

10/21/14

ABC/Post Poll: More Prefer Public Transit to Road Building

By Ryan Struyk

Americans in an ABC News/Washington Post poll favor expanded public transportation options over road building in government efforts to reduce traffic congestion. But where they live makes a difference.

Overall, 54 percent prefer focusing on public transit, such as trains and buses, while four in ten say the government should focus on expanding and building roads instead. Preference for public transit, though, ranges from 61 percent of urban residents to 52 percent of suburbanites and 49 percent of people in rural areas.

The results come as Vice President Joe Biden and six mayors from major U.S. cities are scheduled to attend a Washington Post forum today on relieving traffic congestion.

There are other differences among groups. Preference for a focus on public transit peaks at two in three liberals and six in ten college graduates, as well as among nonwhites, people under age 40, those in the top income category, \$100,000-plus, and political independents.

Other groups have a slight preference for road building: strong conservatives, evangelical white Protestants and white men without a college degree.

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by telephone Sept. 4-7, 2014, among a random national sample of 1,001 adults, including landline and cell phone-only respondents. Results have a 3.5 point error margin. Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York.

1-36 Previously released.

37. In general, do you think government efforts to reduce traffic congestion around the country should be focused more on expanding and building roads, or on providing more public transportation options, such as trains or buses?

	Focus on roads	Provide more public transportation options	No opinion
9/7/14	41	54	5