

MOBILITY TRENDS

Emerging Themes and Considerations



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



TRENDING

2025

The transportation sector is entering a period of rapid change, driven by shifting demographics, evolving economic conditions, emerging technologies, and new travel behaviors. Responding to these key developments requires strategic investment, innovation, and collaboration to ensure the system remains efficient, resilient, and future-ready. The actions we take today will determine how effectively we meet the growing and changing needs of both people and goods in motion.

Infrastructure investment is fundamental to sustaining and improving system performance. Upgrading roads, bridges, and transit systems is essential to reducing congestion, enhancing safety, and supporting national productivity. A resilient and efficient transportation network depends on continuous improvements and the capacity to accommodate future demand.



Technology is also playing a central role in shaping tomorrow's transportation systems. Automation, artificial intelligence, and smart infrastructure are unlocking new possibilities for safer and more efficient movement of people and goods. From connected vehicles to advanced traffic management systems, these innovations offer powerful tools to optimize mobility and system performance.

Adapting to changing demands is critical in today's dynamic landscape. The rise of e-commerce, remote work, and on-demand delivery services is altering when, where, and how people travel. Traditional commuting patterns are being replaced by more varied and flexible travel behaviors, requiring transportation planning to be agile and responsive to new usage trends.

Looking forward, the success of the transportation system depends on its ability to evolve alongside economic and technological shifts. By prioritizing infrastructure investment, advancing technological adoption, and planning for flexibility, public and private stakeholders can shape a transportation future that is reliable, responsive, and well-positioned to meet the demands of tomorrow.



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Data and Graphics source: Federal Highway Administration, Office of Transportation Policy Studies. For more information, contact the FHWA Office of Transportation Policy Studies at PolicyStudiesFeedback@dot.gov.

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Modernization of Infrastructure:

Upgrading, expanding, and investing in transportation assets is essential to maintain system performance and economic vitality.



Technology-Driven Innovation:

Automation and connectivity are enhancing mobility, improving safety, and enabling more integrated transportation systems.



Flexible Planning for New Demand Patterns:

Changing travel habits driven by hybrid work and e-commerce require adaptable and forward-looking transportation strategies.