

Mineta Transportation Institute
National Transportation Survey 2011
CODEBOOK

We are interested in your opinions about the transportation system. When I talk about the transportation system, I mean local streets and roads, highways, and public transit services like buses, light rail, and trains.

Q1:

In the community where you live, would you say that roads and highways are in very good condition, somewhat good condition, or bad condition?

Very good condition	1
Somewhat good condition	2
Bad condition	3
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q2:

Does your community offer very good public transit service, somewhat good public transit service, poor public transit service, or no public transit service at all?

Very good service	1
Somewhat good service	2
Poor service	3
No service	4
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Now, please think about what the government could do to improve the transportation system for EVERYONE in the state where you live. I'm going to read you several options. For each one, tell me whether you think government should make that a high priority, medium priority, or low priority.

[QUESTIONS 3-7 RANDOMIZED]

Q3:

If the respondent asks, these questions refer to ALL levels of government (Federal, State, & Local).

How about reducing traffic congestion? Should government make that a high, medium, or low priority?

High priority	1
Medium priority	2
Low priority	3
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q4:

If the respondent asks, these questions refer to ALL levels of government (Federal, State, & Local).

How about maintaining streets, roads, and highways in good condition, including filling potholes? Should government make that a high, medium, or low priority?

High priority1
Medium priority2
Low priority.....3
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused.....9

Q5:

If the respondent asks, these questions refer to ALL levels of government (Federal, State, & Local).

How about expanding and improving local public transit service, like buses or light rail? Should government make that a high, medium, or low priority?

High priority1
Medium priority2
Low priority.....3
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused.....9

Q6:

If the respondent asks, this question is concerned with ALL levels of government (Federal, State, and Local)

How about reducing accidents and improving safety? Should government make that a high, medium, or low priority?

High priority1
Medium priority2
Low priority.....3
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused.....9

Q7:

If the respondent asks, this question is concerned with ALL levels of government (Federal, State, and Local)

How about adding more modern, technologically advanced systems like real-time travel alerts, longer lasting pavements, and better timed traffic lights? Should government make that a high, medium, or low priority?

High priority1
Medium priority2
Low priority.....3
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused.....9

[QUESTIONS 6-8 RANDOMIZED]

There are many ways the U.S. Congress could raise money to pay for maintaining and improving the transportation system. I'm going to ask your opinion about some of these different options. In each case, assume that the money collected would be spent ONLY for transportation purposes.

Q8A:

One idea (a DIFFERENT idea) is to adopt a new national, half-cent sales tax to pay for transportation. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this new sales tax?

Strongly support1
Somewhat support2
Somewhat oppose3
Strongly oppose4
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused9

Q9A:

Right now the federal government collects a tax of 18 cents per gallon when people buy gasoline. One idea (a DIFFERENT idea) to raise money for transportation is to increase the federal gas tax by 10 cents a gallon, from 18 cents to 28 cents. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this gas tax increase?

Strongly support1
Somewhat support2
Somewhat oppose3
Strongly oppose4
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused9

Q9B:

A VARIATION on the idea of raising the gas tax by 10 cents AT ONE TIME would be to spread the increase over 5 years. The tax would go up by 2 cents a year for each of five years. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose THIS gas tax increase?

Strongly support1
Somewhat support2
Somewhat oppose3
Strongly oppose4
Don't know (volunteered)8
Refused9

Q10A:

One idea (a DIFFERENT idea) is to adopt a new tax based on the number of miles a person drives. Each driver would pay a tax of one cent for every mile driven. For example, someone driving one hundred miles would pay a tax of one dollar. Vehicles would have an electronic meter to keep track of the miles driven, and the tax would be paid each time drivers buy gas. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this new mileage tax?

Strongly support1
 Somewhat support2
 Somewhat oppose3
 Strongly oppose4
 Don't know (volunteered)8
 Refused9

Q10B:

A VARIATION on the mileage tax just described is to have the tax rate VARY depending upon how much the vehicle pollutes. On average, vehicles would be charged one cent per mile, but vehicles that pollute less would be charged less, and vehicles that pollute more would be charged more. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose THIS new mileage tax?

Strongly support1
 Somewhat support2
 Somewhat oppose3
 Strongly oppose4
 Don't know (volunteered)8
 Refused9

Now, imagine that the US Congress decided that the best option to raise money for transportation is to increase the federal gas tax by ten cents per gallon. I'm going to read you several different options for how the money is spent. For each, please tell me if you would strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the gas tax increase.

Q11:

If the respondent has comments about why they chose their answer, record them in the box next to the answer choice. If they have no comments, enter "99".

Would you support the gas tax increase if the new money were spent ONLY on projects to reduce LOCAL AIR POLLUTION caused by the transportation system?

Strongly support1
 Somewhat support2
 Somewhat oppose3
 Strongly oppose4
 Don't know (volunteered)8
 Refused9

Q12:

If the respondent has comments about why they chose their answer, record them in the box next to the answer choice. If they have no comments, enter "99".

Would you support the gas tax increase if the money were spent ONLY on projects to reduce the transportation system's contribution to GLOBAL WARMING?

- Strongly support1
- Somewhat support2
- Somewhat oppose3
- Strongly oppose4
- Don't know (volunteered)8
- Refused9

Q13:

If the respondent has comments about why they chose their answer, record them in the box next to the answer choice. If they have no comments, enter "99".

Would you support the gas tax increase if the money were spent ONLY on projects to MAINTAIN streets, roads, and highways?

- Strongly support1
- Somewhat support2
- Somewhat oppose3
- Strongly oppose4
- Don't know (volunteered)8
- Refused9

Q14:

If the respondent has comments about why they chose their answer, record them in the box next to the answer choice. If they have no comments, enter "99".

Would you support the gas tax increase if the money were spent ONLY on projects to reduce accidents and improve safety?

- Strongly support1
- Somewhat support2
- Somewhat oppose3
- Strongly oppose4
- Don't know (volunteered)8
- Refused9

Q15:

If the respondent has comments about why they chose their answer, record them in the box next to the answer choice. If they have no comments, enter "99".

Would you support the gas tax increase if the money were spent ONLY on projects to add more modern, technologically advanced systems like real-time travel alerts, longer lasting pavements, and better timed traffic lights?

- Strongly support1
- Somewhat support2
- Somewhat oppose3
- Strongly oppose4
- Don't know (volunteered)8
- Refused9

Q16:

Let me give you some information about how much the CURRENT federal gas tax costs an AVERAGE driver. Someone who drives 10,000 miles a year, in a vehicle that gets 20 miles to the gallon, will pay about 100 dollars a year. If Congress raised the gas tax by 10 cents a gallon, that same driver would now pay about 150 dollars a year. Now that you have this information, would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose a 10 cent gas tax increase?

- Strongly support1
- Somewhat support2
- Somewhat oppose3
- Strongly oppose4
- Don't know (volunteered)8
- Refused9

APTA QUESTIONS

Now I have a few questions about public transportation.

Q17:

Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the use of your tax dollars for expanding and improving public transportation in your community?

Strongly support	1
Somewhat support	2
Somewhat oppose	3
Strongly oppose	4
Don't know (DON'T READ)	8
Refused	9

Q18:

Every five years, the US Congress reviews its spending priorities for transportation. All things considered, what do you believe Congress should do with the LEVEL of spending for public transportation? Should Congress significantly increase, slightly increase, slightly decrease, or significantly decrease spending for public transportation?

Significantly increase	1
Slightly increase	2
Slightly decrease	3
Significantly decrease	4
Don't know (DON'T READ)	8
Refused	9

[QUESTIONS 19-21 RANDOMIZED]

I am now going to read you several statements. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with each one.

Q19A:

Here's the first (next) statement. With our country in recession and high unemployment, we are facing tough economic times. Public transportation can be a solution and help pave the way to a stronger economy. Public transportation projects put tens of thousands of Americans to work and revitalize our communities. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agree	1
Disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q19B:

Would you say that you strongly agree or slightly agree?

Strongly agree	1
Slightly agree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q19C:

Would you say that you strongly disagree or slightly disagree?

Strongly disagree	1
Slightly disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q19r (recoded):

Here's the first (next) statement. With our country in recession and high unemployment, we are facing tough economic times. Public transportation can be a solution and help pave the way to a stronger economy. Public transportation projects put tens of thousands of Americans to work and revitalize our communities.

Strongly Disagree	1
Slightly Disagree	2
Slightly Agree	3
Strongly Agree	4

Q20A:

Here's the first (next) statement. Public transportation provides affordable transportation options for people. It expands access to job and career opportunities, as well as to medical facilities and schools and colleges. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agree	1
Disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q20B:

Would you say that you strongly agree or slightly agree?

Strongly agree	1
Slightly agree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q20C:

Would you say that you strongly disagree or slightly disagree?

Strongly disagree	1
Slightly disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q20r (recoded):

Here's the first (next) statement. Public transportation provides affordable transportation options for people. It expands access to job and career opportunities, as well as to medical facilities and schools and colleges. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Strongly Disagree	1
Slightly Disagree	2
Slightly Agree	3
Strongly Agree	4

Q21A:

Here's the first (next) statement. Public transportation saves 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline that otherwise would have to be purchased from countries that are unfriendly to America. Therefore, public transit reduces our dependence on foreign oil and transitions America toward a more energy efficient economy. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Agree	1
Disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q21B:

Would you say that you strongly agree or slightly agree?

Strongly agree	1
Slightly agree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q21C:

Would you say that you strongly disagree or slightly disagree?

Strongly disagree	1
Slightly disagree	2
Don't know (volunteered)	8
Refused	9

Q21r (recoded):

Here's the first (next) statement. Public transportation saves 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline that otherwise would have to be purchased from countries that are unfriendly to America. Therefore, public transit reduces our dependence on foreign oil and transitions America toward a more energy efficient economy.

Strongly Disagree	1
Slightly Disagree	2
Slightly Agree	3
Strongly Agree	4

Demographics:

Q28O. About how many miles did you, personally, drive during the past 12 months in all motorized vehicles? Please do not count miles you drove as part of a job. (open-ended)

Q29. In the last 30 days, have you taken any form of public transit like a bus, light rail, or commuter train?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q30. As you know, many people are so busy these days they can't find time to register to vote, or they move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you now registered to vote, or have you not been able to register for one reason or another?

- 1 Yes, registered
- 2 No, not registered
- 3 I'm not a U.S. citizen/I'm registered to vote in a country outside the U.S.
- 4 Don't know

Q31. In what party are you registered to vote?

- 1 Democrat
- 2 Republican
- 3 Registered, but not with a party [independent, decline-to-state (CA)]
- 7 Other (including "Independent Party")
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q32. How often would you say you vote: all of the time, most of the time, occasionally, seldom, or never?

- 1 All of the time
- 2 Most of the time
- 3 Occasionally
- 4 Seldom
- 5 Never
- 8 Don't know
- 9 Refused

Q33. What is your zip-code?

Q34. With regard to your telephone use, do you...

- 1 use only a cell phone?
- 2 primarily use your cell phone?
- 3 use a cell phone and a regular landline phone equally?
- 4 primarily use your regular landline phone?
- 5 use only a regular landline phone?
- 6 Other (open-end box)

Q36. In which language did you conduct this survey?

- 1 English
- 2 Spanish

Gender

- 1 = Male
- 2 = Female

Hispanic

- 1 = Hispanic

Multirace

- 1 = two or more races chosen (from Q25M1-4)

White1/Black1/Asian1/Other1 = first race chosen

White2/Black2/Asian2/Other2 = second race chosen

White3/Black3/Asian3/Other3 = third race chosen

White4/Black4/Asian4/Other4 = fourth race chosen

White/Black/Asian/Other dummy = combined dummy variables for each race category

Race1 = first race category chosen

Education (highest level completed)

- 1 = Less than High School
- 2 = High School graduate
- 3 = Some college
- 4 = Bachelor's degree
- 5 = Some graduate school
- 6 = Graduate degree
- 8 = Don't know
- 9 = Refused

Education2 (recoded to 5 categories to match Census)

- 1 = Less than High School
- 2 = High School graduate
- 3 = Some college
- 4 = Bachelor's degree
- 5 = Graduate work or degree

Employed

- 1 = Employed
- 2 = Not employed
- 3 = Retired

Income (gross annual household)

- 1 = Less than \$25,000
- 2 = More than \$25,000 but less than \$50,000
- 3 = More than \$50,000 but less than \$75,000
- 4 = More than \$75,000 but less than \$100,000
- 5 = More than \$100,000 but less than \$125,000
- 6 = More than \$125,000 but less than \$150,000
- 7 = \$150,000 or more
- 8 = Don't know
- 9 = Refused

Age Categories

- 1 = 18-29
- 2 = 30-39
- 3 = 40-49
- 4 = 50-59
- 5 = 60-69
- 6 = 70-79
- 7 = 80+

Genesys survey sample – Geo Codes information

<http://www.genesys-sampling.com/pages/Template2/site2/61/default.aspx>

Metropolitan Areas - The basic concept of metropolitan is one of a population nucleus and the surrounding territory that has an economic and social relationship with the nucleus. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) defines Metropolitan Areas.

In June of 2003, the OMB adopted new standards for Metropolitan Areas and established Core Based Statistical Areas (CBSA). These standards replace and supercede the previous standards used to define Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA).

CBSAs are divided into two categories – *Metropolitan* Statistical Areas and *Micropolitan* Statistical Areas. All CBSAs are comprised of one or more counties, except in the six (6) New England states where the OMB has developed a similar set of metropolitan areas known as New England City and Town Areas (NECTAs), comprised of cities and towns.

CBSAs incorporate a new 5-digit coding scheme that is unique across both Micropolitan and Metropolitan Statistical Areas. For the most part, the geographic definitions and names of the new Metropolitan Statistical Areas mirror the "old" MSA geographies. However, it should be noted that in some cases there is a significant difference in the geographic composition of the new Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Micropolitan Statistical Areas are new and contain counties that were previously non-metropolitan.

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) – A Core Based Statistical Area (CBSA) associated with at least one urbanized area with a population of at least 50,000, based on the 2000 Census. A Metropolitan Statistical Area is comprised of the Central County or counties containing the core urban area, plus adjacent/outlying counties that have a high degree of social and economic integration with the Central County, as measured by commutation patterns. As of June 6, 2003, the OMB has defined a total of 362 Metropolitan Statistical Areas that incorporate 1,090 counties, containing approximately 83% of the US population. While 78% of the counties now classified as "metropolitan" are the same as before, many Metropolitan areas have changed in some way, either by name or geographic composition.

Micropolitan Statistical Area (MCSA) – A Core Based Statistical Area with at least one urban cluster containing between 10,000 to 50,000 people, based on the 2000 Census. A Micropolitan Statistical Area is comprised of the Central County or counties containing the core urban area, plus any adjacent/outlying counties with a high degree of social and economic integration as determined again by commutation patterns. As of June 6, 2003, there are 560 Micropolitan Statistical Areas (all new) comprising 674 counties and containing 10% of the US population.

Some of the larger Metropolitan Statistical Areas are subdivided into Metropolitan Divisions that mirror "old" MSA geography. These Metropolitan Statistical Areas are similar in geographic composition to the "old" Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Areas (CMSAs). For example, the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington MSA is comprised of the Dallas-Plano-Irving and Fort Worth-Arlington Metropolitan Divisions. The county definitions for these divisions are identical to the "old" Dallas and Fort Worth MSAs.