US Mass Transit Market Share Nears All-Time Low in 2002

Recently released Federal Highway Administration and American Public Transportation Association data indicates that mass transit’s share of urban travel fell to a near record low of 1.77 percent in 2002. This equals the 1996 share, and is near the 1997 figure of 1.75 percent. Mass transit ridership is down more than one-half from 1970, the approximate date when large public aid programs were initiated. Market share is down more than 10 percent from 1990.

Without the New York City area, mass transit now accounts for only 1.16 percent of urban travel.

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