

ROADS & BRIDGES

Survey shows Americans support public transportation funding

HNTB survey indicates support for government funding of public transportation transcends every age group and geographic region in the nation

Public Transportation News

October 11, 2018



Almost nine in 10 Americans, 86%, believe government should help fund public transportation, according to the findings of a new HNTB Corp. America THINKS [national public opinion survey](#).

While this belief is held most strongly among Americans living in urban areas (92%), 85% of suburban respondents, as well as 79% of those living in rural areas, agree.

According to the survey, [Public Transportation in the U.S.-2018](#), support for government funding of public transportation encompasses every age group with 93% of millennials, 85% of Gen X respondents, 80% of

baby boomers and 61% of seniors in agreement. In addition, Americans across the nation support government funding for public transportation, including 87% in the Northeast, 85% in the South, 83% in the Midwest and 88% in the West.

The HNTB survey defined public transportation to include ride-sharing services such as taxis, car/limousine services, car and van pools, online car services such as Uber or Lyft, bus and bus rapid transit, subways, street cars/light rail systems, and commuter rail systems.

HNTB's America THINKS survey also found that more than eight in 10 Americans (83%) currently have access to some form of public transportation. For these Americans, the most prevalent option is bus and bus rapid transit available to 78% of respondents, closely followed by ride sharing at 74%. Commuter rail, street cars/light rail and subways were next at 24%, 22% and 14%, respectively.

Among those Americans with access to some form of public transportation, two in three (66%) have used it at some point, according to the HNTB survey. The survey found a majority of Americans (52%) believe the single most important benefit public transportation should offer is to help those who are not able to drive, with 62% of baby boomer respondents and 69% of seniors in agreement. Providing a safer way to travel was cited by 32% of respondents, while 31% cited more convenience access to everyday amenities.

<https://www.roadbridges.com/survey-shows-americans-support-public-transportation-funding>