

SOC Questionnaire and Respondent Survey-Taking Behavior Changes

2025 vs 2022

During the development of the 2025 State of the Commute (SOC) questionnaire, questions were added to or removed from the 2022 questionnaire to maximize data utility while also aiming for the survey to be shorter for respondents. Seven questions were added and 28 were removed, for a net change of 21 fewer questions in 2025 compared to 2022. This has led to a reduction in the median length of time it takes respondents to complete the questionnaire, from 15:30 minutes in 2022 to 12:50 minutes in 2025 (as of May 15, 2025). The mean length of time was reduced from 20:24 in 2022 to 15:57 in 2025 (as of May 15, 2025).

Many questions in the survey are shown to respondents based on their previous responses (e.g., carpoolers are asked how many people are in their carpool, but this question is not asked to non-carpoolers). Because of this, adding or removing questions can lengthen or shorten the survey for either a very small percentage of respondents, all the respondents, or somewhere in between. The tables below show the questions added and removed for the 2025 questionnaire and the percentage of respondents who saw each question (for added questions, these percentages were determined from 2025 data up to and including May 15, 2025, and for removed questions, they were from the total 2022 sample).

Questions Added

New Questions in 2025 SOC Questionnaire	% of 2025 respondents who have seen the question as of May 15, 2025
For how long have you been self-employed with your primary work location at home?	2.7%
Has your employer recently announced and/or implemented a “return-to-office” (RTO) policy that requires employees who previously worked some or all workdays remotely to commute to your employer’s designated worksite more or all workdays?	96.5%
How many days per week does the return-to-office policy require employees to commute to this worksite?	45.5%
Currently, how often do you commute to a workplace, spend part of your normal workday working there, then the rest of your normal workday working at home or other remote work location?	58.9%
At what time do you typically leave work? If your schedule varies, please select what is most typical.	86.4%
Which of the following public transit improvements would be the most likely to increase your use of transit for your trip to work? Please select up to three.	29.1%
Did any of the following factors influence your decision to make this change in your home or work location?	40.7%

Questions Deleted

Questions Removed from 2025 Questionnaire (Compared to 2022)	% of 2022 respondents who saw the question
When you are working from home, how often do you make a trip during your usual work hours for work purposes (e.g., meeting/appointment)? How often do you make a personal trip (e.g., errand/appointment, meal) during your usual work hours?	34.6%
You mentioned using Uber or Lyft (or a similar service) for some of your trips to work. Which of these ride-hailing services do you use for these trips? Select all that apply.	0.9%
On the days that you ride UberPool, Uber Express Pool, Via, Lyft Shared Ride, or Lyft XL to or from work, how many people, including yourself, but excluding the driver, usually ride in the vehicle?	0.04%
The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted work schedules and work places for many people. Is your current work situation or commute different in any of the following ways, compared with the time before the pandemic began in early 2020? Select all that apply.	92.6%
You started teleworking since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. How significant a factor was the pandemic in your decision to start telecommuting/teleworking?	50.9%
Did you receive any telecommute/telework information from Commuter Connections or from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments?	66.0%
Interstate highways or major U.S. or state routes do you use on your trip to work?/On days that you drive or ride to work in a personal vehicle, what Interstate highways or major U.S. or state routes do you use?/If you were to drive to work, what Interstate highways or major U.S. or state routes would you use?	10.5%
Is there a special HOV (High Occupancy Vehicle) lane, toll lane, or express lane along your current route to work (or the route you would use if you drove to work)?	58.8%
Which HOV and/or toll/express lanes do you use to get to or from work?	9.1%
How much time (in minutes) does the HOV or toll/express lane save you in your one-way trip to or from work?	9.1%
Do you know the locations of Park 'n Ride lots along the route that you take to work?	62%
How significant a factor was the coronavirus pandemic in your decision to stop riding transit for your commute?	8.2%
How significant a factor was the coronavirus pandemic in your decision to stop carpooling/vanpooling for your commute?	2.2%
Would you say your commute is easier, more difficult, or about the same now as it was one year ago?	62%
Where was your previous work location?	16.2%
Have you moved to a different residence in the last two years?	97%
Where was your previous residence location?	25%
What factors did you consider in your decision to make this home or work location change?	33.8%
How important to your decision was the length or ease of getting to work compared to the other factors you just mentioned?	32.7%
Did the change shorten either the distance or time from your home to work/to where you would work if you were not working at home?	33.8%
Was on-site parking free before the pandemic?	42.9%
Have you used any of the following types of travel or trip information services or mobile applications? Select all that apply.	100%
You might have heard of self-driving cars, also known as driverless cars or automated vehicles. These are cars that can sense their surroundings and drive themselves. How familiar are you with the concept of these vehicles?	100%
What concerns, if any, do you have about driverless cars?	100%
How interested would you be in using a driverless car in the following situations or conditions? Please use a scale from 1 (not at all interested) to 5 (very interested).	100%
In the past year, did your household buy, lease, or acquire any motor vehicles?	93.4%
Last, is your household's total annual income...?	100%
(Consolidated from two-part question to one, with the question below)	
Which category best represents your household's total annual income?	57.6%
(Consolidated from two-part question to one, with the question above)	