



PART IV: Additional Information

Introduction IV-2

CHAPTER 11: Rural America 11-1

CHAPTER 12: Transformative Technologies 12-1

Introduction

This section provides additional insights into topics touched on elsewhere in this report, specifically those pertaining to rural areas and technology.

Although this report is based largely on 2016 data, more recent data and trends are discussed herein, including information related to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. This historic event highlighted the Nation's heavy reliance on the transportation system for delivery of supplies, the innovative ways in which technology can provide alternatives to travel, and the unique qualities of rural and urban America. The COVID-19 pandemic, and Americans' response to it, provide an opportunity to consider how emerging technologies can influence the Nation's transportation needs and services in the future, despite growing disparities between urban and rural America.

Chapter 11 highlights rural America and its significant impact on the Nation's economy, transportation infrastructure, and reliable delivery of goods and services. This chapter explores rural topics including population, demographics, economics, and travel trends from both a highway and transit perspective.

Chapter 12 discusses the influence of technology on current and future transportation trends. This chapter highlights transformative technologies that are affecting transportation, including current research and demonstration projects using technology to improve accessibility and mobility.