

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release September 9, 2020

Contact: Bri Westbury
Office: 972-618-3800
Cell: 972-265-4234
Email: bri@ccar.net

Collin County, Texas, Appears Among NAR's List of Top "Work from Home" U.S. Counties

PLANO, Texas — Collin County, Texas is one of the top "Work from Home" counties in the United States, according to a new report from the National Association of Realtors measuring several factors of increasing relevance amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

NAR's <u>2020 "Work from Home" Counties</u> report examined the current share of workers already working from home in more than 3,000 U.S. counties, along with several factors expected to support the remote work trend, including: internet connectivity, the percentage of workers in office-related jobs, home affordability, urbanization, and a county's population growth.

NAR's top 10 "Work from Home" counties are:

- #1 Forsyth County, Georgia
- #2 Douglas County, Colorado
- #3 Los Alamos County, New Mexico
- #4 Collin County, Texas
- #5 Loudon County, Virginia
- #6 Hamilton County, Indiana
- #7 Williamson County, Tennessee
- #8 Delaware County, Ohio
- #9 Broomfield County, Colorado
- #10 Dallas County, Iowa

"The coronavirus pandemic greatly accelerated the number of workers who are able to work from home," said NAR Chief Economist Lawrence Yun. "Possibly a quarter of the labor force may be permitted to work from anywhere outside of the office even after a vaccine is discovered—compared to only 5% prior to the pandemic—and this will greatly change the landscape of where people buy homes."

NAR assigned "Work from Home" scores for 3,142 U.S. counties. The top 30 counties, all of which have at least 5,000 households as of 2019, represent about 1% of all counties. Texas led all states with seven counties among the top 30. Virginia was second with four, followed by Colorado and Georgia with three each, and Florida and North Carolina with two apiece. The following states had one county each within the top 30: Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Utah.

"Most of Collin County offers strong internet connectivity, homes large enough to have a designated work space, and green areas to stretch your legs when it's time to take a break—the commute has really lost its shine," said David Long, Collin County Association of Realtors President.

The growing number of people working remotely also impacts commercial real estate, particularly the office sector, with future office sizes and locations potentially changing as a result.

"The commercial real estate outlook appears uncertain as office spaces may get smaller and organizations consider moving from having a central business district headquarters to several suburban satellite offices," Yun said. "However, in the retail sector, one can reasonably expect to see some growth in the number of smaller stores in the top 30 counties coming at the expense of similar establishments near downtown office buildings."

View NAR's 2020 "Work from Home" Counties report here: https://www.nar.realtor/research-and-statistics/research-reports/work-from-home-counties.

The Collin County Association of Realtors (CCAR) is the fifth largest real estate association in Texas, with a membership base of 9,000. A source for professional and reliable real estate information in North Texas, CCAR is affiliated with Texas Realtors and the National Association of Realtors.

###

CCAR is affiliated with Texas Realtors and the National Association of Realtors. Statistical data in this release, as well as other tables and surveys, are posted in the "Research and Statistics" tab at www.nar.realtor/newsroom. For more information about CCAR, visit www.ccar.net or call 972-618-3800.