

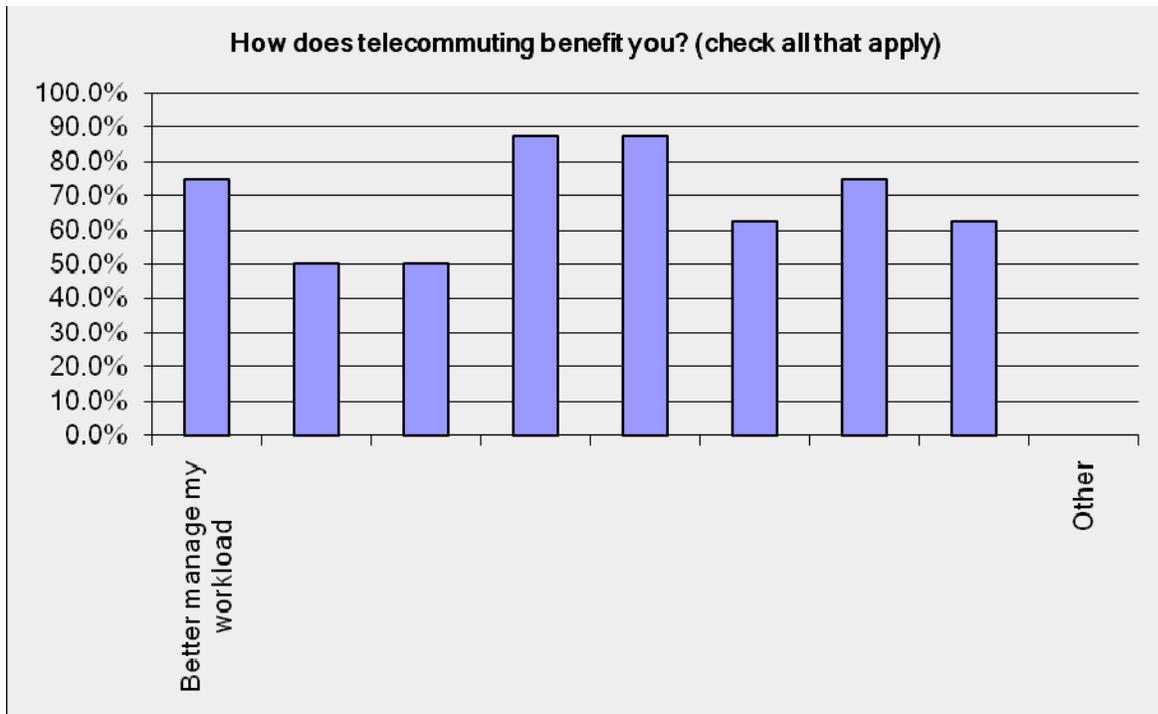
Telecommuter Survey Summary

In July 2010, Macalester College worked with eWorkplace Minnesota to evaluate three departmental teleworking pilot projects. The College's Sustainability Office worked with eWorkplace to develop a survey for the telework participants and non-teleworking staff in the same department.

The survey results show that telework significantly increased productivity by offering a time free of office distractions to work on projects. Supervisors in the pilot project also noted a more streamlined work flow because telework days were scheduled. Below is a summary of the survey results. Please contact the Sustainability Office with questions (sustainability@macalester.edu).

Benefits of Telecommuting

How does telecommuting benefit you? (check all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Better manage my workload	75.0%	6
Better balance work and life	50.0%	4
Less work stress	50.0%	4
Have fewer distractions and interruptions	87.5%	7
Productivity is increased	87.5%	7
Enhanced ability to meet deadlines	62.5%	5
Need for timely writing and reports to be completed	75.0%	6
Eliminate commute to work	62.5%	5
Other	0.0%	0
	<i>answered question</i>	8
	<i>skipped question</i>	0

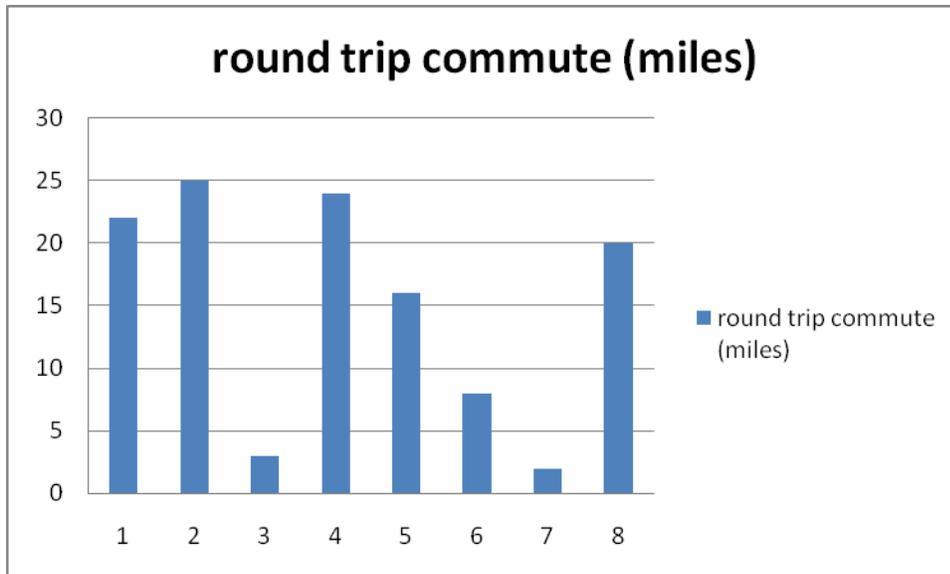


In the survey 87% of the respondents answered that the benefit of telecommuting was fewer distractions and interruptions as well as an increase in productivity. The next highest response rate (75%) was “better manage my work load”. Smaller numbers (62.5%) answered “enhanced ability to meet deadlines” and “eliminate commute to work”. Half of the respondents noted “better balance work and life” and “less work stress”.

The largest benefit was the ability to focus and lack of distractions and interruptions, mentioned 6/8 times in the survey (75%).

The respondents noted that interruptions still happen when working in the office with the door shut (62%).

The telecommuters typically had schedules of once a month or once a week. 75% had a regular schedule and 25% telecommuted as needed. The telecommuters collectively save 150 commuter miles each time they telecommute. The average commute is 15.5 miles. 75% of the telecommuters drive alone when not telecommuting. Most of the telecommuters work from home.



Six of eight telecommuters keep in touch with the office via email to make sure that service expectations are met. All telecommuters would like to continue telecommuting. All respondents recommend telecommuting for other departments.

Non-telecommuter Survey

The non-telecommuters in the offices noted either no change in the quality of the telecommuter's work or an increase in quality of work. Five out of six respondents noted no change in communication with telecommuters and one out of five noted communications challenges. When asked about challenges, half of the respondents noted no challenges, half noted communications, extra back up, and walk-in traffic. The challenges were addressed by telecommuters checking email. When asked whether they would recommend telecommuting 5/8 said yes, 1/8 said no and 2/8 other.