NYMTC REPORT: PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION LEADS DAILY TRAVEL IN MANHATTAN’S CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

1.82 million persons entered and exited Manhattan’s CBD by car, taxi, van or truck

NEW YORK – More than 75 percent of the 7.8 million people who entered and exited Manhattan’s Central Business District (CBD) – on an average fall weekday in 2016 – utilized public transportation, according to new data from the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC).

NYMTC’s newly released Hub Bound Travel Data Report highlights that nearly six million people boarded public transportation to enter and leave the CBD on an average October business day, while 1.82 million used cars, taxis, vans or trucks – a 60,000 drop from the prior year (see Figure 1). The total persons whom entered and left the CBD by automobile did so through the 60th Street sector (819,535).

On an annual basis, NYMTC partners with 15 state, city and county agencies, transportation authorities as well as private transportation organizations to collect data that represent a typical travel day in-and-out of New York City’s CBD. The CBD or the “Hub” includes the lower portion of Manhattan from the northern boundary of 60th Street to the southern boundary of Battery Park. In NYMTC’s Hub Bound Travel Data Report...
During this time period, 622,719 of the total 1.4 million cars, taxis, vans and trucks entering and leaving the Hub utilized the 60th Street sector. Meanwhile, nearly 353,000 vehicles passed through Brooklyn Sector; 244,000 used the Queens Sector and 184,000 vehicles utilized the New Jersey sector to enter and exit the CBD, according to NYMTC’s Hub Bound Travel Report (See map for crossing type).

Highlighting the public’s preference for public transportation in the CBD, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority’s New York City Transit accounted for 82 percent of total rail service entering and leaving the CBD. Also, 84 percent of total express bus passengers entered the Hub from New Jersey. Additionally, bike riding increased by almost 170 percent over the past decade, reaching about 32,000 bicyclists entering the Hub in 2016. Meanwhile, ferry service became more of a favorite for many, as there was a 13% increase in ferry ridership from the prior year to 123,000 (see Figure 1).

With this large influx of individuals entering and exiting the CBD, a number that is comparable to the total population of New York City, peak travel times, such as rush hour before and after work, are the most jammed and overcrowded. For instance, more than a third of the 3.9 million people that entered Manhattan’s CBD did so during the morning rush from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The most congested hour for travel was 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., when nearly 626,000 people traveled into the CBD (see Figure 2).
The first travel survey of the Manhattan’s CBD was conducted and published by the Regional Plan Association (RPA) in 1924. The report referred to the district as the “Hub,” reflecting the CBD’s unique role in the region’s economy. Subsequent surveys were conducted at eight-year intervals until 1963, when the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission (NYMTC’s predecessor) assumed responsibility for the project, publishing it annually beginning in 1971. Since its inception in 1982, NYMTC has sponsored the project and published the annual report.

For more information, please view the Hub Bound Travel Data Report here.

**About the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council**

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area. NYMTC is comprised of nine voting members and seven advisory members who develop plans, goals and a shared vision for the region's transportation network, which includes a planning area that covers 2,440 square miles and includes a population of 12.4 million, which was approximately 64% of New York State's population, based on the 2010 Census. For more information, please visit [www.nymtc.org](http://www.nymtc.org).