

Climate Impact of Driving to School



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- Did you know that 50% of middle and high school students are still driven to school alone in a single car?
- A recent study indicated that these trips consume / generate approximately:
 - 160,000 gallons of gasoline
 - 4,000,000 lbs of Carbon Dioxide!!!
- For Comparison the Average Home in Cupertino emits 16000 lbs in a an entire year!



Details of the Carbon Impact Estimate

- The analysis is meant for illustrative purposes only
- The inputs were derived from the
 - Walk-Bike Cupertino website
 - Surveys conducted by the Safe Routes to School Organization
 - other public sources
- Methodology:
 - A representative distance to school was selected for each neighborhood
 - Google maps was used to calculate the travel distance and time for a car and bike
 - The number of gallons of gasoline required to drive to and from school was estimated, including time in congested roadways
- The analysis includes an estimate of the % of electric and hybrid vehicles owned by Cupertino residents and % of students driven in a carpool



Assumptions / Spreadsheet Example

Assumptions						Results										
Avg Wait (min)	15	% Driven to School	50%	School Days	180	Gallons / Year	160,372	Avg yearly emissions per cupertino resident				8	tons co2/yr			
Auto Mileage / Gal	22	% Electric / Hybrid	14%	% Car Pool	17%	tons co2/yr	2,157.00	Amount due to School Drop Off Only				0.62				
CO2 / Gallon (lbs)	26.9	Idling Gas (Gal/hr)	0.7	# kids in CP	2			% Reduction Possible				7.7%				
				# trips / car	4.0											
Neighborhood	Middle School	High School	Total Number of Students		Number of Students Driven to School		Number of Students in Carpool		Dist to MS	Drive Time to	Bike Time to	Dist to HS	Drive Time to	Bike time to	Gallons / Year	tons co2/yr
			Middle School	High School	MS	HS	MS	HS								
Greenleaf	Lawson	MontaVista	150	174	75.0	87.0	25.5	29.6	1.1	5	6	1.3	6	14	26979.7	362.88
3 Oaks	Kennedy	MontaVista	44	122	22.0	61.0	7.5	20.7	1.8	6	10	1.8	6	8	15442.6	207.70

The analysis can easily be adjusted to set an appropriate baseline and track CO2 Emission Reductions