

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Seattle, with a large snow-capped mountain (Mount Rainier) in the background. The city is surrounded by dense green forests and a large body of water (Lake Washington) in the foreground. The sky is clear blue with a few clouds.

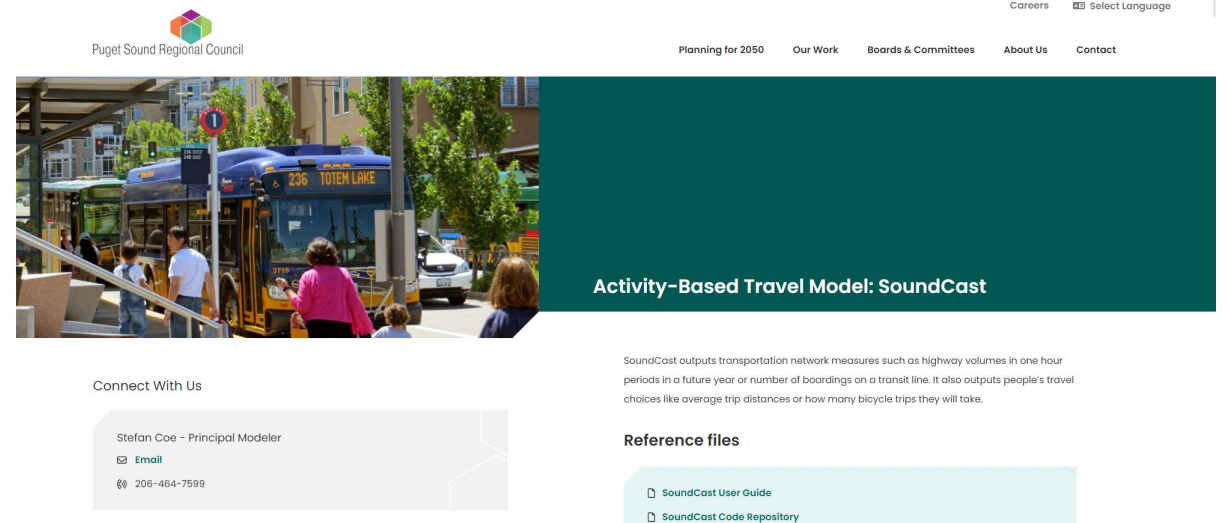
# Forecast Products

Transportation Operators Committee

October 2022

PSRC develops forecasting tools and products for use in the Regional Transportation Plan, VISION updates and that support local planning

- Macroeconomic Forecasts
- Land Use Forecasts (LUV products)
- Travel Demand Models (SoundCast)



Updates for these tools are generally connected with Regional Products like VISION & the RTP

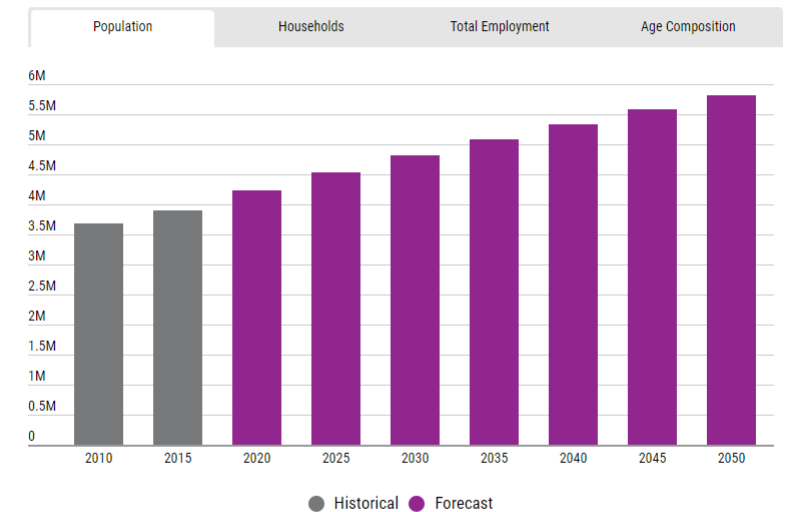


PSRC has a regional macro-forecast tool that estimates large scale macro-economic activity

- Regional level estimate of Population, Households and Jobs for use in more detailed modeling.
- Current forecast is from 2018 and was the basis for both VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan.
- Updated every 4 years or as conditions warrant
  - Current update is still pending as we await a “new-normal” but is slated for **Spring 2023**
- PSRC is considering purchasing a product (from a company like REMI, Woods & Poole or PSEF) due to the extreme sensitivity of forecasts due to COVID.

[View the 2018 Regional Macroeconomic Forecast on PSRC's Data Portal](#)

## Regional Macroeconomic Forecast



Source: PSRC, Regional Macroeconomic Forecast. Note: Years 2010 and 2015 are historical estimates. Years 2020 through 2050 are forecast estimates.

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PSRC uses its Land Use Model (UrbanSim) and local target setting to establish land use forecasts for use in detailed modeling

- Land Use Vision Products are released every 5 years and reflect the latest demographic assumptions for use by local jurisdictions in Comprehensive Planning and are consistent with the latest Regional Growth Strategy.
- Current Product is due out in **Winter 2023** and will replace the current Land Use Vision Product (LUV2) for use in local planning
- The LUV2 product is still based on VISION 2040 and as such we highly encourage agencies to work with us if the need modeling inputs sooner than this winter

## Projections for Cities and Other Places

With the adoption of VISION 2050 on October 29, 2020, plans are in the works to revise PSRC's Land Use Vision growth projections for counties, cities, and other communities to reflect the updated Regional Growth Strategy as well as forthcoming countywide Growth Management Act (GMA) growth targets being developed to align with VISION 2050.

In the interim period while new projections are being developed, PSRC staff are available to provide technical assistance for planning studies and analyses that require small-area population, household, and employment growth assumptions. Please contact **Mark Simonson** for more information.

### Geographies available upon request:

Counties | Cities | Census Tracts | Forecast Analysis Zones (FAZs) | Transportation Analysis Zones (TAZs) | custom geographies

### Other Forecast Products

PSRC also produces a [regional forecast](#).

PSRC has versions of the Land Use used for VISION 2050 & the RTP that are available for agencies to use now and many agencies have requested and used them in their work.

## PSRC uses its Activity Based Model SoundCast to analyze the Regional Transportation Plan

- SoundCast is updated continuously but major releases are every 4-years for use in the RTP
  - Each release is re-estimated using the latest Household Travel Survey (for the RTP it was the 2017/2019 surveys)
  - Models are calibrated and validated using survey results, traffic counts, travel times and transit boardings by mode and operator
- Household Travel Surveys are timed to provide information at a reasonable time to estimate changes in travel behavior.
  - The 2023 Household Travel Survey will be the basis for the first RTP with “post-COVID” travel behavior in it.

### Mode Share

By the year 2050, single-occupant vehicle (SOV) mode shares to work are forecast to decrease to approximately 52%. Reductions in SOV mode share are accompanied by increases in walking, biking and transit, which in 2050 are forecast to account for approximately 32% of all work trips made in the region, up from 17% today.

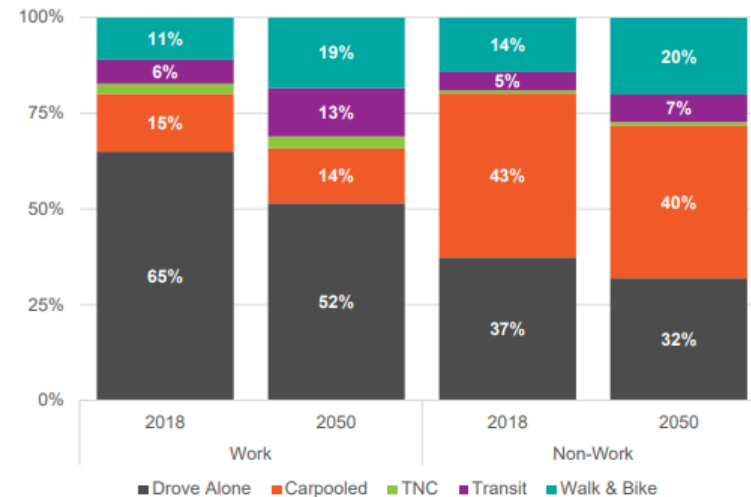


Figure 5. Mode Share for Work and Non-Work Purposes

SoundCast is always the most current tool reflective of the Region’s long-range planning



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