

TRANSIT IN ARKANSAS:

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

THE BENEFITS OF TRANSIT

Transit is a crucial service that offers alternative modes of travel and increases accessibility. The transportation services provided by Arkansas' public transit providers and human services agencies provide a vital connection to goods, services, and employment, particularly for those who are transportation-disadvantaged (e.g. seniors, persons with disabilities, and those with low income).

These services not only get people from place to place, but they provide opportunities for those who may not otherwise have the freedom that often comes with having a personal vehicle. The agencies who provide these transportation services are valuable assets to their communities.

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is making great efforts through continued investment in transit; addressing state of good repair, and inter-agency coordination issues, to make transit service more accessible to all citizens of Arkansas.

The following pages emphasize the benefits and importance of transit, and serve as a reminder of why continued investment in transit will be key for the future of mobility in Arkansas.

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The following provides a brief summary of ARDOT's commitment to making lives better throughout our great State through continued investment in public transportation infrastructure and services. These investments are vital to providing mobility options to our citizens.



prepared by: ALLIANCE
TRANSPORTATION GROUP



\$1 invested in transit  \$4 in economic returns

Transit, a **\$66 billion** industry, directly employs more than 680k people.

Transit can reduce financial stress; Affordability of transit may reduce stress, especially for low-income households.

Property values are higher on average if they're located near transit with high-frequency service.

87% of transit trips connect to local businesses, and employees with limited transportation options can connect to **job opportunities.**



Transit can reduce the number of vehicles on the road which can lead to **reduced congestion**, resulting in:

-  **Reduced road maintenance,** reconstruction, & associated costs,
-  **Less excess fuel** consumed, and
-  **Less personal time wasted** due to waiting in traffic.
- Savings;** Commuters spend roughly \$800 a year in additional costs generated by congestion.



The public transportation funds administered by ARDOT helped provide over 8.5 million trips in 2016 and support transit programs covering more than 83% percent of the state's land area.

Improved access to health care and healthy food. Providing access to health care can result in fewer missed appointments and better health outcomes.



Transit provides transportation solutions and bridges gaps.

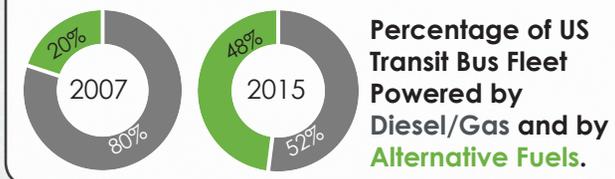
-  **Improved mental health:** Taking transit can result in less stress/anxiety from driving in congestion or under time constraints, and can provide the ability to socialize, relax, or be productive during transit.
-  **Transit increases personal mobility by providing options for travel needs.** Many people, especially those who cannot drive, rely on transit to access important resources and destinations, e.g. for key activities like medical appointments.
-  **Improved physical fitness:** Biking and walking are typically done in conjunction with transit trips.



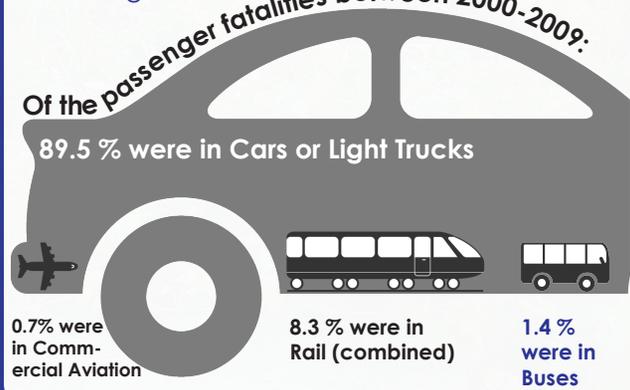
Transit benefits environmental sustainability by using cleaner energy sources, encouraging efficient energy consumption, and promoting denser development patterns.

Transit reduces **energy use** by the equivalent of 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline a year.

Transit reduces **greenhouse gas emissions** by 37 million metric tons.



Transit is a much safer travel option than driving



- Todd Litman, *Evaluating Public Transportation Health Benefits* (Victoria Transport Policy Institute) 2010
 - Transportation Research Board, *TCRP Report 20 Measuring and Valuing Transit Benefits and Disbenefits* (Washington DC: National Academy Press) 1996
 - Transportation Research Board, *TCRP Report 78 Estimating the Benefits and Costs of Public Transit Projects: A Guidebook for Practitioners* (Washington DC: National Academy Press) 2002