



Goal 3: Public Infrastructure

Desired Community Condition: Residents have safe and affordable transportation options that meet the public’s needs.



Indicator: Transit Ridership

Progress Rating: Local Trend: POSITIVE National Comparison: SIMILAR

Indicator Description

This indicator is a measure of one-way unlinked passenger trips taken on the scheduled, fixed-route bus system each year. Unlinked trips are the trips from one destination to the final destination or to a transfer point. If a transfer is involved, the transfer point to final destination would constitute a second trip. The information is regularly collected by the Transit Department through the use of on-board fare boxes and is then collated monthly.

Why is this indicator important?

Public transportation is necessary for those residents who lack other transportation means. It also has the potential to reduce the use of automobiles and the accidents, congestion, and air pollution that can accompany excessive dependence on auto use. Growing ridership can indicate that this option is increasingly viewed as a viable alternative to the single occupant vehicle.

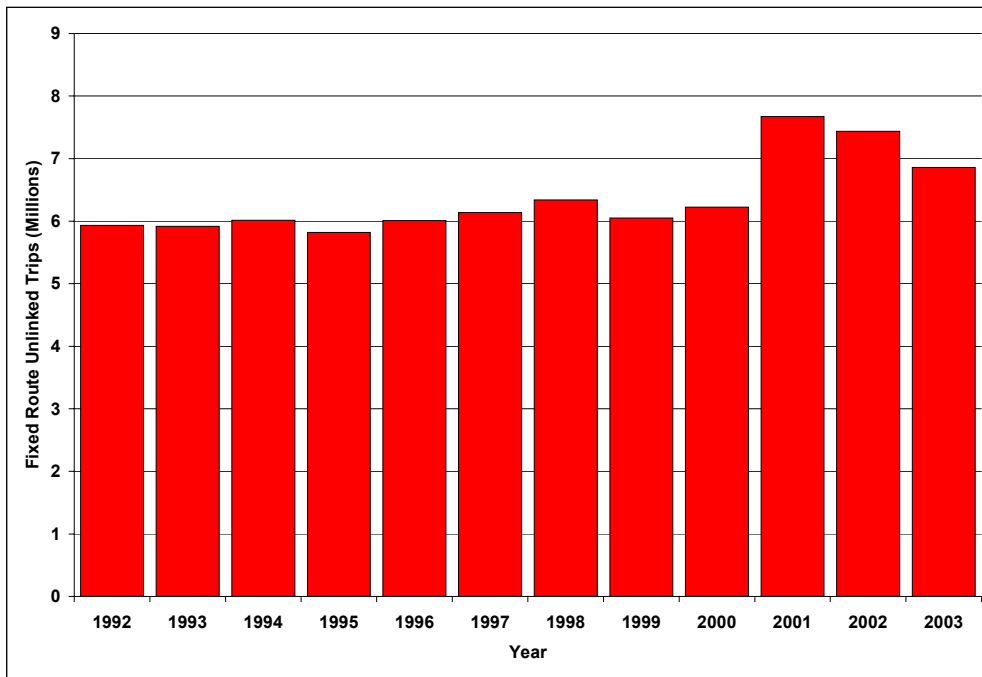
Data Sources

City of Albuquerque Transit Department; American Public Transportation Association; American Community Survey

What can we tell from the data?

- Transit ridership remained relatively unchanged at about 6 million trips per year from 1992 until 2000, with a dip in 1995, due to route changes and another dip in 1999 following service reductions.
- Transit ridership jumped to 7.7 million trips in 2001 and 7.4 million trips in 2002 when construction of the Big I caused an increase in traffic congestion.
- In 2003, ridership fell to 6.9 million trips probably due to the completion of Big I construction and service reductions.
- In 2002, transit ridership per capita in Albuquerque was higher than three similar cities and lower than two.

Albuquerque Transit Ridership 1992 to 2003



Number of Unlinked Passenger Trips per 100,000 Residents for Selected Cities Year 2002

