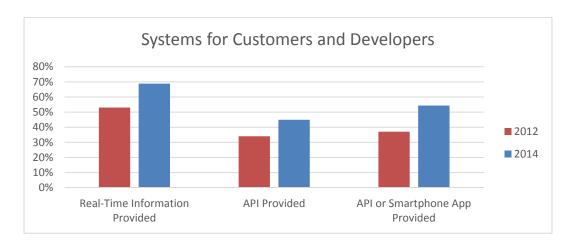


### **Policy Development and Research**

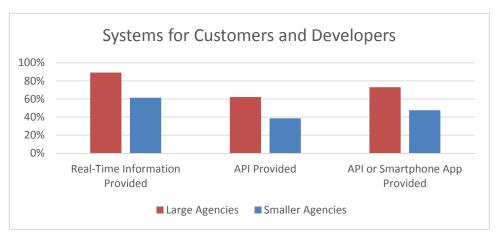
**AUGUST 2015** 

## Update on Public Transportation Agencies Providing Real-Time Data

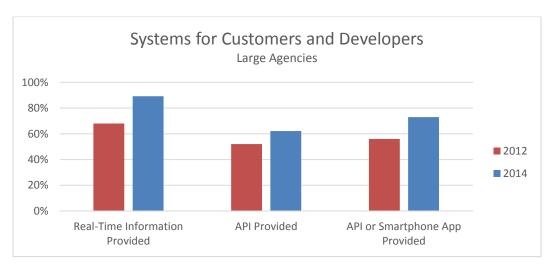
doption of real-time technology continues at a rapid pace according to new information from APTA's *Public Transportation Infrastructure Database*. Over two-thirds of responding agencies indicate they now provide real-time data to customers in some form. Nearly half of the responding agencies are providing APIs – the software tools that allow third-party developers to use transit agency data in their apps.

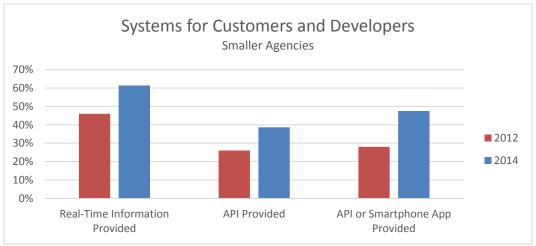


In two years, the percentage of agencies providing real-time data has increased 15 percentage points. The portion of agencies providing APIs, and the portion of agencies providing smartphone apps has increased significantly – by 11 and 17 percentage points, respectively.



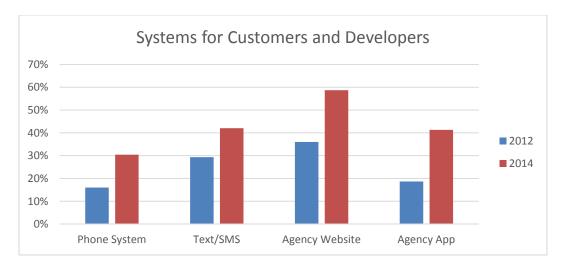
As in the 2012 survey, a higher percentage of large agencies (25 million or more annual trips) are providing real-time information to customers as compared to smaller agencies. Eighty-nine percent of large agencies are providing real-time data, compared to 61% of smaller agencies.





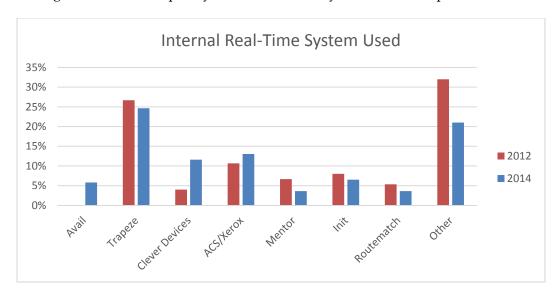
Both groups have increased the penetration of real-time technology since the 2012 survey. The percentage of large agencies providing real-time data has increased 21 percentage points, while the percentage of smaller agencies providing real-time data has increased 15 percentage points.

A larger percentage of agencies are also providing systems where customers can access their real-time data. Nearly 59% of agencies provide real-time data on their website, compared to 36% in the original survey. 41% of agencies have an app, compared to 19% of agencies in the original survey.



NextBus and GTFS-realtime are the two most popular API formats, as in the 2012 survey.

Compared with the 2012 survey, a larger percentage of agencies are using Clever Devices and Xerox to power their real-time system. Trapeze is still the most popular single vendor for real-time systems. A large portion of agencies are also using in-house developed systems and a variety of smaller companies, indicated in "other."



The average refresh rate for real-time systems was 38 seconds, and the median refresh rate was 30 seconds.

Public transit agencies continue to adopt new systems for providing real-time data to their customers. As the rapid deployment of this information continues, more and more public transportation riders will be able to enjoy the convenience and peace of mind provided by knowing exactly when their bus or train will arrive.

#### Acknowledgements

The policy department would like to thank the 178 transit agency members who participated in the 2014 Infrastructure Database. Their responses provide great insight into the current state and future of the transit industry.

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# The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Michael Melaniphy, President and CEO

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) is a nonprofit international association of 1,500 public and private sector organizations, engaged in the areas of bus, paratransit, light rail, commuter rail, subways, waterborne services, and intercity and high-speed passenger rail. This includes: transit systems; planning, design, construction, and finance firms; product and service providers; academic institutions; transit associations and state departments of transportation. APTA is the only association in North America that represents all modes of public transportation. APTA members serve the public interest by providing safe, efficient and economical transit services and products. More than 90 percent of the people using public transportation in the United States and Canada ride APTA member systems.

#### **APTA Vision Statement**