TAM Performance Measures

Background

In 2012, MAP-21 mandated FTA to develop a rule establishing a strategic and systematic process of operating, maintaining, and improving public capital assets effectively through their entire life cycle. The TAM Final Rule 49 USC 625 became effective Oct. 1, 2016 and established four performance measures. The performance management requirements outlined in 49 USC 625 Subpart D are a minimum standard for transit operators. Providers with more data and sophisticated analysis expertise are allowed to add performance measures and utilize those advanced techniques in addition to the required national performance measures.

Performance Measures

Rolling Stock: The percentage of revenue vehicles (by type) that exceed the useful life benchmark (ULB).

Equipment: The percentage of non-revenue service vehicles (by type) that exceed the ULB.

Facilities: The percentage of facilities (by group) that are rated less than 3.0 on the Transit Economic Requirements Model (TERM) Scale.

Infrastructure: The percentage of track segments (by mode) that have performance restrictions. Track segments are measured to the nearest 0.01 of a mile.

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Data To Be Reported - Optional Report Year 2017, Mandatory Report Year 2018

Rolling Stock: The National Transit Database (NTD) lists 23 types of rolling stock, including bus and rail modes. Targets are set for each mode an agency, or Group Plan Sponsor, has in its inventory.

FTA default ULB or Agency customized ULB: Default ULBs represent maximum useful life based on the TERM model. Agencies can choose to customize based on analysis of their data OR they can use the FTA provided default ULBs.

Equipment: Only 3 classes of non-revenue service vehicles are collected and used for target setting: 1) automobiles, 2) other rubber tire vehicles, and 3) other steel wheel vehicles.

Facilities: Four types of facilities are reported to NTD. Only 2 groups are used for target setting 1) Administrative and Maintenance and 2) Passenger and Parking.

Infrastructure: The NTD lists 9 types of rail modes; the NTD collects data by mode for track and other infrastructure assets.

BRT and Ferry are NTD fixed guideway modes but are not included in TAM targets.

TAM Performance Metrics: The NTD collects current year performance data. The NTD will collect additional Asset Inventory Module (AIM) data but targets forecast performance measures in the next fiscal year.

TAM Narrative Report: The TAM Rule requires agencies to submit this report to the NTD annually. The report describes conditions in the prior year that led to target attainment status.

www.transit.dot.gov/TAM/ULBcheatsheet

TERM Scale: Facility condition assessments reported to the NTD have one overall TERM rating per facility. Agencies are not required to use TERM model for conducting condition assessment but must report the facility condition assessment as a TERM rating score.

What You Need to Know About Establishing Targets

Include:
- Only those assets for which you have direct capital responsibility.
- Only asset types specifically referenced in performance measure.

Group Plans:
- Only one unified target per performance measure type.
- Sponsors may choose to develop more than one Group Plan.

MPOs:
- MPOs must establish targets specific to the MPO planning area for the same performance measures for all public transit providers in the MPO planning area within 180 days of when the transit provider establishes its targets.
- Opportunity to collaborate with transit providers.

TERM Rating	Condition	Description
Excellent	4.8–5.0	No visible defects, near-new condition.
Good	4.0–4.7	Some slightly defective or deteriorated components.
Adequate	3.0–3.9	Moderately defective or deteriorated components.
Marginal	2.0–2.9	Defective or deteriorated components in need of replacement.
Poor	1.0–1.9	Seriously damaged components in need of immediate repair.

Example Target Calculations

Rolling Stock and Equipment: Each target is based on the agency's fleet and age. Agencies set only one target per mode/class/asset type. If an agency has multiple fleets in one asset type (see example BU and CU) of different service age, it must combine those fleets to calculate the performance metric percentage of asset type that exceeds ULB and to set the following fiscal year's target. The performance metric calculation does not include emergency contingency vehicles.

Asset Category	Vehicle Class/Type	Fleet Size	Vehicle age	default ULB	FY 16 Performance Metric (% Exceeding ULB)	FY17 Target
Rolling Stock	Over the road bus (BU)	10	5	14 years		
		15	13	14 years	0%	60%
	Cutaway bus (CU)	19	8	10 years		
		5	12	10 years	21%	21%
	Mini Van (MV)	5	5	8 years	0%	0%
	Van (VN)	1	10	8 years		
		2	5	8 years	67%	67%
Equipment	Auto (AO)	5	4	8 years	0%	0%

This example assumes no new vehicle purchases in the calculation of targets for FY17, therefore the FY17 target for over the road bus (BU) increases due to the second fleet vehicles aging another year and exceeding the default ULB. If an agency is more conservative, then it might set higher value targets. If an agency is more ambitious or expects funding to purchase new vehicles, then it might set lower value targets.

There is no penalty for missing a target and there is no reward for attaining a target. Targets are reported to the NTD annually on the A-90 form. The fleet information entered in the inventory forms will automatically populate the A-90 form with the range of types, classes, and modes associated with the modes reported.

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