Indicator Dictionary

Average Fare	Total revenue from collected fares divided by total trips (UPTs). Fares are a measure of transit's cost competitiveness.
Average Trip Length	Total miles traveled by passengers on all modes divided by unlinked passenger trips. It describes how riders use transit.
Average Vehicle Speed	Total vehicle revenue miles divided by total vehicle revenue hours, for all modes. It relates to transit's time competitiveness.
Bus Ridership	Unlinked passenger trips on any bus mode, which include local, rapid, commuter, and trolley bus.
Farebox Recovery	Share of operating expenses covered by fares. It measures how much an agency depends on riders to fund operations.
High-Frequency Service	Stops that are served, on average, at least once every 15 minutes, between 7am-10pm, 7 days a week, by any mode.
Job & Population Density	Combined residential population and jobs per square mile.
Miles Between Failures	Average miles vehicles of any mode travel between major mechanical failures. It relates to service reliability and vehicles state-of-good-repair.
Minimum Headway	Minimum average time (in minutes) between scheduled transit trips for all modes. It relates to service frequency. It is a function of directional route miles, vehicles in operation, and speed.
Operating Expenses	Total transit agency expenses for operating service, for all modes. Operating expenses are a measure of service provision.
Rail Ridership	Unlinked passenger trips on any rail mode, which include light, heavy, commuter, hybrid, and streetcar rail; monorail; & cable car.
Statewide Gas Price	Dollars per gallon. It measures driving's cost competitiveness.
Transit Ridership	Total unlinked passenger trips (UPTs) taken, on any public transit mode. Legs of a trip with transfers are counted as individual trips.
Trips Per Person	Transit ridership divided by service area population. It standardizes ridership by region size. *Due to inconsistent data reporting, changes over yearly periods may be inaccurate.*
Vehicle Revenue Miles	Total miles that vehicles of any mode travel in revenue service (or, serving customers). VRM is a measure of service provision.
Vehicle Revenue Miles per Trip	Vehicle revenue miles divided by unlinked passenger trips. It standardizes service provision by agency ridership.

National Transit Database also has a useful glossary of transit terms.
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