

## **Takeaways from a series of surveys and interviews conducted by the Atlanta Regional Commission and Georgia Commute Options**

Prior to the pandemic, telework at many companies was an informal arrangement and often depended on managers' attitudes. And even if they were open to the idea, many companies lacked formal policies that would have made expectations for telework clear. Those concerns were pushed aside in March when COVID-19 cases began roiling metro Atlanta workplaces. Many schools and businesses shuttered even before Gov. Brian Kemp formally ordered Georgians to shelter in place in April.

*94% of executive leaders surveyed by Georgia Commute Options in April said that telework was the main reason they have been able to continue business operations.*

### **Among its findings:**

- Commuters reported working from home an average of 4.6 days a week in April, up from 0.8 days a week before the pandemic.
- The majority of those surveyed wanted to return to the office part time but work from home more than they did before the pandemic. On average, they wanted to work at home 2.5 days a week.
- Nearly 70% of employers surveyed said more of their employees will work from home in the future, and 23% said more will work from home on a full-time basis. One in 5 said they may reduce the physical size of their workplaces as a result.

**Among the benefits cited:**

- Saving money and reduced stress from not commuting, having more time to spend with family and sleeping more.
- Far more respondents said they were more productive than less productive working at home. And employers have noticed.