Walking and cycling during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

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## Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic led to a transformation in how people travel.

We administered two representative online surveys in the winters of 2020-21 and 2021-22, receiving over 2,400 responses.







Two surveys of New Jersey residents, encompassing over 2,400 people.



Walking



Cycling



Working from home

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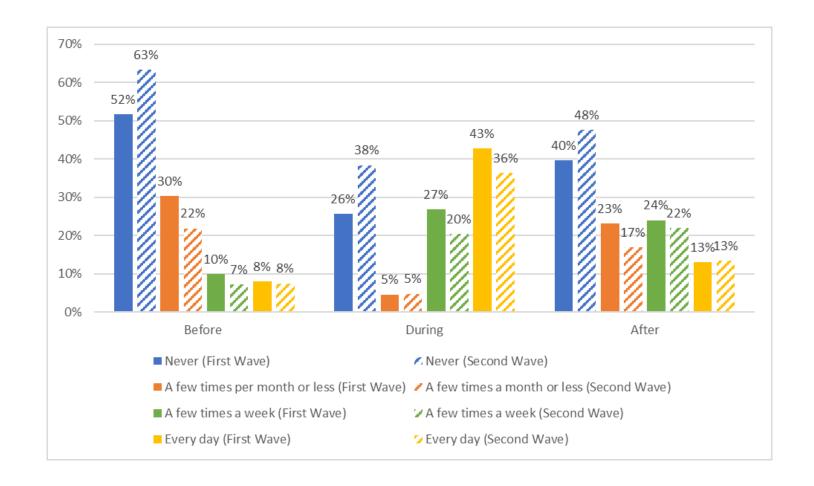
Walking

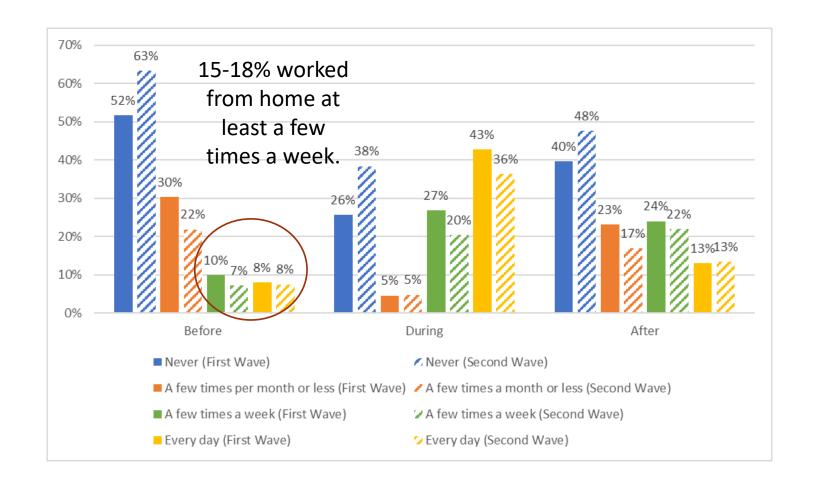


Cycling



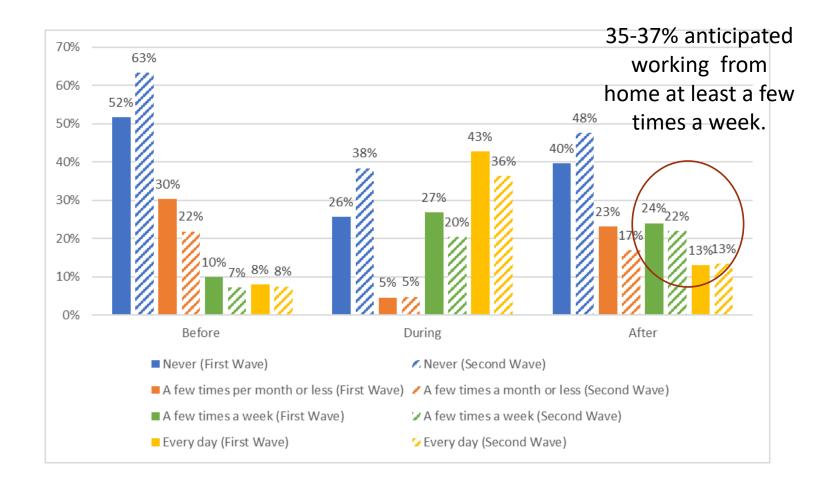
Working from home

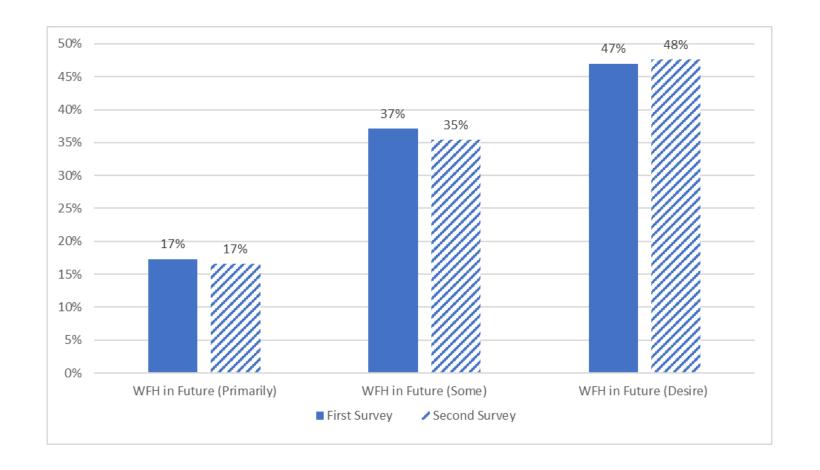




### from home at 70% least a few 63% times a week. 60% 48% 50% 38% 40% 27% 30% 24%22% 20% 10% Before During After ■ Never (First Wave) Never (Second Wave) ■ A few times per month or less (First Wave) / A few times a month or less (Second Wave) ■ A few times a week (First Wave) ✓ A few times a week (Second Wave) Every day (First Wave) > Every day (Second Wave)

56-70% worked





# Working from home in the future

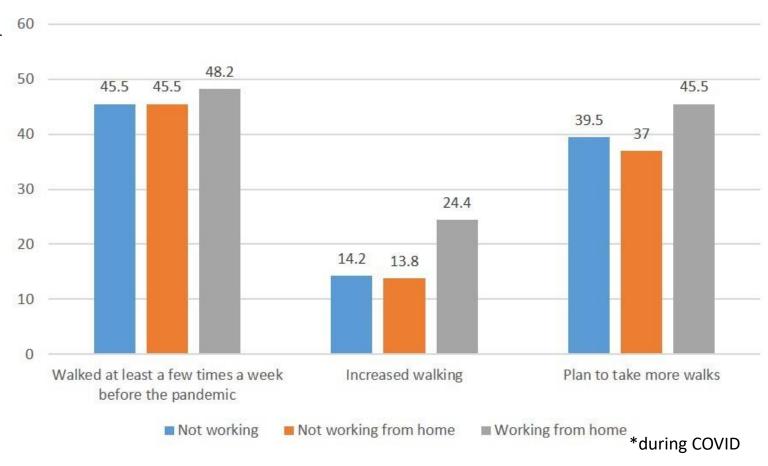
# Walking and working from home

People who increased walking during the pandemic were more likely to work from home.

Other factors:

Age (younger than 50)

Household income (earn \$100,000+)





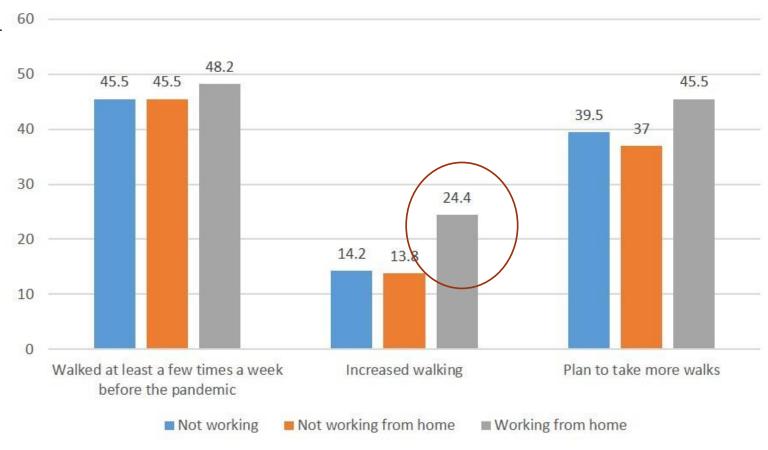
# Walking and working from home

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Other factors:

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### Cycling and Working from Home 35 33 25 22 20 20 15 12 10 Increased cycling Intend to cycle more in the future ■ Not working ■ Not working from home ■ Working from home

# Cycling during COVID

Increases in cycling have not been evenly distributed.

The largest increases in cycling were reported among the COVID "work from home" population

Non-workers tended to be retired, thus older in age compared to the working population.

Having the ability to work from home was a determinant of cycling during/after the pandemic.







# More on cycling

Men were more likely to increase cycling during COVID

Having children at home (under 18) was associated with increased cycling

Pedestrian and cyclist improvements were positively associated with cycling

 Yet, more than 75% of worldwide street closures and other measures were not made permanent by 2021.





### Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour Volume 99, November 2023, Pages 71-82



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## Conclusions

Street closures, pop-up bike lanes, and other COVID infrastructure measures had a positive relationship with cycling.

Active travel has increased primarily among COVID-19 teleworkers.

Will this trend persist even as people return to work?





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https://findingspress.org/article/78110-working-from-home-and-walking-during-and-after-covid

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S136984 7823002000?dgcid=author

https://findingspress.org/article/75441-what-do-peoplewant-to-do-instead-of-commuting-to-work



