



## What is public transit?

Public transit refers to transit operations such as fixed route buses, commuter buses, door-to-door small bus service, complementary van service for disabled residents, social and human services transportation, and many other key mobility services necessary for daily life line needs.

## Benefits of public transit?

- Helps those in need of reliable transportation
- Reduces roadway related costs by millions per year by reducing the number of cars on the road, and thereby alleviating the need to continually increase the capacity for highways and roads associated with wear and tear
- Provides an alternate option aside from getting behind the wheel after drinking, reducing DWI and increasing roadway safety
- Enables many who would otherwise be unable to get to and from work to hold steady employment and contribute to economic growth
- Provides access to school for students

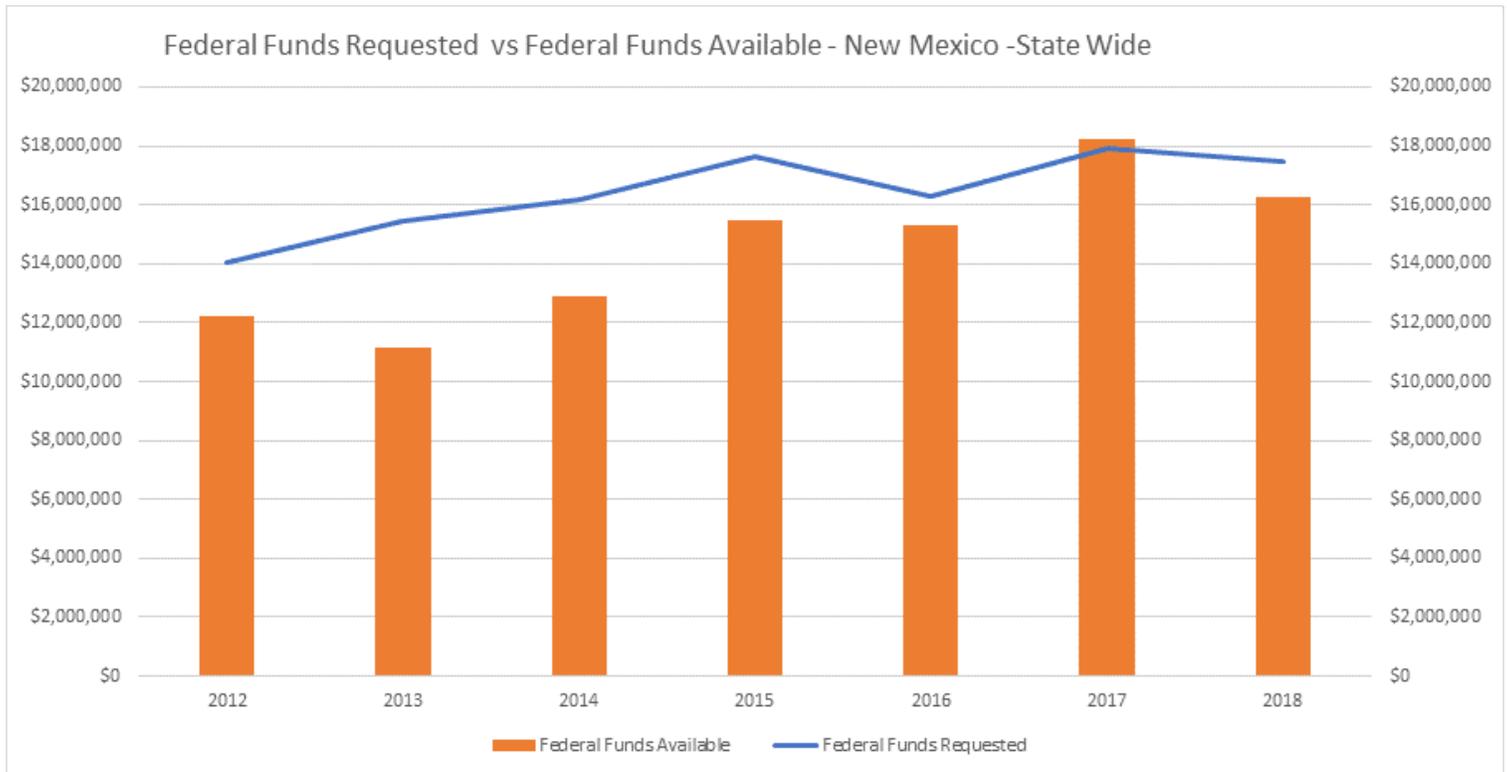
## Who uses public transit?

- Public transit is utilized by:
- Elderly individuals
  - Workers, students and families
  - Those with disabilities and medical issues preventing them from safely driving
  - Those who wish to reduce their carbon footprint

## How is public transit funded?

Public transit is funded through either federal or state funds. Federal funding for transit is diminishing, and many states are struggling to provide adequate funding to meet their state's transit needs. As a result, many states are turning to other avenues for funding, including gasoline taxes, taxes on rental vehicles, vehicle registrations fees, and more.





## What are other states doing to fund public transit?

According to information on the website of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the gas tax is the most common source of funding for transportation. The following states have taken action:

- California, Indiana, Montana, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, New Jersey, and Massachusetts have passed increases to fuel taxes.
- New Jersey and Illinois have approved ballot measures to create constitutional transportation “lockboxes” to protect transportation revenues.
- Colorado has approved FASTER legislation, which provides surcharges on motor vehicle registrations, supplement surcharges on oversized/overweight vehicles, daily fees on rented vehicles and incremental fees for late motor vehicle registrations.
- Several states have passed legislation to allow a variable rate or indexed rate structure presumably to ensure revenues kept pace with inflation and fuel consumption patterns.

