

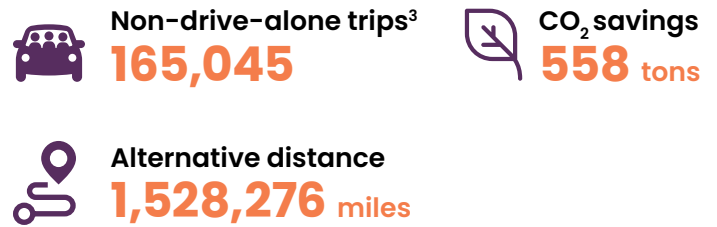
The Oregon Department of Transportation’s (ODOT) Transportation Options Program, known as “Get There,” helps reduce congestion and emissions by encouraging Oregonians to use transportation options (TO) rather than drive alone. Get There is supported by partner organizations across Oregon who manage local TO programs and provide education and outreach. A central element of the program’s success is a digital tool called Get There Connect, which is a free resource to the public and employers across the state. Get There Connect can be used to plan trips, form carpools, log trips and track metrics, and receive rewards for using transportation options.

In 2020, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic caused major changes to how Americans work and spend their time, and how they travel. Many people who had commuted by transit chose to travel by car out of fear of virus exposure. Between 2019 and 2021, work-from-home rates tripled, while transit ridership dropped by half. Presently, all public health mandates have been lifted, and most Oregonians have returned to a level of trip making that is comparable to pre-pandemic levels<sup>2</sup>. Nevertheless, the global pandemic has left long-lasting changes in how and when Oregonians travel.

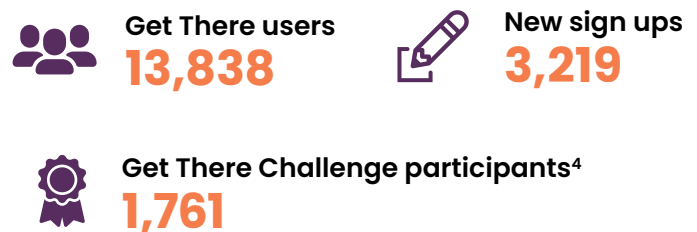
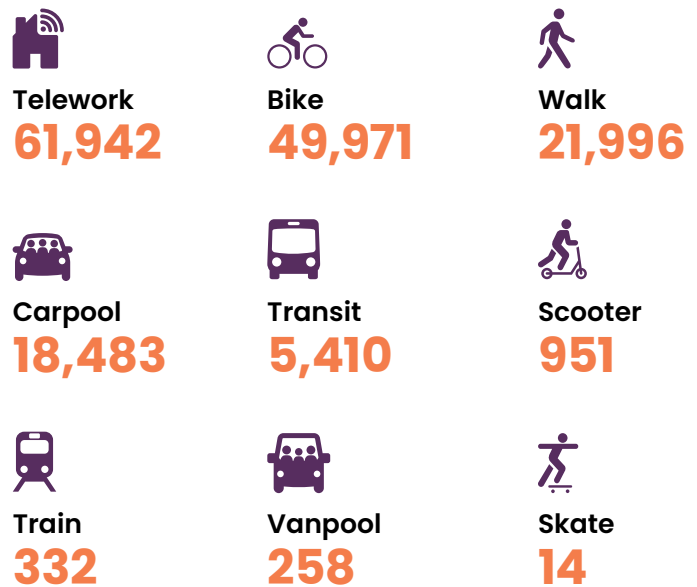
In response to changing trip patterns, Get There continues to provide timely information that connects Oregonians to transportation options that meet their needs. The number of Get There Connect users continues to increase, and the number of trip logs for bike, walk, carpool, transit, and electric or kick scooter all increased. While the percentage of shared-mode trips logged in Get There Connect is lower than pre-pandemic levels, they are higher than 2021 metrics, which indicates more Oregonians returning to transit and other shared modes. In 2023, we anticipate increasing levels of travel, especially as more employers welcome employees back to workspaces. The project team plans to continue efforts to build Get There’s user base, and help employers, employees, and the public connect to smarter commute choices.

## 2022 Get There Connect Key Metrics

Based on trips logged between January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022



## # of Trips Logged by Mode



# Oregon Get There Challenge

Each October, ODOT hosts a 14-day statewide challenge to encourage Oregonians to try out new ways to get around. Participants can earn points for the chance to win prizes by logging trips and completing up to 11 educational activities and challenges (“achievements”) related to transportation options. Stories shared by participants are a testament to the Challenge being a motivating event that encourages participants to try transportation options or use transportation options more often.



## 2022 Challenge Stats



7,584

achievements completed



28,323

trips logged



767

new users from Oct. 2–Oct. 16

Nearly 640 participants took a post-Challenge survey. The Challenge received positive feedback, including:

There was a

17%



reduction in the number of participants who plan to drive alone to work or school following the Challenge

There was a

5%



increase in the number of participants who plan to bike or take transit to work or school following the Challenge

69%



of participants felt the Challenge motivated them to use other ways of getting around besides driving alone

51%



of participants felt that they gained or improved upon their safety and/or transportation skills

## Participant Quotes



Get There is a fun way to learn and compete your way to a less car-dependent society. Thank you for organizing and the support!



Get There motivated me to finally try riding the bus, and I'm really glad I did. The buses are great, and I'm planning to use them to go to and from work a lot now.



The Get There Challenge was recommended to me by a coworker and I had a lot of fun. It encouraged me to take alternative transportation and loved to see how much it saved me and helped the environment!



<sup>1</sup> <https://usafacts.org/articles/how-did-the-covid-19-pandemic-change-america-according-to-new-census-data/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.bts.gov/covid-19/daily-vehicle-travel> and <https://www.nwnewsnetwork.org/transportation/2021-12-01/highway-traffic-has-almost-returned-to-pre-pandemic-levels-but-transit-still-way-down>

<sup>3</sup> Non-drive-alone trips include bike, carpool, transit, train, vanpool, walk, electric or kick scooter, skate, telework, and compressed work week.

<sup>4</sup> An annual statewide challenge to encourage Oregon residents and employees to try out non-drive alone modes of travel.