

# Keeping America on Track

A snapshot of how Americans use public transportation to get where they need to go.

## THE JOURNEY TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- 87% of public transportation trips **directly benefit the economy** by getting people to work and connecting them to local businesses.
- 89% of transit riders are 20 to 64 years old, the most **economically active** years of their lives.

## TRACKING RAILWAY TRENDS

- Public transit attracts a **diverse crowd**.
- 70% of riders have a **bachelor's degree** or higher.
- Rail riders are 45% **male** and 55% **female**.
- 54% of rail riders are **racial or ethnic minorities**.

## THE PREVALENCE OF PUBLIC TRANSIT

- Public transit is **popular**.
- 63% of riders use transit **five days a week**.
- 69% of riders **walk** to their stop or station, 11% **drive** and 6% are **dropped off**.
- If public transit did not exist, 22% of riders say they'd **ditch their travel plans altogether**.

## DRIVING AMERICA'S WORKFORCE

- 49% of transit commuters use public transportation to **get to and from work**.

## PATHWAY TO LEISURE

- Riders using transit for **shopping more than doubled** from 2007 (8.5%) to 2017 (21%).
- 17% of riders use transit to travel to **recreational activities**.

## THE BUS RIDER BREAKDOWN

- 42% of bus riders have a **bachelor's degree** or higher.
- Bus riders are 44% **male** and 56% **female**.
- 66% of bus riders are **racial or ethnic minorities**.