker or TS	403	10%	9.9%	10.2%	10.6%	13.5%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

16. Have you ever used any of the Transportation Solutions (TS) services, including the AS Eco Pass Sticker?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
Yes	2550	62%	62.5%	55.8%	53.6%	47.6%
No	1530	38%	37.5%	44.2%	46.4%	52.4%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

17. If yes to Question 16, how did you get to the University before using TS services or AS Eco Pass? If not, skip to Question 20.			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Bicycle	72	3%	2.8%	2.3%	1.7%	2.5%
B. Carpoled with students/employees	85	3%	3.3%	3.9%	3.6%	4.1%
C. I got dropped off	236	9%	9.2%	10.7%	9.7%	10.4%
D. I drove alone (including to SJSU Park & Ride and motorcycle)	824	32%	32.0%	32.5%	33.7%	34.2%
E. I was taking VTA bus/light rail before attending SJSU	360	14%	14.0%	12.8%	13.4%	12.9%
F. Regional train/bus (including Caltrain, Hwy 17 Express, ACE, Amtrak)	72	3%	2.8%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%
G. I lived on/near campus so I walked	420	16%	16.3%	14.9%	15.5%	13.3%
H. This was a new commute for me	510	20%	19.8%	19.8%	19.3%	19.5%
Total	2579	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

18. If yes to Question 16, how do/did you commute to the University after using TS services or AS Eco Pass?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Bicycle	85	3%	3.3%	3.3%	2.3%	2.8%
B. Carpool	69	3%	2.7%	3.2%	2.2%	3.5%
C. I get dropped off	85	3%	3.3%	3.4%	3.2%	3.9%
D. Drive alone (including to SJSU Park & Ride and motorcycle)	477	19%	18.8%	22.9%	22.7%	25.7%
E. VTA bus/light rail	1351	53%	53.2%	49.3%	49.8%	47.5%
F. Regional train/bus (including Caltrain, Hwy 17 Express, ACE, Amtrak)	111	4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.7%	4.6%
G. I live on/near campus so I walk	360	14%	14.2%	13.5%	15.0%	12.0%
Total	2538	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

19. If you use bus or light rail, or carpool to campus, select the THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT reasons for doing so (Mark no more than 3).		
A. Have no other way	547	25%
B. Ability to use Tower Card + AS Eco Pass Sticker	1203	54%
C. Because of "Spare the Air" Announcements	84	4%
D. Allows someone else to use the car	163	7%
E. Avoid traffic and parking hassles	1198	54%
F. Avoid paying for parking	1111	50%
G. Avoid paying for gas	1007	45%
H. Good for the environment	654	29%
I. Saves time	156	7%
J. I can read or study	338	15%
Other, Please Specify	107	5%

20. What is your employment status?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Employed full-time	765	19%	18.8%	18.9%	20.6%	21.2%
B. Employed part-time	1840	45%	45.1%	46.7%	46.7%	46.8%
C. Not employed	1475	36%	36.2%	34.4%	32.6%	32.0%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

21. If you're employed, where do you work?			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. On campus	310	12%	11.8%	10.7%	11.8%	8.8%
B. Within walking distance of campus (e.g. Downtown San Jose)	134	5%	5.1%	4.1%	4.1%	3.8%
C. Off campus (e.g. outside of Downtown San Jose)	2181	83%	83.1%	85.1%	84.1%	87.4%
Total	2625	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

22. What is your class level:			Fall 2008	Fall 2007	Fall 2006	Fall 2005
A. Freshman (Generally 1st year)	509	12%	12.5%	13.3%	11.5%	11.8%
B. Sophomore (Generally 2nd year)	280	7%	6.9%	7.3%	7.7%	8.7%
C. Junior (Generally 3rd year or newly transferred student)	1089	27%	26.7%	27.0%	25.7%	30.1%
D. Senior (4 or more years)	1064	26%	26.1%	22.2%	25.1%	22.3%
E. Second Baccalaureate	80	2%	2.0%	2.5%	2.2%	2.3%
F. Credential	120	3%	2.9%	3.7%	3.1%	3.6%
G. Master's or higher	888	22%	21.8%	22.4%	22.9%	20.1%
H. Open University/continuing education/extended studies/SAL	44	1%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%	1.0%
I. Non student - employee	6	0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
Total	4080	100%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

23. If you don't take transit (bus, Light Rail, train), what are the reasons? select THE THREE PRIMARY reasons.		
A. Service too slow/not fast enough	1553	67%
B. Require transfers	703	30%
C. There is no service near me or no service at the times I commute to campus	984	43%
D. Concerns about personal safety	654	28%
E. Concerns about cleanliness, or general comfort	561	24%
F. Service is not reliable (transit not running on time)	608	26%
G. Transit is too expensive	127	5%
H. I don't know about the transit options or how to use transit	430	19%