



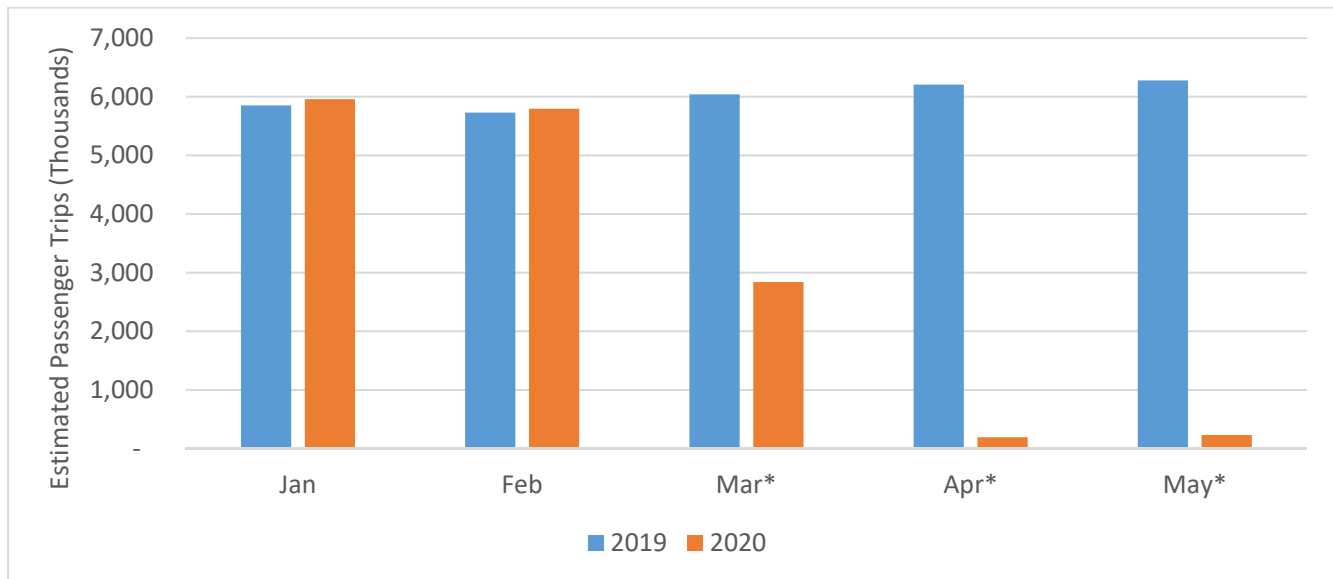
TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jim Derwinski, CEO/Executive Director

SUBJECT: Ridership Trends – May 2020

DATE: June 17, 2020

May ridership was similar to the ridership during the second half of March and April with the Stay at Home order still in place. May weekday ridership was approximately 97.0 percent lower than ridership in May 2019 according to preliminary conductor count data. During the month of May, Metra provided approximately 228,500 total passenger trips, an increase of 20 percent compared to the estimated 189,960 total passenger trips provided in April 2020.



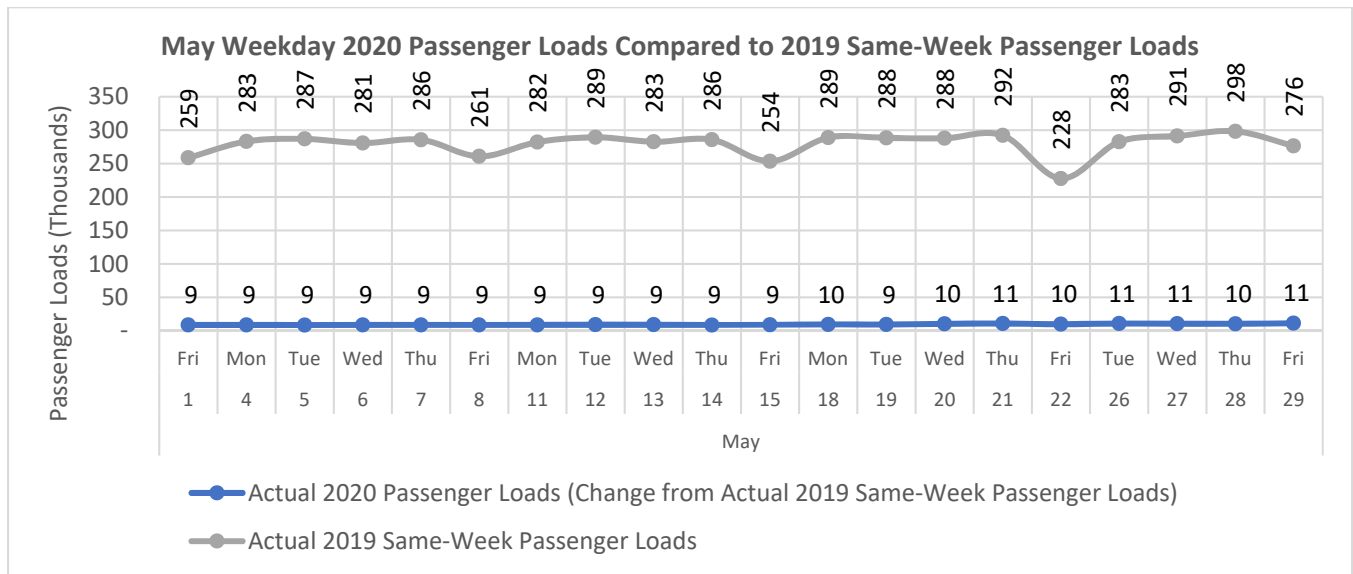
***Preliminary data subject to change as data is refined. Data up to February 2020 are based on ticket sales.**

On May 1, the State of Illinois entered Phase II of the Restore Illinois plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Phase II required individuals to wear a mask in public and allowed limited operation of non-essential retail businesses. The City of Chicago remained in Phase II throughout May. The rest of Northeastern Illinois entered Phase III on May 29, allowing for gatherings of 10 or more people. The City of Chicago entered Phase III on June 3.

Due to lower ridership in April, Metra reduced the number of trains on its limited service lines. The Heritage Corridor and North Central Services were reduced to one inbound and one outbound trip per day on May 4. The SouthWest Service was reduced to two inbound and two outbound trips per day. On May 5, Metra announced weekend service would be reduced to a Sunday schedule, eliminating Saturday service for the SouthWest Service. On May 18, service was added to the Metra Electric to meet testing requirements for federal positive train control deadlines. As a courtesy to monthly pass holders, Metra continued to waive its \$5 refund fee for monthly tickets.

On Saturday, May 30, the City of Chicago issued a 9 pm curfew order due to increasingly dangerous activity downtown. Metra suspended service in advance of this order. Service was suspended again on Sunday, May 31 at 3 pm.

The system averaged 9,510 passenger trips per weekday in May (Memorial Day excluded). Ridership hovered around 9,000 trips per day in the early part of the month and then slowly inched up to 10,000 and 11,000 trips per day towards the end of the month. We continue to see these slight gains during the month of June.



At the line level, the Metra Electric was Metra’s highest ridership line, averaging 1,730 passenger trips per weekday in May. In the same period, the BNSF, RI, and UP-N lines averaged 1,230, 1,210, and 1,450 passenger trips per weekday, respectively.

Number of Weekday Trains and Average Weekday Passenger Loads by Line

	Pre-COVID	Modified	Modified	Modified	Modified	Average Weekday Passenger Load (rounded)		
	Schedule	Schedule	Schedule	Schedule	Schedule	May-19	May-20	Change
	16-Mar	23-Mar	1-Apr	4-May	18-May			
BNSF	97	41	41	41	41	63,200	1,230	-98.0%
HC	7	7	7	2	2	2,400	50	-98.0%
ME	155	88	88	89	110	27,700	1,730	-94.0%
MD-N	63	28	28	28	28	22,200	610	-97.0%
MD-W	58	32	32	32	32	20,200	860	-96.0%
NCS	20	14	14	2	2	5,500	90	-98.0%
RI	68	38	39	38	38	25,500	1,210	-95.0%
SWS	30	20	20	4	4	9,500	200	-98.0%
UP-N	70	36	36	36	36	34,600	1,450	-96.0%
UP-NW	65	36	37	37	37	39,800	1,170	-97.0%
UP-W	59	34	34	34	34	29,100	900	-97.0%
Total	692	374	376	343	364	279,700	9,500	-97.0%

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