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## Survey Shows: 6 in 10 Riders Take Public Transit to Work

Also: [APTA: Public Transportation Ridership Continues Climb in 2007](#)

(Oct. 4, 2007) Almost six in 10 riders questioned in surveys conducted across the country from 2000 to 2005 said they use public transportation to get to work (59.2%). The second largest reason for using transit was to go to school (10.7%).

The data, released Thursday by APTA, came from 150 on-board vehicle passenger surveys, summarized by transit agencies from responses by more than 496,000 public transportation riders. The transit systems carry 60 percent of all U.S. transit trips.

Other findings in the report, titled "A Profile of Public Transportation Passenger Demographics and Travel Characteristics Reported in On-Board Surveys," include:

- 30 percent of riders said that this was the first year they had taken public transportation, although most transit riders have been riding for more than two years (57.1%).
- More than one-third of all transit riders have household incomes of \$50,000 or more (34.3%). Almost 10 percent of transit riders have household incomes of \$100,000 or more. Almost half of respondents said they have household incomes ranging from \$15,000 to \$49,999 (45.6%)
- Women transit riders outnumber men transit riders by a 55 percent – 45 percent split.
- Riders come from all racial backgrounds; the largest groups using public transportation are: Caucasian (41%); African American (33%); and Hispanic (14.3%).
- Most transit trips are taken by people who regularly use public transportation. Nearly two-thirds of trips are taken by riders who take transit five or more days a week. (65.5%)
- 25 percent of transit trips are taken by riders for personal purposes such as: shopping, dining, social events, and medical trips.