THE TEN DIMENSIONS OF TRANSPORT RELATED SOCIAL EXCLUSION

Matthew Bruno; Niels van Oort
Smart Public Transport Lab, Delft University of Technology, 2023

Transport related Social Exclusion (TRSE) looks at how people who are socially disadvantaged for reasons such as employment status, income, age, or ability, can face limitations in their ability to access transportation services. As income is only one of these factors, people can experience TRSE without having a low income (Yigitcanlar et al., 2018). Rather, social exclusion is defined by an exclusion from economic life, social services, civic life, and social networks (Spoor, 2013). TRSE looks at how elements of the transportation system contribute to this exclusion (Yigitcanlar et al., 2018).

In their study of transport and social exclusion in London, Church et al.(2000) conducted the first systematic analysis of TRSE, creating a framework that divided the sources of TRSE into seven distinct categories. Since then, scholars working in the field of TRSE have built on their work, both adding categories and changing how the different categories are named and conceptualized (Benevenuto & Caulfield, 2019; Cass et al., 2005; Hine & Mitchell, 2001; Yigitcanlar et al., 2018). Luz and Portugal (Luz & Portugal, 2021) synthesized this literature to create a comprehensive a list of the nine previously identified forms of TRSE and then added another dimension, digital divide exclusion, that was not present in their literature review.

The overview provided here furthers the process begun by Luz & Portugal (2021) by making minor adjustments in the names of two of the categories. What Luz & Portugal (2021) referred to as "exclusion based on fear, prejudice or feelings" (2021, p. 12) is listed here with the original category designation from Church et al. (2000): fear-based exclusion. Social position-based exclusion has also been renamed to discrimination based exclusion, relying on the source work of Benevenuto & Caulfield (2019) that examined how transport policies have both intentionally and unintentionally resulted in discrimination based on race and gender, including the intersectionality of these and other forms of identity.

Table 1 provides an overview of these 10 dimensions of TRSE, including their definitions and the academic sources in which they are described. These are visualised in Figure 1.

Table 1: The 10 Types of TRSE, adapted from Luz & Portugal (2021)

| Category	Definition	Source
Exclusion from facilities	The absence of or excessive distance to key opportunities	Church et al., 2000
Geographical exclusion	Residence is too far from or not connected to the transportation system	Church et al., 2000; Hine & Mitchell, 2001
Space exclusion	Certain groups are not welcome in controlled or surveilled spaces	Church et al., 2000; Hine & Mitchell, 2001
Physical exclusion	The transport system has material barriers that prevent some people from using it	Church et al., 2000
Time-based exclusion	The transport system is not fast enough or does not operate when a person needs it	Church et al., 2000
Fear-based exclusion	Concerns about safety prevent people from using the transport system	Church et al., 2000
Informational exclusion	Lack of knowledge about the transport system prevents people from using it	Yigitcanlar et al., 2018
Economic exclusion	The costs of the transport system limit the ability of people to use it	Church et al., 2000
Digital divide exclusion	Inability to use or access certain technologies prevents people from using the transportation system	Luz & Portugal, 2021; Durand et al., 2022
Discrimination-based exclusion	People face barriers to access because of some element of their identity	Adapted from Benevenuto & Caulfield, 2019
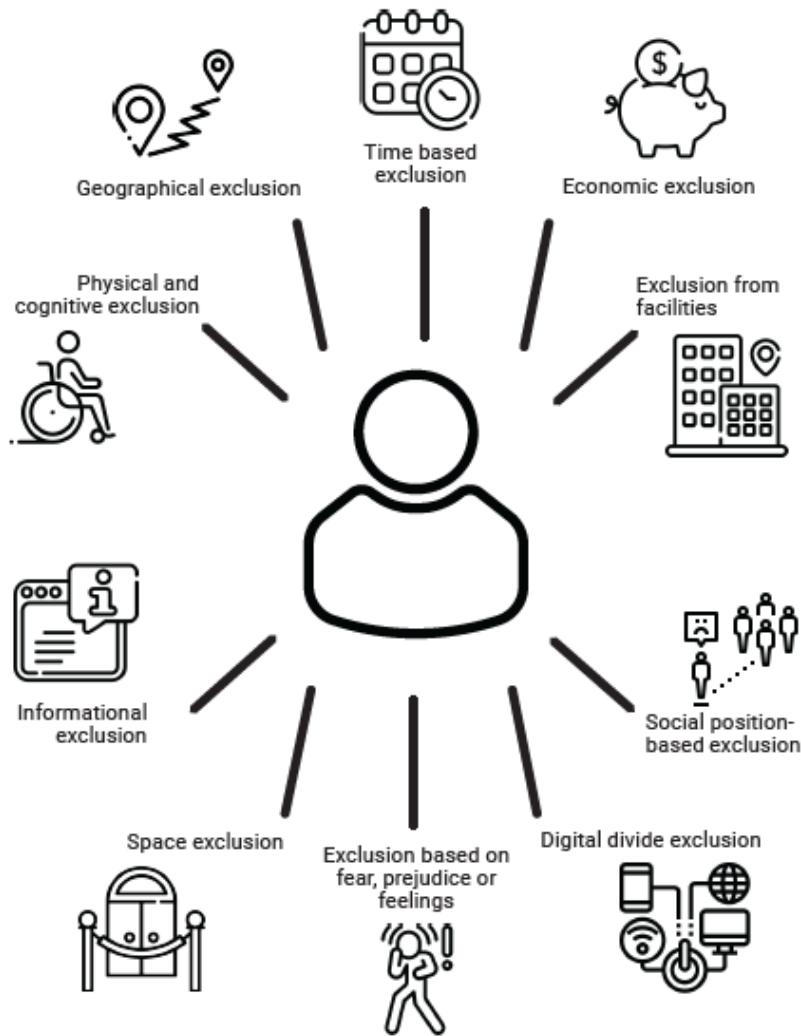
Figure 1: The 10 Types of Transport related Social Exclusion

References

Benevenuto, R., & Caulfield, B. (2019). *Poverty and transport in the global south: An overview*. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tranpol.2019.04.018

Cass, N., Shove, E., & Urry, J. (2005). Social exclusion, mobility and access. *The Sociological Review*, *53*(3), 539–555. https://doi.org/10.1111/J.1467-954X.2005.00565.X

Church, A., Frost, M., & Sullivan, K. (2000). Transport and social exclusion in London. *Transport Policy*, *7*(3), 195–205. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0967-070X(00)00024-X

Durand, A., T. Zijlstra, N. van Oort, S. Hoogendoorn-Lanser & S.P. Hoogendoorn (2022) Access denied? Digital inequality in transport services, *Transport Reviews*, 42:1, 32-57, DOI: 10.1080/01441647.2021.1923584

Hine, J., & Mitchell, F. (2001). Better for Everyone? Travel Experiences and Transport Exclusion. *Urban Studies*, *38*(2), 319–332. https://doi.org/10.1080/00420980020018619

Luz, G., & Portugal, L. (2021). Understanding transport-related social exclusion through the lens of capabilities approach. *Transport Reviews*. https://doi.org/10.1080/01441647.2021.2005183

Spoor, M. (2013). Multidimensional Social Exclusion and the 'Rural-Urban Divide' in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. *Sociologia Ruralis*, *53*(2), 139–157. https://doi.org/10.1111/SORU.12008

Yigitcanlar, T., Mohamed, A., Kamruzzaman, M., & Piracha, A. (2018). Understanding Transport-Related Social Exclusion: A Multidimensional Approach. *Https://Doi-Org.Dianus.Libr.Tue.Nl/10.1080/08111146.2018.1533461*, *37*(1), 97–110. https://doi.org/10.1080/08111146.2018.1533461