

ECONOMIC IMPACTS

“Public transportation is poised to play a crucial role in our nation’s economic recovery from the global pandemic. Investment in public transportation drives growth, attracts development, and creates transit-oriented communities. Predictable, long-term investment in public transportation is critical to our nation’s future global competitiveness.”

- APTA President and CEO Paul P. Skoutelas

INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Public transportation is a \$80 billion industry. In 2019, passengers traveled 56.1 billion miles.
- Every \$1 billion invested in public transportation supports and creates more than 50,000 jobs and \$382 million in tax revenue.
- Every \$1 invested in public transportation generates approximately \$5 in economic returns.
- Every \$10 million in operating investment yields \$32 million in increased business sales.
- Nearly 6,800 organizations provide public transportation in the United States.
- An estimated \$43.1 billion of public transit expenditures flow into the private sector.
- 45% of Americans have no access to public transportation.
- Public transit operations are funded by a combination of fares, agency earnings, and financial investment from state, local and federal governments.

PROVIDING ACCESS TO JOBS

- An estimated \$39 billion of public transit expenditures flow into the private sector.
- More than 448,000 people directly employed by public transit agencies and received \$31.5 billion in compensation in 2020. Public transit also supports millions of private sector jobs.
- 87% of public transit trips directly benefit local economies, either providing job access or connecting people to retail and recreational venues.
- 71% of public transportation riders across the country are employed and 7% are students.
- Most transit user households (77%) include one or more working persons.
- In fact, 21% of U.S. households that earn at least \$100,000 per year ride public transportation.
- 13% of U.S. households have incomes of less than \$15,000, but among transit-using households, the comparable figure is 21%.

INCREASING PERSONAL SAVINGS

- An individual in a two-person household can save an average of nearly \$10,000 per year by taking public transportation instead of driving and by living with one less car.
- The average household spends 16 cents of every dollar on transportation, and 93% of this goes to buying, maintaining, and operating cars, the largest expenditure after housing.
- Home values were up to 24% higher near public transportation than in other areas. Hotels in cities with direct rail access to airports raise 11% more revenue per room than hotels in those cities without.
- 89% of transit riders are in the most economically active age group - ages 25-64, compared with 53% of the U.S. population.
- Millennials consider public transportation the best option for digital socializing and among the best for connecting with communities.

RIDERSHIP

- Public transportation is available in every state and Americans took 9.9 billion trips on public transportation in 2019.
- More than two-thirds of riders walk to their stop or station.
- Quarterly report of transit passenger ridership for U.S. and Canadian transit agencies show an 85% growth in passenger trips in second quarter of 2021 (1,125,319) vs. 2020 (606,947).