

Introduction Aerial photography and satellite tracking reveal how America's transportation systems makes us the most mobile people on earth. Vast networks of roads, rails, and airways and an army of workers keep the wheels turning. But it's getting harder and harder to keep all of these systems running as many of them are ageing, designed at a time when America was far less crowded. But even as they struggle to keep up, everyday our systems miraculously manage to get us where we need to go. In this activity you will be taken on a journey across the country to discover how the U.S. transportation system works, including a "behind the scenes" look at the modes of transportation, components, careers, infrastructure, and issues of the aging system that cannot keep pace with a growing US population.

Instructions

1. Go to Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, Advanced Transportation and Manufacturing Pathway futureready website. Click on the [Transportation Exploration Activity](#) link to go there.
2. Watch the **Transportation Systems in the USA** video.
3. While watching the video:
 - a. Write down all the components you see and hear that make up the U.S. transportation system.
 - b. Write down all the transportation terms you hear.
 - c. Write down all the jobs/careers you see and hear that make up the U.S. transportation system.
 - d. Write down all the issues that currently exist in the U.S. transportation system that are mentioned in the video.
4. Provide 2-3 examples of the connections that exist between the daily lives of people who live in the U.S. and the transportation system. Here are a couple of questions to get you started...How do people move about? How do they get the goods that they use?
5. In what ways has transportation changed ways of life for people living in the U.S. in recent history?
6. What are three major issues with the current transportation system – particularly as population grows in the U.S.?
7. Save your work as you will be referring back to this information for upcoming activities.