

RIDERSHIP TRENDS

September 2018



**Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning
November 2018 (Revised)**

Table of Contents

Executive Summary1

Ridership3

 Estimated Passenger Trips by Line3

 Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair4

 Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type5

 Passenger Loads6

 RTA Ride Free Permit Free Trips6

 Accessible Trips7

 Bicycle Trips7

Ridership Influences8

 Employment8

 Gas Prices9

 Road Construction9

 Service Changes10

 Special Events and Promotions10

Passenger Revenue and Ticket Sales11

 Passenger Revenue11

 Ticket Sales14

 Link-Up and PlusBus Sales19

 Reduced Fare Sales.....20

Executive Summary

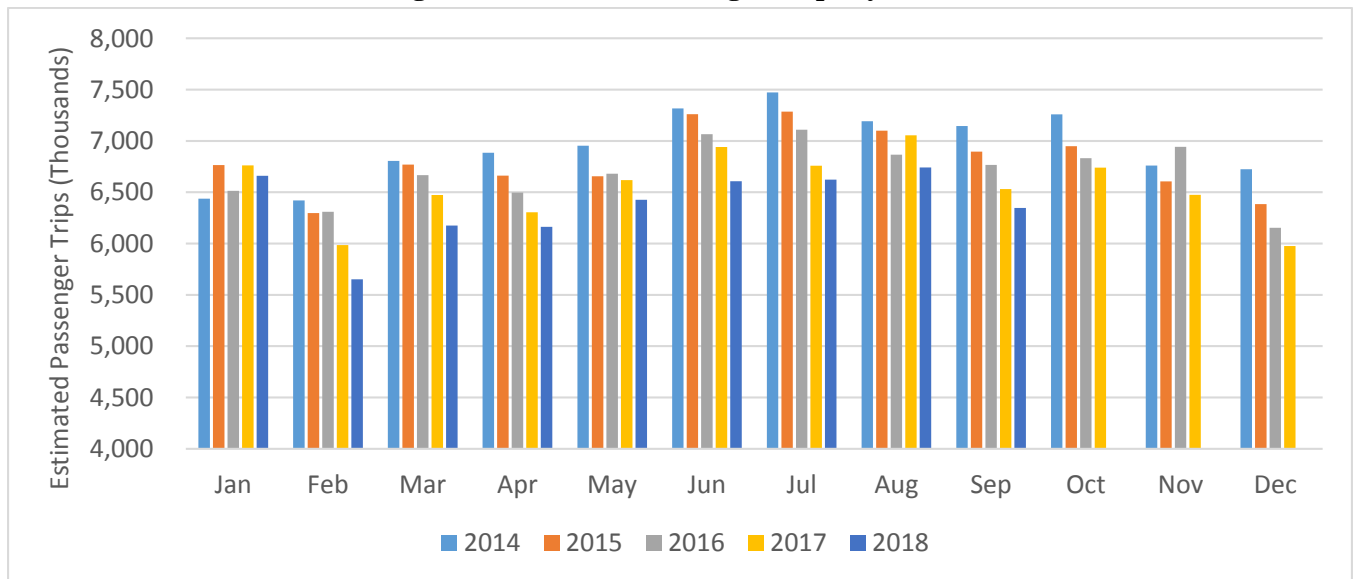
Estimated passenger trips decreased 2.8 percent in September 2018 compared to September 2017. September 2018 had one less weekday, the same number of Saturdays, and one more Sunday compared to September 2018.

Estimated passenger trips have decreased 3.5 percent in the last 12 months compared to the previous 12 months.

Table 1: Estimated Passenger Trips by Month

Month	Estimated Passenger Trips					Change	
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018	2017-2018
Jan	6,437	6,764	6,513	6,762	6,661	3.5%	-1.5%
Feb	6,419	6,297	6,310	5,985	5,651	-12.0%	-5.6%
Mar	6,805	6,770	6,666	6,474	6,176	-9.2%	-4.6%
Apr	6,885	6,663	6,497	6,305	6,162	-10.5%	-2.3%
May	6,953	6,656	6,681	6,618	6,426	-7.6%	-2.9%
Jun	7,318	7,260	7,066	6,941	6,607	-9.7%	-4.8%
Jul	7,473	7,286	7,110	6,759	6,623	-11.4%	-2.0%
Aug	7,192	7,100	6,866	7,055	6,742	-6.3%	-4.4%
Sep	7,144	6,896	6,766	6,530	6,347	-11.2%	-2.8%
Oct	7,260	6,949	6,832	6,740			
Nov	6,760	6,606	6,943	6,475			
Dec	6,724	6,385	6,153	5,976			
Year-to-date	62,626	61,691	60,474	59,430	57,394	-8.4%	-3.4%
Last 3 Months	21,809	21,282	20,742	20,344	19,712	-9.6%	-3.1%
Last 12 Months	83,052	82,435	80,414	79,358	76,585	-7.8%	-3.5%

Figure 1: Estimated Passenger Trips by Month



For the 2018 budget year, Metra estimated total annual passenger trips to be 77.8 million. To track how well ridership is comparing to this budgeted amount, monthly estimates have been calculated by distributing the budgeted trips throughout the year based on the distribution in previous years. Unanticipated differences in holiday and special event travel are common explanations for variations between the monthly budget distribution and actual ridership. These effects are less pronounced at the quarterly and annual level. Table 2 shows the estimated monthly passenger trips compared to this distribution.

Table 2: Estimated vs. Budget Passenger Trips

Month	Estimated Passenger Trips (Thousands)		Variance
	Budget (2018)	Actual (2018)	
Jan	6,800	6,661	-2.1%
Feb	5,900	5,651	-4.2%
Mar	6,200	6,176	-0.4%
1st Quarter	18,900	18,488	-2.2%
Apr	6,400	6,162	-3.7%
May	6,500	6,426	-1.1%
Jun	6,600	6,607	0.1%
2nd Quarter	19,500	19,195	-1.6%
Jul	6,900	6,623	-4.0%
Aug	7,000	6,742	-3.7%
Sep	6,200	6,347	2.4%
3rd Quarter	20,100	19,712	-1.9%
Oct	6,900		
Nov	6,500		
Dec	5,900		
4th Quarter	19,300		
Year-to-date	58,500	57,394	-1.9%
Total	77,800		

Ridership

Estimated ridership figures are based on the number of ticket sales multiplied by a standard ridership factor unique to each ticket type, in addition to the number of RTA Ride Free Permit passenger trips reported by conductors.

Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

Table 3 shows estimated passenger trips by line for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Estimated passenger trips decreased by 3.1 percent in the last three months compared to the previous year, and decreased 3.5 percent in the last 12 months compared to the previous year.

Table 3: Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

Line	September			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	1,355,258	1,322,321	-2.4%	4,216,762	4,102,017	-2.7%	16,332,322	15,942,201	-2.4%
HC	60,243	60,593	0.6%	183,429	185,529	1.1%	732,928	726,499	-0.9%
MD-N	569,503	548,299	-3.7%	1,792,184	1,726,202	-3.7%	6,873,753	6,640,457	-3.4%
MD-W	530,068	517,055	-2.5%	1,650,151	1,608,067	-2.6%	6,438,054	6,189,324	-3.9%
ME	669,398	646,778	-3.4%	2,052,183	1,957,668	-4.6%	8,305,891	7,778,461	-6.4%
NCS	138,489	136,409	-1.5%	430,162	419,457	-2.5%	1,691,272	1,657,699	-2.0%
RI	654,045	631,684	-3.4%	2,020,359	1,940,614	-3.9%	8,006,078	7,660,011	-4.3%
SWS	204,092	201,078	-1.5%	614,283	608,123	-1.0%	2,466,277	2,436,238	-1.2%
UP-N	754,729	725,959	-3.8%	2,368,671	2,272,006	-4.1%	9,101,285	8,752,394	-3.8%
UP-NW	900,891	877,284	-2.6%	2,841,950	2,761,794	-2.8%	11,019,089	10,628,679	-3.5%
UP-W	693,709	679,061	-2.1%	2,174,367	2,130,223	-2.0%	8,390,640	8,173,071	-2.6%
Total	6,530,423	6,346,519	-2.8%	20,344,498	19,711,697	-3.1%	79,357,587	76,585,032	-3.5%

Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

Table 4 shows estimated passenger trips by fare zone pair for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months.

- The long-term decline in No Zone Pair passenger trips is expected to continue as data collection improvements and the shift to the Ventra App cause fewer trips to be reported without a zone pair.
- In July 2018, year-long testing of the zone consolidation policy began. All tickets for Zones K through M were capped to the price of Zone J tickets. This caused an increase in passenger trips for Zone A-J, and a decrease for passenger trips for Zones A-K and A-M. There are no stations in Zone L.

Table 4: Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

Zone Pair	September (Thousands)			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
A-A	19	22	16.9%	59	60	2.5%	245	236	-3.8%
A-B	468	462	-1.4%	1,413	1,383	-2.1%	5,722	5,533	-3.3%
A-C	868	874	0.7%	2,644	2,650	0.2%	10,614	10,487	-1.2%
A-D	1,080	1,049	-2.9%	3,290	3,223	-2.0%	13,056	12,758	-2.3%
A-E	1,364	1,344	-1.4%	4,197	4,138	-1.4%	16,501	16,185	-1.9%
A-F	821	820	-0.1%	2,510	2,527	0.7%	9,938	9,836	-1.0%
A-G	500	494	-1.3%	1,541	1,510	-2.0%	6,019	5,933	-1.4%
A-H	402	395	-1.7%	1,257	1,242	-1.1%	4,962	4,820	-2.9%
A-I	135	135	-0.3%	421	422	0.3%	1,670	1,643	-1.6%
A-J	24	56	135.1%	74	154	106.7%	299	361	20.9%
A-K	27	-	-100.0%	83	19	-77.1%	335	258	-22.8%
A-M	7	-	-100.0%	24	4	-81.2%	91	64	-29.5%
<i>A-J, K, & M</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>-3.2%</i>	<i>182</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>-2.3%</i>	<i>725</i>	<i>684</i>	<i>-5.6%</i>
Intermediate	210	197	-6.1%	619	592	-4.5%	2,486	2,342	-5.8%
No Zone Pair	606	500	-17.6%	2,212	1,785	-19.3%	7,419	6,128	-17.4%
Total	6,530	6,347	-2.8%	20,344	19,712	-3.1%	79,358	76,585	-3.5%

Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

Table 5 shows estimated passenger trips by ticket type for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Special event tickets and other data irregularities can affect month-to-month comparisons of passenger trips by ticket type:

- Stockpiling of 10-Ride Tickets occurred in advance of the 2017 and 2018 fare increases. As a result, 10-ride Ticket passenger trips were overstated in January and understated in subsequent months.
- The large decrease in special pass passenger trips in the last 12 months compared to the previous year is due to the November 2016 Cubs Rally.

Table 5: Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	September (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	3,841	3,739	-2.6%	58.7%	58.9%	11,227	10,997	-2.1%	55.1%	55.7%
10-Ride Ticket	1,537	1,500	-2.4%	23.5%	23.6%	4,887	4,720	-3.4%	24.0%	23.9%
One-Way Ticket	740	782	5.7%	11.3%	12.3%	2,716	2,837	4.4%	13.3%	14.4%
Weekend Pass	341	247	-27.4%	5.2%	3.9%	1,166	865	-25.8%	5.7%	4.4%
Special Passes	3	7	139.6%	0.0%	0.1%	125	81	-35.1%	0.6%	0.4%
RTA Ride Free Permit	79	73	-7.8%	1.2%	1.1%	250	233	-6.6%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	6,541	6,348	-2.9%			20,371	19,732	-3.1%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	46,830	44,678	-4.6%	59.0%	58.3%
10-Ride Ticket	18,354	18,621	1.5%	23.1%	24.3%
One-Way Ticket	9,308	9,354	0.5%	11.7%	12.2%
Weekend Pass	3,550	2,966	-16.5%	4.5%	3.9%
Special Passes	369	91	-75.4%	0.5%	0.1%
RTA Ride Free Permit	959	890	-7.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	79,370	76,599	-3.5%		

¹ Passenger trip totals differ from those presented in other tables in this report, due to adjustments made for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds

Passenger Loads

Table 6 shows the average daily passenger loads by service period for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months, derived from conductor counts. Average peak-peak direction passenger loads decreased by 0.8 percent compared to the previous year, and average total weekday passenger loads decreased by 1.5 percent in the same period.

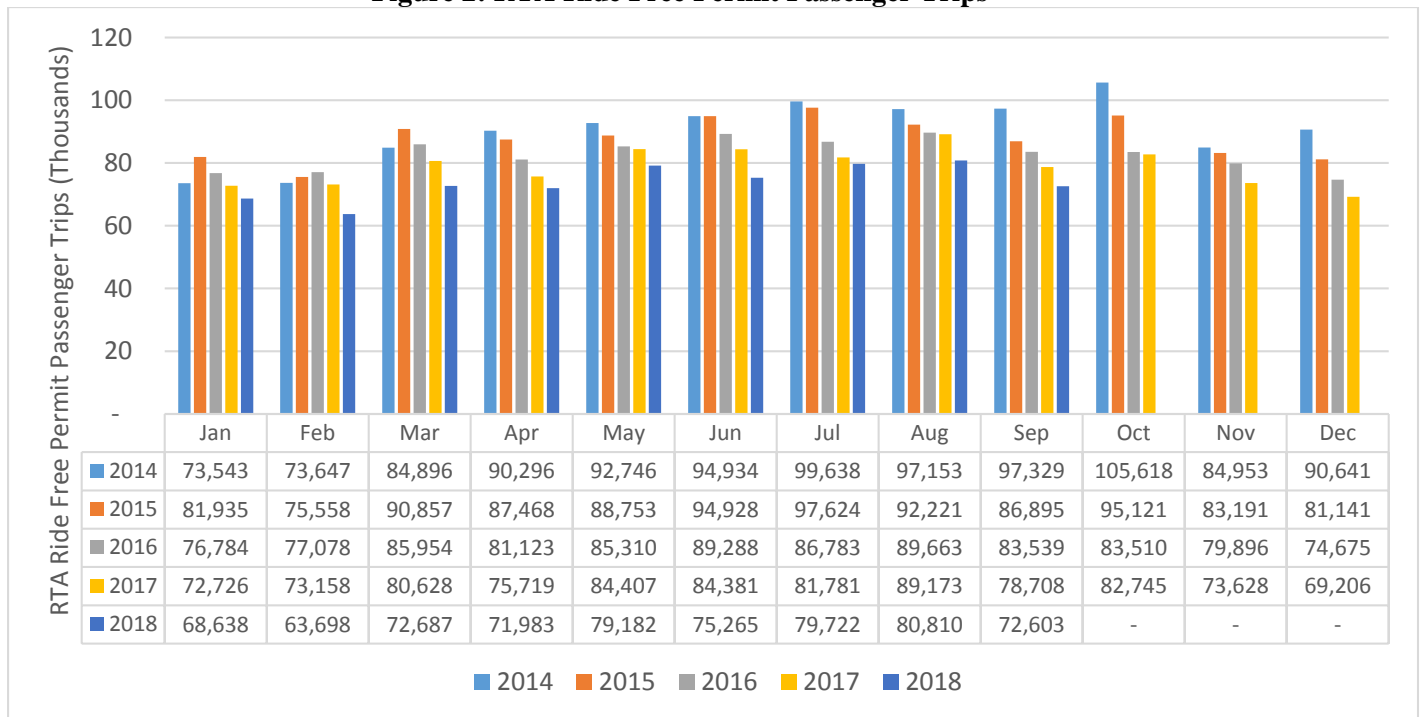
Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads

Service Period	September (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
Peak - Peak Direction	221	219	-0.8%	219	214	-2.1%	216	213	-1.2%
Peak - Reverse Direction	21	20	-5.3%	21	20	-2.4%	20	20	0.5%
Midday	33	31	-5.4%	34	34	-2.0%	32	32	-2.3%
Evening	16	16	2.7%	19	18	-3.6%	16	16	-2.6%
Weekday	290	286	-1.5%	293	286	-2.2%	284	280	-1.3%
Saturday	65	57	-11.5%	78	68	-12.3%	67	60	-10.5%
Sunday	46	40	-12.0%	52	47	-10.9%	42	38	-9.0%

RTA Ride Free Permit Free Trips

Figure 2 shows the number of RTA Ride Free Permit passenger trips for the last five years. Trips are included in ridership estimates because Metra is eligible for reimbursement for the number provided.

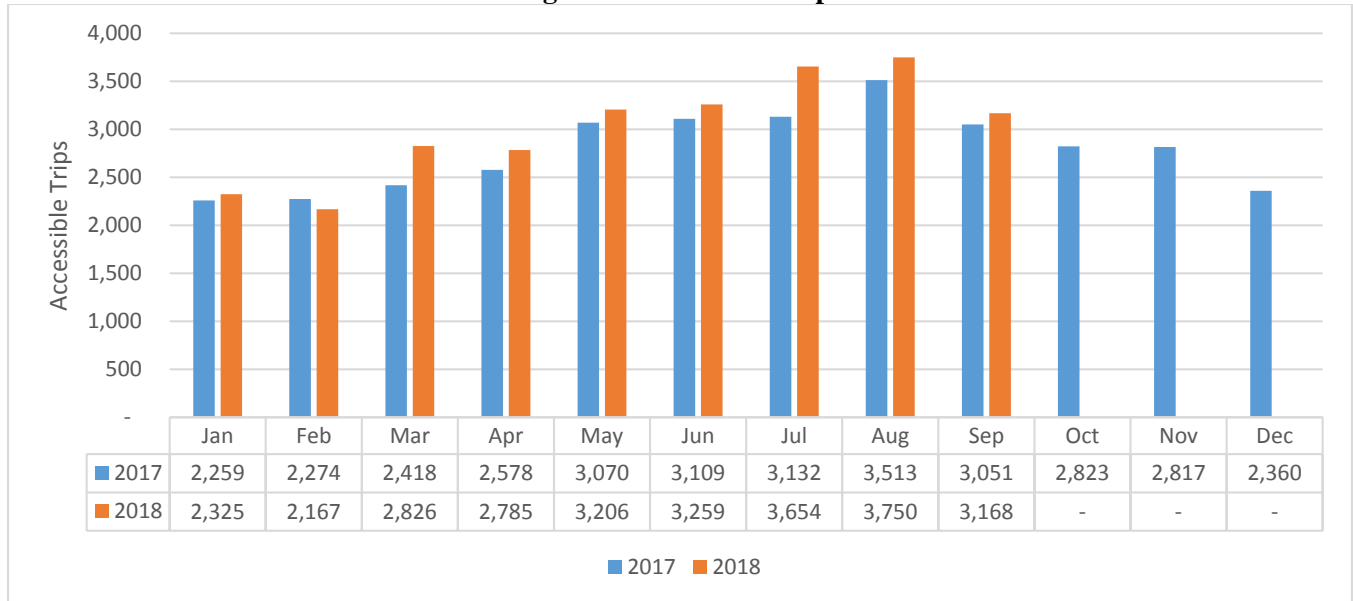
Figure 2: RTA Ride Free Permit Passenger Trips



Accessible Trips

Figure 3 shows the number of trips provided using accessible equipment. Accessible equipment consists of bridge plates on the Metra Electric and wheelchair lifts on all other lines.

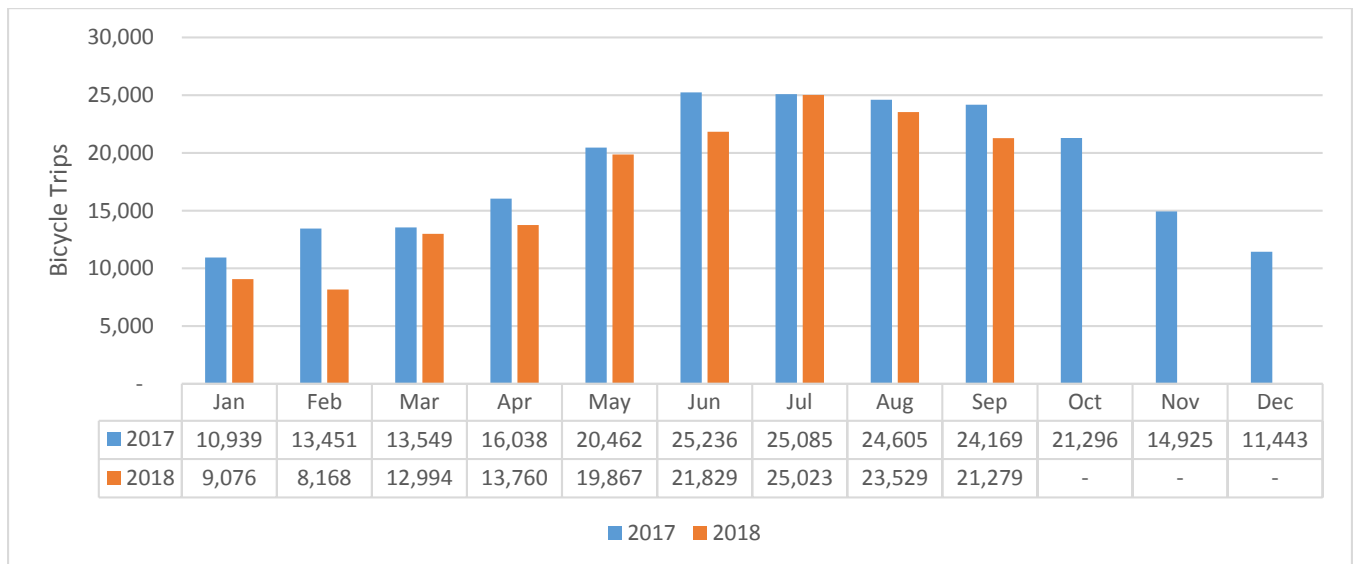
Figure 3: Accessible Trips



Bicycle Trips

Figure 4 shows the number of trips provided where the passenger transported a bicycle.

Figure 4: Bicycle Trips



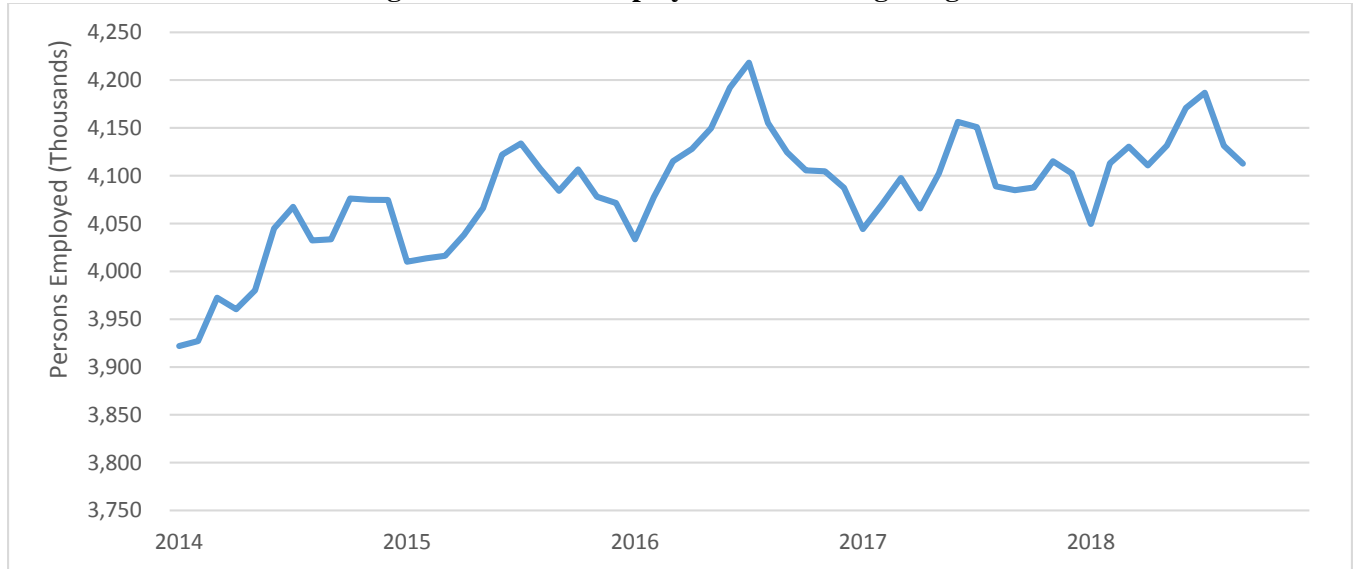
Ridership Influences

Many different factors (such as the employment, gas prices, road construction, service changes, and special events) can influence ridership trends.

Employment

Figure 5 shows the number of persons employed in the six-county Chicago Region. The number of persons employed increased 0.7 percent in September 2018 compared to September 2017.

Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region



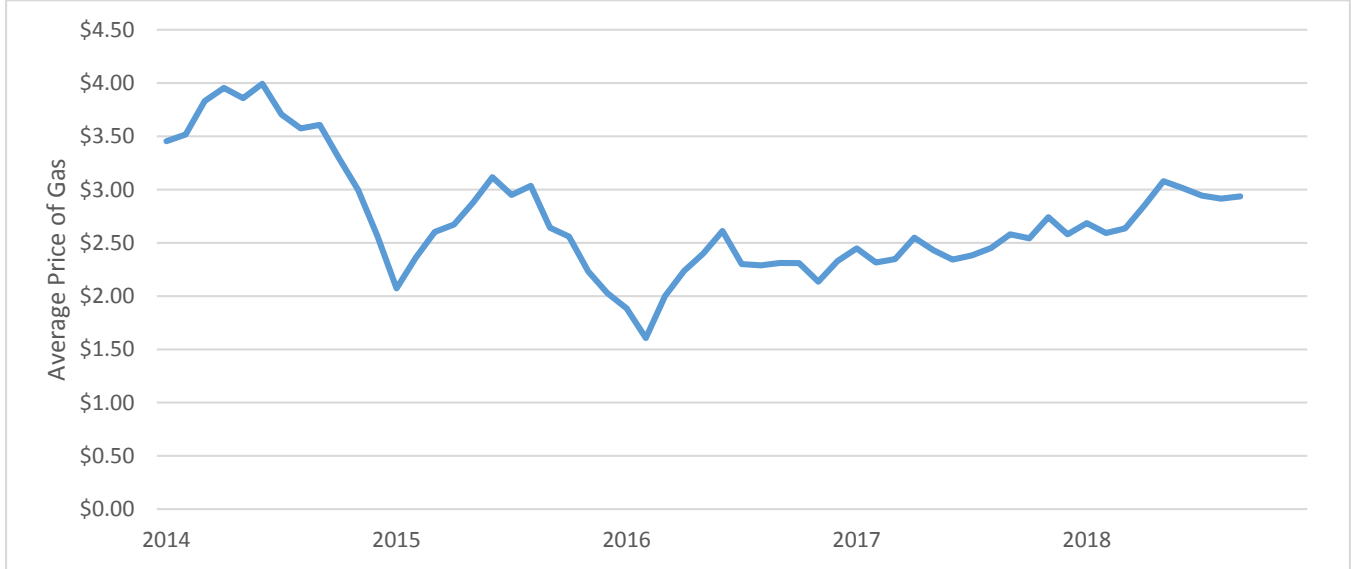
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-to-date Average
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	3,988
2015	4,010	4,014	4,016	4,038	4,066	4,122	4,134	4,108	4,084	4,107	4,078	4,072	4,064
2016	4,033	4,078	4,115	4,128	4,150	4,192	4,218	4,155	4,125	4,106	4,105	4,087	4,134
2017	4,044	4,070	4,098	4,066	4,102	4,156	4,151	4,089	4,085	4,088	4,115	4,102	4,097
2018	4,050	4,113	4,130	4,111	4,131	4,171	4,187	4,131	4,113				4,128
Change 2017-2018	0.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%				0.8%

Source: Illinois Department of Employment Security

Gas Prices

Figure 6 shows the average price of unleaded regular gas for the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha area. The average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gas was \$2.94 in September 2018, a \$0.36 increase compared to September 2017.

Figure 6: Chicago Region Average Gas Prices



Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-to-date Average
2014	\$3.45	\$3.52	\$3.83	\$3.95	\$3.86	\$3.99	\$3.71	\$3.57	\$3.61	\$3.30	\$3.00	\$2.57	\$3.72
2015	\$2.07	\$2.36	\$2.60	\$2.67	\$2.88	\$3.12	\$2.95	\$3.04	\$2.64	\$2.56	\$2.23	\$2.03	\$2.70
2016	\$1.89	\$1.61	\$2.00	\$2.24	\$2.40	\$2.61	\$2.30	\$2.29	\$2.31	\$2.31	\$2.14	\$2.33	\$2.18
2017	\$2.45	\$2.32	\$2.35	\$2.55	\$2.43	\$2.34	\$2.38	\$2.45	\$2.58	\$2.54	\$2.74	\$2.58	\$2.43
2018	\$2.69	\$2.59	\$2.64	\$2.85	\$3.08	\$3.01	\$2.94	\$2.92	\$2.94				\$2.85
Change 2017-2018	\$0.24	\$0.28	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.65	\$0.67	\$0.56	\$0.46	\$0.36				\$0.42

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Road Construction

No new roadway construction projects of regional significance began in September. The following projects are either under construction or were recently completed:

- Jane Byrne Interchange Reconfiguration – In 2015, work began on a major reconfiguration of the Jane Byrne Interchange. Work is expected to continue through 2021.

Service Changes

No service changes occurred in September.

Special Events and Promotions

Extra stops were added to BNSF trains for Riot Fest (September 14-16).

Family Fares ended on Labor Day (September 3).

The first Weekend Pass of September was extended to include Labor Day (September 3).

Passenger Revenue and Ticket Sales

Changes in fares, ticket policies, and ticket sales channels can affect passenger revenue and ticket sales trends:

- The Ventra App was introduced in November 2015, causing a long-term shift from ticket agent and conductor sales to sales through the app.
- In June 2018, Metra stopped selling Monthly Passes and 10-Ride Tickets from vending machines at 15 non-downtown stations on the Metra Electric Line.
- In June 2018, Metra ended its Ticket-by-Internet program.
- Cash vending machines (previously present only on the Metra Electric Line) were eliminated in May 2017, causing a shift toward conductor sales on the Metra Electric Line.
- The Ticket by Mail program was eliminated in July 2017.
- In February 2018, Adult One-Way Ticket fares increased by \$0.25, 10-Ride Ticket fares increased from 9.0 to 9.5 One-Way Tickets, Adult Monthly Pass fares increased from 28.5 to 29.0 One-Way Tickets, and the Weekend Pass fare increased from \$8.00 to \$10.00.
- In July 2018, yearlong testing of the zone consolidation policy began. All tickets from Zone A to Zones K through M were capped to the price of Zone J tickets.
- In July 2018, select stations with perceived inconsistencies in distance from downtown were reassigned to closer zones. Ashland, Racine, West Pullman, Stewart Ridge and State Street stations moved from Zone D to C. On the Metra Electric mainline, the 83rd Street and 87th Street stations were moved from Zone C to B. On the Rock Island Beverly Branch, the 123rd Street Station was moved from Zone D to C.

Special event tickets and other data irregularities can affect month-to-month comparisons of passenger revenue and ticket sales figures:

- Stockpiling of 10-Ride Tickets occurred in advance of the 2017 and 2018 fare increases. As a result, 10-Ride Ticket passenger revenue and ticket sales were overstated in January and understated in subsequent months.
- Special pass passenger revenue and ticket sales are lower in the last 12 months compared to the previous year due to the November 2016 Cubs Rally, but are higher for July 2018 and the last three months. While the price of One-Way tickets increased in 2018, the price of the Ravinia Pass remained at \$8.

Passenger Revenue

Table 7 shows passenger revenue by line for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months.

Table 7: Passenger Revenue by Line

Line	September (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	\$6,318	\$6,650	5.3%	\$19,826	\$20,835	5.1%	\$74,820	\$78,592	5.0%
HC	\$297	\$318	6.9%	\$914	\$977	6.9%	\$3,552	\$3,743	5.4%
MD-N	\$2,675	\$2,798	4.6%	\$8,501	\$8,904	4.7%	\$31,733	\$33,100	4.3%
MD-W	\$2,482	\$2,608	5.1%	\$7,778	\$8,174	5.1%	\$29,603	\$30,561	3.2%
ME	\$2,791	\$2,901	4.0%	\$8,640	\$8,868	2.6%	\$33,999	\$34,223	0.7%
NCS	\$748	\$780	4.2%	\$2,341	\$2,417	3.3%	\$8,949	\$9,323	4.2%
RI	\$2,886	\$2,988	3.6%	\$8,985	\$9,258	3.0%	\$34,554	\$35,420	2.5%
SWS	\$898	\$945	5.2%	\$2,728	\$2,881	5.6%	\$10,624	\$11,207	5.5%
UP-N	\$3,126	\$3,261	4.3%	\$10,004	\$10,367	3.6%	\$37,044	\$38,467	3.8%
UP-NW	\$4,313	\$4,521	4.8%	\$13,763	\$14,408	4.7%	\$51,900	\$53,829	3.7%
UP-W	\$3,204	\$3,393	5.9%	\$10,178	\$10,783	5.9%	\$38,126	\$39,995	4.9%
Total	\$29,737	\$31,163	4.8%	\$93,657	\$97,873	4.5%	\$354,904	\$368,461	3.8%

Table 8 shows passenger revenue by ticket type for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months.

Table 8: Passenger Revenue by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	September (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$15,920	\$16,349	2.7%	53.5%	52.4%	\$46,562	\$48,116	3.3%	49.7%	49.1%
10-Ride Ticket	\$8,280	\$8,899	7.5%	27.8%	28.5%	\$26,470	\$28,150	6.3%	28.2%	28.7%
One-Way Ticket	\$4,480	\$4,908	9.5%	15.1%	15.7%	\$16,445	\$17,814	8.3%	17.5%	18.2%
Weekend Pass	\$1,073	\$989	-7.8%	3.6%	3.2%	\$3,776	\$3,458	-8.4%	4.0%	3.5%
Special Passes	\$11	\$28	150.5%	0.0%	0.1%	\$455	\$432	-5.2%	0.5%	0.4%
Total ¹	\$29,765	\$31,174	4.7%			\$93,708	\$97,969	4.5%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$189,710	\$191,983	1.2%	53.5%	52.1%
10-Ride Ticket	\$97,481	\$107,094	9.9%	27.5%	29.1%
One-Way Ticket	\$55,410	\$58,144	4.9%	15.6%	15.8%
Weekend Pass	\$11,299	\$10,956	-3.0%	3.2%	3.0%
Special Passes	\$1,021	\$470	-53.9%	0.3%	0.1%
Total ¹	\$354,922	\$368,648	3.9%		

¹ Passenger revenue totals differ from those presented in other tables in this report, due to adjustments made for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds

Table 9 shows passenger revenue by ticket type and sales channel for the current month 2017 and 2018.

Table 9: Passenger Revenue by Ticket Type and Sales Channel (Current Month)

Sales Channel	Monthly Pass (Thousands)					10-Ride Ticket (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	\$5,114	\$5,100	-0.3%	32.1%	31.2%	\$603	\$642	6.5%	7.3%	7.2%
Conductor	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Internet	\$510	-	-100.0%	3.2%	0.0%	\$63	-	-100.0%	0.8%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$5,152	\$5,131	-0.4%	32.4%	31.4%	\$2,548	\$2,434	-4.5%	30.8%	27.3%
Vending Machine	\$686	\$583	-15.0%	4.3%	3.6%	\$553	\$391	-29.3%	6.7%	4.4%
Ventra App	\$4,458	\$5,536	24.2%	28.0%	33.9%	\$4,513	\$5,432	20.4%	54.5%	61.0%
Total	\$15,920	\$16,349	2.7%			\$8,280	\$8,899	7.5%		
Sales Channel	One-Way Ticket (Thousands)					Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Conductor	\$1,088	\$1,010	-7.2%	24.3%	20.6%	\$560	\$480	-14.3%	50.8%	47.2%
Internet	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$1,443	\$1,350	-6.4%	32.2%	27.5%	\$163	\$122	-25.1%	14.8%	12.0%
Vending Machine	\$179	\$183	2.3%	4.0%	3.7%	\$39	\$34	-12.8%	3.5%	3.3%
Ventra App	\$1,770	\$2,364	33.6%	39.5%	48.2%	\$339	\$381	12.3%	30.8%	37.5%
Total	\$4,480	\$4,908	9.5%			\$1,101	\$1,017	-7.6%		

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	\$5,717	\$5,742	0.4%	19.2%	18.4%
Conductor	\$1,648	\$1,490	-9.6%	5.5%	4.8%
Internet	\$573	-	-100.0%	1.9%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$9,630	\$9,377	-2.6%	32.3%	30.1%
Vending Machine	\$3,452	\$3,234	-6.3%	11.6%	10.4%
Ventra App	\$7,120	\$8,672	21.8%	23.9%	27.8%
Total ¹	\$29,782	\$31,174	4.7%		

¹ Passenger revenue totals differ from those presented in other tables in this report, due to adjustments made for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds

Ticket Sales

Table 10 shows ticket sales by ticket type for the current month, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Monthly Pass sales decreased by 2.6 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and 10-Ride Ticket sales decreased by 2.4 percent in the same period.

Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	September (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share
				2017	2018				2017	2018
Monthly Pass	89	87	-2.6%	8.0%	7.8%	261	256	-2.1%	6.6%	6.5%
10-Ride Ticket	154	150	-2.4%	13.7%	13.4%	489	472	-3.4%	12.3%	12.0%
One-Way Ticket	740	782	5.7%	66.0%	69.7%	2,716	2,837	4.4%	68.2%	71.9%
Weekend Pass	136	99	-27.4%	12.2%	8.8%	466	346	-25.8%	11.7%	8.8%
Special Passes	1	4	147.7%	0.1%	0.3%	51	35	-31.7%	1.3%	0.9%
Total ¹	1,121	1,122	0.1%			3,984	3,945	-1.0%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	1,089	1,039	-4.6%	7.9%	7.7%
10-Ride Ticket	1,835	1,862	1.5%	13.3%	13.8%
One-Way Ticket	9,308	9,354	0.5%	67.3%	69.4%
Weekend Pass	1,420	1,186	-16.5%	10.3%	8.8%
Special Passes	173	40	-77.0%	1.3%	0.3%
Total ¹	13,826	13,481	-2.5%		

Tables 11 details ticket sales by line and ticket type.

Table 11: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type and Line (Current Month)

Monthly Pass				10-Ride Ticket			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	20,056	19,478	-2.9%	BNSF	31,108	31,089	-0.1%
HC	1,048	1,027	-2.0%	HC	1,196	1,289	7.8%
MD-N	6,990	6,832	-2.3%	MD-N	15,411	15,319	-0.6%
MD-W	7,315	7,247	-0.9%	MD-W	10,354	10,054	-2.9%
ME	8,747	8,306	-5.0%	ME	14,651	13,900	-5.1%
NCS	2,075	2,012	-3.0%	NCS	3,324	3,333	0.3%
RI	10,131	9,888	-2.4%	RI	12,497	11,583	-7.3%
SWS	3,404	3,310	-2.8%	SWS	3,981	3,994	0.3%
UP-N	8,366	8,066	-3.6%	UP-N	23,015	21,963	-4.6%
UP-NW	11,995	11,689	-2.6%	UP-NW	21,056	20,696	-1.7%
UP-W	9,190	9,101	-1.0%	UP-W	17,125	16,783	-2.0%
Total	89,317	86,956	-2.6%	Total	153,718	150,003	-2.4%
One-Way Ticket (Mobile & Station)				One-Way Ticket (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	94,745	103,532	9.3%	BNSF	20,821	17,296	-16.9%
HC	2,698	2,859	6.0%	HC	444	396	-10.8%
MD-N	50,705	55,985	10.4%	MD-N	19,732	16,365	-17.1%
MD-W	48,818	52,769	8.1%	MD-W	19,436	17,378	-10.6%
ME	75,597	90,514	19.7%	ME	27,756	25,375	-8.6%
NCS	9,234	11,109	20.3%	NCS	5,952	4,663	-21.7%
RI	48,817	51,892	6.3%	RI	15,857	13,690	-13.7%
SWS	11,973	13,095	9.4%	SWS	4,091	3,447	-15.7%
UP-N	66,625	77,306	16.0%	UP-N	35,500	31,715	-10.7%
UP-NW	77,022	85,043	10.4%	UP-NW	27,279	27,065	-0.8%
UP-W	59,890	63,329	5.7%	UP-W	17,401	17,539	0.8%
Total	546,124	607,433	11.2%	Total	194,269	174,929	-10.0%
Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Mobile & Station)				Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	13,655	11,737	-14.0%	BNSF	8,936	5,472	-38.8%
HC	-	-		HC	-	-	
MD-N	7,674	5,143	-33.0%	MD-N	8,354	4,637	-44.5%
MD-W	5,803	5,174	-10.8%	MD-W	8,095	5,514	-31.9%
ME	7,318	5,518	-24.6%	ME	3,049	2,164	-29.0%
NCS	-	-		NCS	-	-	
RI	3,689	3,208	-13.0%	RI	5,408	4,358	-19.4%
SWS	175	124	-29.1%	SWS	201	219	9.0%
UP-N	10,158	7,341	-27.7%	UP-N	11,110	8,881	-20.1%
UP-NW	11,077	8,916	-19.5%	UP-NW	14,917	10,216	-31.5%
UP-W	8,144	6,788	-16.7%	UP-W	9,931	6,995	-29.6%
Total	67,693	53,949	-20.3%	Total	70,001	48,456	-30.8%

Tables 12 and 13 show ticket sales by ticket type, sales channel, and tender type for the current month and year-to-date 2017 and 2018. Tables 14 and 15 show total ticket sales by sales channel and tender type for the current month and year-to-date 2017 and 2018.

Table 12: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type, Sales Channel, and Tender Type (Current Month)

Sales Channel	Monthly Pass (Thousands)					10-Ride Ticket (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	28	27	-5.6%	31.5%	30.6%	10	10	-2.9%	6.7%	6.7%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	3	-	-100%	3.2%		1	-	-100%	0.7%	
Ticket Agent	29	28	-5.5%	32.9%	32.0%	49	43	-12.7%	32.0%	28.6%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	5	4	-10.6%			9	7	-24.3%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	25	23	-4.4%			40	36	-10.2%		
Vending Machine	4	3	-19.2%	4.3%	3.6%	10	6	-36.1%	6.6%	4.3%
<i>Credit Card</i>	4	3	-19.2%			10	6	-36.1%		
Ventra App	25	29	17.5%	28.1%	33.9%	83	91	9.2%	53.9%	60.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	23	27	17.4%			79	86	9.6%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	1	1	8.2%			1	1	-15.4%		
<i>Ventra</i>	1	1	39.6%			3	3	8.5%		
Total	89	87	-2.6%			154	150	-2.4%		
Sales Channel	One-Way Ticket (Thousands)					Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	-	-				-	-			
Conductor	194	175	-10.0%	26.2%	22.4%	70	48	-30.8%	50.8%	47.3%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	230	207	-10.0%	31.1%	26.5%	20	12	-39.1%	14.8%	12.1%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	135	116	-14.4%			11	6	-43.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	95	91	-3.8%			9	6	-33.6%		
Vending Machine	29	29	1.8%	3.9%	3.7%	5	3	-30.3%	3.5%	3.3%
Ventra App	287	371	29.2%	38.8%	47.4%	42	38	-10.1%	30.8%	37.2%
<i>Credit Card</i>	251	335	33.5%			38	36	-5.9%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	3	2	-28.9%			1	0	-59.8%		
<i>Ventra</i>	33	34	1.8%			4	2	-43.8%		
Total	740	782	5.7%			138	102	-25.6%		

Table 13: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type, Sales Channel, and Tender Type (Year-to-date)

Sales Channel	Monthly Pass (Thousands)					10-Ride Ticket (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	258	242	-5.9%	31.7%	31.1%	95	93	-2.6%	6.8%	6.7%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	23	17	-26.9%	2.8%	2.1%	11	7	-35.4%	0.8%	0.5%
Mail	17	-	-100%	2.2%		0	-	100.0%	0.0%	
Ticket Agent	268	246	-8.2%	32.9%	31.6%	484	427	-11.7%	34.7%	30.7%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	47	41	-11.5%			85	68	-19.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	221	204	-7.5%			399	359	-10.0%		
Vending Machine	35	29	-17.0%	4.3%	3.7%	102	66	-34.9%	7.3%	4.8%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-				1	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	35	29	-17.0%			101	66	-34.3%		
Ventra App	213	245	15.5%	26.1%	31.5%	704	799	13.4%	50.4%	57.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	194	223	15.0%			668	757	13.3%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	14	15	9.7%			10	11	0.6%		
<i>Ventra</i>	5	7	52.0%			26	32	20.9%		
Total	813	779	-4.2%			1,397	1,392	-0.3%		
Sales Channel	One-Way Ticket (Thousands)					Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	-	-				-	-			
Conductor	1,843	1,647	-10.6%	26.3%	23.0%	602	445	-26.1%	53.2%	50.1%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Mail	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	2,352	2,080	-11.6%	33.5%	29.0%	193	127	-34.1%	17.1%	14.3%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	1,375	1,163	-15.5%			107	65	-39.2%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	976	917	-6.1%			86	62	-27.7%		
Vending Machine	322	260	-19.4%	4.6%	3.6%	38	26	-32.3%	3.3%	2.9%
<i>Cash</i>	52	-	-100%			3	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	270	260	-4.0%			34	26	-25.9%		
Ventra App	2,498	3,173	27.0%	35.6%	44.3%	299	290	-3.2%	26.4%	32.6%
<i>Credit Card</i>	2,191	2,845	29.8%			269	269	0.0%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	27	24	-12.8%			3	2	-34.8%		
<i>Ventra</i>	280	304	8.8%			26	18	-31.0%		
Total	7,014	7,159	2.1%			1,131	887	-21.6%		

Table 14: Total Ticket Sales by Sales Channel and Tender Type (Current Month)

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	38	37	-4.9%	3.4%	3.3%
Conductor	264	223	-15.5%	23.6%	19.9%
Internet	4	-	-100%	0.4%	
Ticket Agent	329	290	-11.8%	29.4%	25.9%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	160	133	-16.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	169	157	-7.1%		
Vending Machine	48	42	-11.3%	4.2%	3.8%
<i>Credit Card</i>	48	42	-11.3%		
Ventra App	437	529	21.0%	39.0%	47.2%
<i>Credit Card</i>	390	484	23.9%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	6	5	-21.0%		
<i>Ventra</i>	41	41	-1.5%		
Total	1,121	1,122	0.1%		

Table 15: Total Ticket Sales by Sales Channel and Tender Type (Year-to-date)

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	353	335	-5.0%	3.4%	3.3%
Conductor	2,444	2,092	-14.4%	23.6%	20.5%
Internet	33	23	-29.7%	0.3%	0.2%
Mail	17	-	-100%	0.2%	
Ticket Agent	3,296	2,880	-12.6%	31.8%	28.2%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	1,614	1,338	-17.1%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,682	1,542	-8.3%		
Vending Machine	497	380	-23.4%	4.8%	3.7%
<i>Cash</i>	56	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	441	380	-13.7%		
Ventra App	3,714	4,506	21.3%	35.9%	44.1%
<i>Credit Card</i>	3,322	4,094	23.2%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	55	52	-5.9%		
<i>Ventra</i>	337	361	7.2%		
Total	10,355	10,217	-1.3%		

Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes decreased by 3.9 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes decreased by 10.4 percent in the same period. Table 16 shows Link-Up and PlusBus sales by month for 2017 and 2018.

Table 16: Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Month	2017		2018		Change		Mobile Share (2018)	
	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	PlusBus
Jan	3,414	1,276	3,090	1,177	-9.5%	-7.8%	22.8%	17.9%
Feb	3,346	1,284	3,120	1,155	-6.8%	-10.0%	23.0%	17.5%
Mar	3,278	1,287	3,109	1,188	-5.2%	-7.7%	23.2%	17.7%
Apr	3,179	1,226	3,051	1,148	-4.0%	-6.4%	24.2%	18.4%
May	3,132	1,201	2,964	1,107	-5.4%	-7.8%	23.8%	20.3%
Jun	3,058	1,152	2,908	1,068	-4.9%	-7.3%	24.3%	21.2%
Jul	2,817	1,132	2,812	1,038	-0.2%	-8.3%	23.9%	20.0%
Aug	2,971	1,175	2,820	1,060	-5.1%	-9.8%	24.6%	21.6%
Sep	2,911	1,186	2,798	1,063	-3.9%	-10.4%	26.0%	23.0%
Oct	3,030	1,239						
Nov	3,084	1,232						
Dec	2,814	1,063						
Year-to-date	28,106	10,919	26,672	10,004	-5.1%	-8.4%	23.9%	19.7%
Last 3 Months	8,699	3,493	8,430	3,161	-3.1%	-9.5%	24.8%	21.5%
Last 12 Months	37,979	14,656	35,600	13,538	-6.3%	-7.6%	23.4%	19.1%

Reduced Fare Sales

Seniors, some Medicare recipients, some persons with disabilities, primary and secondary school students, children, and military personnel are eligible for reduced fares on Metra. Table 17 shows the number of reduced fare tickets sold by month for 2017 and 2018.

Table 17: Reduced Fare Ticket Sales

Month	2017				2018			
	Monthly Pass	10-Ride Ticket	One-Way Ticket Mobile & Station	One-Way Ticket Conductor	Monthly Pass	10-Ride Ticket	One-Way Ticket Mobile & Station	One-Way Ticket Conductor
Jan	3,057	16,713	40,985	24,673	2,771	18,132	40,528	20,183
Feb	3,125	9,763	39,437	23,774	2,897	9,165	36,638	18,463
Mar	3,215	12,430	55,605	26,124	3,007	11,429	64,010	24,568
Apr	3,121	11,599	47,172	26,185	3,006	12,195	43,755	22,532
May	3,161	13,217	53,480	27,866	3,039	13,026	55,248	27,998
Jun	2,927	13,494	83,163	39,002	2,875	12,742	73,733	34,342
Jul	2,730	12,535	86,162	36,050	2,841	12,374	88,996	34,797
Aug	2,691	13,792	83,668	36,566	2,703	12,919	82,500	32,105
Sep	3,200	13,249	46,153	25,357	3,154	12,430	49,190	24,220
Oct	3,406	14,498	50,164	26,729				
Nov	3,139	14,168	50,670	24,346				
Dec	2,645	12,291	54,938	24,845				
Year-to-date	27,227	116,792	535,825	265,597	26,293	114,412	534,598	239,208
Last 3 Months	8,621	39,576	215,983	97,973	8,698	37,723	220,686	91,122
Last 12 Months	36,825	155,565	693,495	356,632	35,483	155,369	690,370	315,128

Month	Change			
	Monthly Pass	10-Ride Ticket	One-Way Ticket Mobile & Station	One-Way Ticket Conductor
Jan	-9.4%	8.5%	-1.1%	-18.2%
Feb	-7.3%	-6.1%	-7.1%	-22.3%
Mar	-6.5%	-8.1%	15.1%	-6.0%
Apr	-3.7%	5.1%	-7.2%	-14.0%
May	-3.9%	-1.4%	3.3%	0.5%
Jun	-1.8%	-5.6%	-11.3%	-11.9%
Jul	4.1%	-1.3%	3.3%	-3.5%
Aug	0.4%	-6.3%	-1.4%	-12.2%
Sep	-1.4%	-6.2%	6.6%	-4.5%
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				
Year-to-date	-3.4%	-2.0%	-0.2%	-9.9%
Last 3 Months	0.9%	-4.7%	2.2%	-7.0%
Last 12 Months	-3.6%	-0.1%	-0.5%	-11.6%