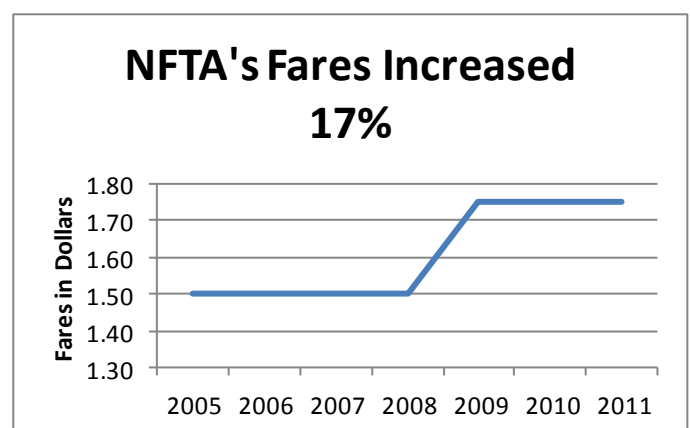
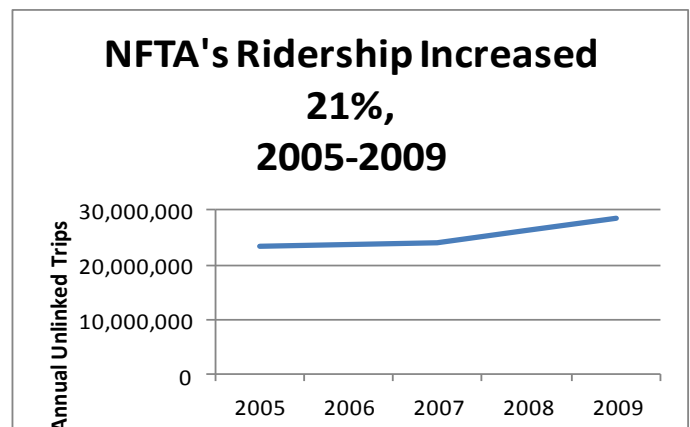


# Stuck at Home: How Cuts to Public Transit Disproportionately Hurt Seniors and Low-Income New Yorkers

## Snapshot: Effects on Buffalo's NFTA System

As New York faces an unprecedented economic crisis and transit ridership soars, dwindling state and local funding for transit systems has forced transit providers to make difficult choices—raising fares, cutting service, and dipping into reserve and capital funds to keep the system running. Shrinking dollars for transit means shrinking options for those who can least afford it, including low-income, senior, and other transit-dependent populations. Buffalo's seniors and low-income residents, many of whom are dependent on the bus to get to doctors appointments, jobs and social activities, are more likely to be stuck at home as their transportation options become more expensive and more difficult to access. *In 2011, NFTA commissioners considered a 22% cut in services miles, plus other measures, to cover a \$15 million dollar budget gap—drastic measures averted, in part, by dollars coming from Albany. NYS covers 35% of NFTA's operating budget, so it has a significant impact on the system.* Unless NYS helps to fill the budget gap, the long-term social and economic costs of a faltering transit system will only get worse.

% Ridership Increase, 2005-2009	21%
% Fare Increase since 2005	17%
% Service Decrease in Service from Peak Levels*	-2.4%
% Buffalo Households without a Car in 2010	30%



Sources:

\*Annual Vehicle Revenue Miles

National Transit Database, 2010 American Community Survey, NYSDOT, New York Public Transit Association.