

# PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN THE U.S. GUIDED WORKSHEET (PROVIDER VERSION)

The following worksheet can be used to guide participants' understanding of Public Transportation in the U.S. **fact sheet, podcast, or video.** You may add additional statements or discussion questions based on participant needs.

## PART I: AGREE OR DISAGREE

Ask participants to answer the following questions. You may first ask them to answer without the fact sheet (or podcast or video) to check themselves. You may give them the statements to complete independently, or in groups, or read them out loud. You may provide additional information as necessary after each statement.

1. Owning a car is not expensive in the U.S. and you can expect to purchase a car quickly. (Disagree)
2. Your Resettlement Agency will give you information about local public transportation soon after you arrive. (Agree)
3. Public transportation in the U.S. varies from place to place and you can expect every city or town to have buses, subways, and commuter trains. (Agree)
4. In the U.S. there are no laws to regulate walking and biking. (Disagree)
5. Ride sharing and taxis are more expensive than public transportation options and are generally not recommended for daily use. (Agree)
6. If you purchase a car, you will be required to get a driving test and license to operate it. (Agree)

## PART II: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Depending on the group, ask participants the following discussion questions. They may generate responses in pairs or groups and report back, or you can have them respond directly to you. The answers provided are based on the fact sheet, podcast, and video, but you may incorporate additional information as appropriate.

1. What are three major types of public transportation in the U.S.?

**Follow-up question:** Are you required to pay for public transportation?

### Answers

- There are three major types of public transportation in the U.S.: buses, subways, and commuter trains.
- Yes, you will need to buy a ticket in advance or pay upon boarding to use public transportation. Sometimes, you will need exact fare or electronic transit card with enough credit to cover the fare.

2. How might your experience on public transportation change if you travel during rush hour (a time during each day when traffic is at its heaviest, usually twice a day, in the morning and evening, the times during which most people travel to and from work.)?

### Answers

- The price for public transportation may be higher than at other times of the day.
- Trains and busses may also be more crowded during rush hour, and in big cities, it may take considerably longer to get to your destination.

3. What can you do to remain safe when walking in your community?

### Answers

- There are laws in the U.S. that regulate walking. It is important to know and follow these laws in your community in order to be safe.
- Be aware of traffic signs and signals. Use sidewalks and make sure to cross the street at crosswalks or corners.

4. What are some responsibilities of owning a car?

**Follow-up question:** Will you be able to purchase a car immediately after you arrive?

### Answers

- You must pay car-related expenses including monthly car payments (if purchased on credit); insurance premiums; license and registration fees; and parking, gas, and maintenance costs.
- Owning a car is expensive and may not be feasible for you at first. Car-related expenses can drain your income quickly. Later, after you have a job and can afford car expenses, you may decide to purchase a car.