

WOMEN AND PUBLIC TRANSIT



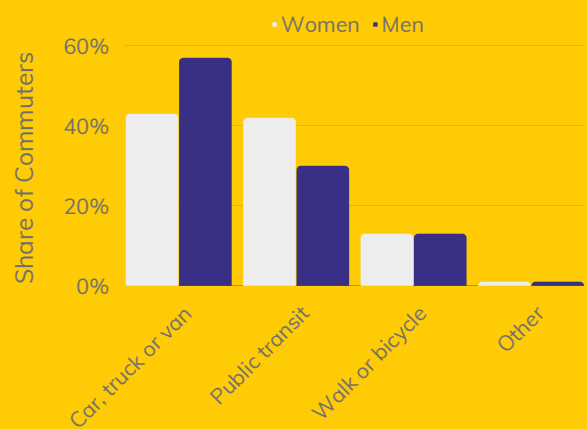
Women make up the majority of public transit riders.

Women have different travel patterns on public transit.

- Take several trips in one day.
- Link trips together.
- Travel at off-peak times.
- Travel with children.
- Travel for reasons related to household responsibilities.

Women are more likely to use public transit to commute.

Faced with greater household and childcare responsibilities, women often seek employment closer to their homes and therefore, commute shorter distances to work than men.



Commute mode in Canada's three largest cities

90%

of sexual harassment and assault incidents in Canada's transit systems are perpetrated by men against women.

Women are forced to develop coping mechanisms to prevent violence on public transit.

- Avoid specific transit routes or stops.
- Get off at earlier stops.
- Are on constant high alert.
- Use cellphones and headphones to thwart unwanted attention.
- Avoid public transit at nighttime.

Safe and gender-responsive public transit systems

- Evidence-based and community-engaged transit policy and planning.
- Training and bystander education for transit operators and the public.
- Gender-responsive transit infrastructure, such as increased lighting, panic buttons, seating and space for women, and real-time transit information.
- Gender-responsive transit services, including fare structures that align with women's transit use and request-stop programs that allow riders to get off transit at locations closer to their destination.

