



Increase Mobility

State Population with Access to Multimodal Transportation

Purpose:

Mobility is measured not only by travel by mode and total system usage, but also by access to transportation. This measure tracks the percentage of our State's population with access to transportation other than their personal automobile. The population measured includes both those with a driver's license who choose a transportation option as well as those who do not have a license or cannot drive due to a disability or poor health (currently approximately 22% of the population). As the percentage of New Hampshire's population over age 65 continues to grow, the number of non-drivers is also likely to grow. Access to medical services, shopping, and social activities is difficult in NH for non-drivers.

Data:

The data was compiled through a Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis. 2010 Census Data and the geographic location of public transit routes were compiled in NHDOT's GIS database. Using the transit route locations as a basis, a 0.25 mile distance was used to determine the population of census tracts available to travel by non-motorized means this distance to a terminal. These totals were summed up and compared to the total State population to determine the percentage of population with access to multimodal transportation.

Improvement Status

This measure addresses one element of access to multimodal transportation - geographic reach - the proximity of multimodal transportation to an individual's home. Based on 2010 Census Data, the total population of New Hampshire is 1,316,470. The GIS analysis indicated that the population located within 0.25 miles of multimodal facilities was 315,690 - equivalent to 24% of the state's population.

Though a good beginning indicator, other issues that may impact the attractiveness of multimodal transportation to riders are not addressed: frequency of service; service schedule - how early and late the service operates; proximity of multimodal options to an individual's workplace or other frequent destinations; or rider amenities - bus or train shelters or enhanced rider information for example. Actual multimodal ridership is tracked in the rail ridership and transit ridership performance measures.

Growth in access to multimodal transportation will occur with either an increase in population in proximity to existing multimodal terminals or the extension of rail or transit into other areas of the state. Growth in the ridership of rail or transit will also depend on the frequency and convenience of service.

Percent of State Population with Access to Multimodal Transportation

