

California town is tops in the U.S. for commuting

Tessa McLean

SFGATE, SAN FRANCISCO

The share of supercommuters — people who travel more than 90 minutes to get to work — is rising across the nation, but it may be rising fastest in California.

The bottom half of the state is spending the longest time on the road. A new study analyzing U.S. Census data, released by Apartment List, found that Southern California had more than 300,000 supercommuters in 2022 — more than any other region in the country. In recent years, as residents have moved to outlying towns surrounding Los Angeles seeking more-affordable housing, commutes have shot up in tandem.

Palmdale ranked as the No. 1 supercommuting town in the U.S., with 16.9% of residents making the long trek on a regular basis. Hesperia and Apple Valley, two midsize San Bernardino County towns northeast of Los Angeles, also ranked high on the list, coming in at No. 3 (with 14.6% of residents supercommuting) and No. 5 (with 13.2% of residents supercommuting) respectively.

Victorville, known for its booming population, also ranked in the top 10, with 11.8% of people supercommuting. Lake Elsinore, Hemet, Temecula and Lancaster — all towns surrounding the L.A. metro — also came in in the top 20.

Many California towns more than doubled the national average of 2.7% of residents who supercommute. The San Francisco Bay Area came in just above this average, with 3% of all commuters making a supercommute. But many surrounding counties had a much higher proportion of supercommuters — people who are driving from well outside the Bay Area's nine counties to the SF metro area. These included Lake (10%), San Joaquin (10%) and Stanislaus (8%) counties.



PHOTOS COURTESY KEITH COLGAN

Club Science Director David Voit directs students Christopher Robertson and Matthew Thompson on proper launch techniques during the Lodi Amateur Radio Club Field Day event.

Lodi Amateur Radio Club holds Field Day event

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-SENTINEL

The Lodi Amateur Radio Club held its Field Day event on the Thompson Ranch in Lodi on Saturday, an annual emergency preparedness exercise that simulates conditions when telephone and internet communications are not available (typically during wildfires, major earthquakes, destructive storms, floods, and volcano eruptions.)

By erecting field antennas for use with battery-powered transceivers, the club exchanged practice messages between other Field Day partic-

ipants throughout the United States.

In addition, club members launched a small amateur radio communications balloon that should circle the earth several times before it either loses lift or is destroyed by a \$500,000 sidewinder missile.

Telemetry from the balloon on Sunday afternoon indicated it was peacefully flying along at 92 mph over the Great Lakes at an altitude of 46,000 feet in 14 degree temperatures on its way to Europe. For more information about the club, visit www.lodiham.org



Club member Craig Thompson shows his son, Matthew, real time tracking information from the balloon he had just helped to launch.