

# Safety & Security Trends



The safety and security of passengers, employees and the general public remains top priority.

## By the Numbers

- Available nationwide, public transit provides about 10 billion trips annually on 5,600+ stations; however, there is a \$105 billion backlog of good repair needs.
- In 2022, 125x more highway fatalities (42,795) vs. transit.
- Public transit is 10x safer than cars.
- Cities with more than 40 annual public transit trips/person have half the fatality rate vs. those with fewer than 20 trips/person.
- Public transit reduces crash risk by more than 90%.
- Security cameras on buses increased to 84% in 2020 (from 53% in 2010) and 55% of rail stations had cameras in 2018.

## Cybersecurity

- Cyberattacks pose a serious threat as public transit control and management systems grow more IT dependent. Transit systems must proactively address cybersecurity risks holistically through operations, people and facilities.
- Physical manipulation of systems is a real concern, not just software attacks. Hardware manipulation includes infrared/laser devices, Wi-Fi jamming, and cable damage.
- Cyber threats also include the risk of data breaches, especially as 47% of agencies use digital smart cards and 25% use open payment tech to collect fares.



## Persons Who Are Unhoused

- 68% of agencies see a role for transit agencies in helping unhoused individuals who rely on public transit as a shelter option.
- Transit agencies partner with law enforcement, social services, mental health experts, and advocates to support the unhoused. 54% of agencies use police/security staff certified in crisis intervention and 87% have trained front-line employees to interact with unhoused or mentally ill individuals.

## Human Trafficking Awareness

- As many as 24.9 million people are trafficked worldwide. In 2020, the FTA's Human Trafficking Awareness and Public Safety Initiative awarded \$5.4 million to public transit projects that combat human trafficking and improve safety.
- APTA is part of the USDOT's Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking Initiative and works to combat human trafficking through training, counter-trafficking strategies, public awareness materials and other resources.

