METHODOLOGY

Change Research surveyed 1280 registered voters nationwide from October 28 - November 1, 2021.

We used the following sources to recruit respondents:
- targeted advertisements on Facebook
- targeted advertisements on Instagram
- text messages sent, via the echo19 and/or Scale To Win platforms, to cell phone numbers listed on the voter file for individuals who qualified for the survey's sample universe, based on their voter file data

Regardless of which of these sources a respondent came from, they were directed to a survey hosted on SurveyMonkey's website.

Ads placed on social media targeted all adults nationwide. Those who indicated that they were not registered to vote were terminated. As the survey fielded, Change Research used dynamic online sampling: adjusting ad budgets, lowering budgets for ads targeting groups that were overrepresented and raising budgets for ads targeting groups that were underrepresented, so that the final sample was roughly representative of the population across different groups. The survey was conducted in English.

The survey was commissioned by Rail Passengers Association and conducted online by Change Research. Post-stratification was performed on age, gender, race/ethnicity, region, and 2020 presidential vote. Weighting parameters were based on the demographic composition of the 2020 electorate, obtained from the voter file. That is, if a given age bracket or gender group represented x% of the 2020 electorate on the voter file, then that same group would be weighted to x% in this survey. Presidential results were obtained from public data.

The modeled margin of error* for this survey is 3.3%, which uses effective sample sizes** that adjust for the design effect of weighting.

We adopt The Pew Research Center's convention for the term "modeled margin of error"(1) (mMOE) to indicate that our surveys are not simple random samples in the pure sense, similar to any survey that has either non-response bias or for which the general population was not invited at random. A common, if imperfect, convention for reporting survey results is to use a single, survey-level mMOE based on a normal approximation. This is a poor approximation for proportion estimates close to 0 or 1. However, it is a useful communication tool in many settings and is reasonable in places where the proportion of interest is close to 50%. We report this normal approximation for our surveys assuming a proportion estimate of 50%.

*** The effective sample size adjusts for the weighting applied to respondents, and is calculated using Kish's approximation (2).*

(1) https://www.pewresearch.org/methods/2018/01/26/for-weighting-online-opt-in-samples-what-matters-most/
(2) Kish, Leslie. Survey Sampling, 1965.

For more information, contact ben@changeresearch.com.

REPORTED QUESTIONS

1. Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female

2. In what year were you born? [TEXT BOX]

3. In what ZIP code do you currently live? [TEXT BOX]

4a. What is your race?

- White / Caucasian
- Hispanic or Latino/a
- Black or African American
- Asian / Pacific Islander
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Other (please specify): [text box]

4b. Are you from a Hispanic, Latino/a or Spanish-speaking background?

- Yes
- No

5. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- High school diploma or less
- Some college, but no degree
- Associate's degree, or two-year college degree
- Bachelor's degree, or four-year college degree
- Graduate degree

6a. Are you registered to vote?
- Yes
- No **[TERMINATE]**
- Not sure **[TERMINATE]**

6b. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a: [RANDOMIZE]
- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent/Other

[IF INDEPENDENT/ NO PARTY AFFILIATION]
6c. Do you consider yourself closer to:
- The Democrats
- The Republicans
- Neither

[IF DEMOCRAT/ REPUBLICAN]
6d. Do you consider yourself a:
- Strong [Democrat/Republican]

- Not so strong [Democrat/Republican]

7. How did you vote in the 2020 election for President or for some reason were you unable to vote?
- Joe Biden, the Democrat
- Donald Trump, the Republican
- Jo Jorgensen, the Libertarian
- Not registered/Too young/Ineligible
- Did not vote

8. In your opinion, how important is it for America to have a strong passenger rail system?
- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important

9. Generally speaking, how favorable are your feelings about each of the following in this country?
[FOR EACH: Very favorable | Somewhat favorable | Neutral | Somewhat unfavorable | Very unfavorable | Not sure]
- Amtrak & intercity rail
- Commuter rail and rail transit

10. And for each of the following, how favorable are your feelings about the lines nearest to you?
[FOR EACH: Very favorable | Somewhat favorable | Neutral | Somewhat unfavorable | Very unfavorable | Not sure | There are none near me]
- Amtrak & intercity rail
- Commuter rail and rail transit

11. How much do you enjoy taking each of the following forms of transportation?
[FOR EACH: I love it | I like it | I'm neutral | I dislike it | I hate it]
- Trains
- Planes
- Cars
- Buses
- Bikes

12. [IF UNFAVORABLE ABOUT AMTRAK & INTERCITY RAIL] What is the most important reason your feelings about Amtrak & intercity rail are unfavorable?
- Too expensive
- Too slow
- Too many delays
- It doesn't go where I need to go
- No stops near me
- It doesn't run frequently enough
- Something else (please specify)

13. [IF UNFAVORABLE ABOUT AMTRAK & INTERCITY RAIL] If this problem were solved, how favorable would your feelings about Amtrak & intercity rail be?
- Very favorable
- Somewhat favorable
- Neutral
- Somewhat unfavorable
- Very unfavorable

14. As part of the infrastructure bill being considered in Washington, about $100 billion goes to passenger rail over five years -- about one-third as much as the $300 billion over five years that goes to highways. The rail funding will largely go to track improvements, safety, new trains, and new and renovated corridors, but not to priorities like building out high-speed rail or investing in the electrification of rail lines. Given this information, do you think the infrastructure bill should include more or less investment in passenger rail?
   ● Much more
   ● Somewhat more
   ● It's about right
   ● Somewhat less
   ● Much less
   ● Not sure

15. How much passenger rail service is there in your area?
   ● A lot
   ● A decent amount
   ● A little bit
   ● None at all

16. Which of the following most closely matches how frequently you take passenger rail, including Amtrak or local commuter trains?
   ● Daily
   ● Once or twice a week
   ● A few times a month
   ● Sometimes, but less than once a month
   ● Never

17. [IF AT LEAST SOMETIMES] For which of the following reasons do you take passenger rail? Select all that apply.
   ● Work commute
   ● Business trip
   ● Vacation
   ● Daily activities
   ● Other (please specify)

18. [IF NEVER] Why do you not take passenger rail?
   ● Tickets are too expensive
   ● Not much train service near me / near the places I need to go
   ● Takes too long
   ● Other (please specify)

19. [IF NO SERVICES NEAR ME / WHERE I NEED TO GO] If passenger rail services were located near you, would you take it?
   ● Yes
   ● No

20. Which of the following aspects of passenger rail do you enjoy? Please select all that apply.
   ● Saves money
   ● Can read / work while traveling
   ● Environmental friendliness
   ● Don't have to drive
   ● Scenery
   ● Safety
   ● Food and beverage service
   ● Ability to sleep/overnight sleeper cars
   ● None of the above

- Other (please specify)

21. Generally speaking, which experience do you prefer:
- Driving
- Taking a train
- No preference

22. Generally speaking, which experience do you prefer:
- Flying
- Taking a train
- No preference

23. [IF FLYING] In cases when taking a train is cheaper, which would you prefer?
- Flying
- Taking a train
- No preference

24. How would you rate the quality of the U.S. passenger rail network?
- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Not sure

25. Would you support or oppose adding more lines to the existing passenger rail network in the U.S.?
- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure

26. Do you support or oppose Congress putting more funding towards passenger rail services in the U.S.?
- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure

27. As you may know, high-speed passenger trains can safely travel at speeds of well over 200 miles per hour. If high-speed passenger rail were available in your area today, would you use it?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure

28. Do you think public tax dollars should pay for each of the following:
[FOR EACH: Yes | No | Not sure]
- The upkeep of roads, highways and bridges
- Operating an air traffic control system
- To fund airport operations
- The upkeep of train tracks and trains

29. Should publicly funded roads and highways be expected to make a profit for the government?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure

29. Should Amtrak, which receives public funding, be expected to make a profit for the government?
- Yes
- No
- Not sure

30. Please rank the most important benefits of frequent, reliable and affordable intercity rail service.
[1 - most important | 2 | 3 | 4 - least important]
- Increased economic development around train stations
- Easing traffic congestion
- More mobility for local residents
- Tourism
- Safety

31. Would you support or oppose a national railroad plan, like the current interstate highway system?
- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure

32. Would you support or oppose a national high speed rail plan, like the current interstate highway system?
- Strongly support
- Somewhat support
- Somewhat oppose
- Strongly oppose
- Not sure

33. Please rank the following modes of travel by how environmentally friendly they are, where 1 is the most environmentally friendly, and 5 is the least environmentally friendly.
[1 - Most environmentally friendly | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 - Least environmentally friendly]
- Air
- Rail
- Car
- Bike
- Boat

Below are some arguments in favor of greater investment in passenger rail in this country.

34. "Trains are the most environmentally friendly way to travel. According to the US Department of Energy, Amtrak is 46% more energy efficient than traveling by car, and 34% more energy efficient than domestic air travel." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

35. "Passenger rail is a key contributor to this country's economic performance. Traffic and airport congestion costs our economy billions of dollars, while trains relieve congestion and improve our economic productivity." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

36. "Expanding and improving our passenger rail infrastructure can increase mobility for individuals and communities that currently have very little, which can provide economic opportunities and decrease inequality." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

37. "We should increase funding for passenger rail to improve and expand services in parts of the country that too often get left behind." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

38. "While Amtrak is owned by our federal government, it is operated as a for-profit company. That means that, if we do not invest more in Amtrak, services may be cut so that Amtrak does not become too unprofitable." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

"Passenger rail provides a safe alternative to driving, which causes around 40,000 deaths in the US each year. By investing in passenger rail and increasing train ridership, we can save lives." Is this a:
- Very convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Somewhat convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail
- Not convincing reason to support greater investment in passenger rail

39. After everything you've read, do you think the infrastructure bill should include more or less investment in passenger rail?
- Much more
- Somewhat more
- It's about right
- Somewhat less
- Much less
- Not sure

40. For statistical purposes, what is your household income?

- Less than $20,000
- $20,000 to $34,999
- $35,000 to $49,999
- $50,000 to $74,999
- $75,000 to $99,999
- $100,000 to $249,999
- $250,000 or more
- Prefer not to say