

RIDERSHIP TRENDS

December 2018



Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning
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Executive Summary

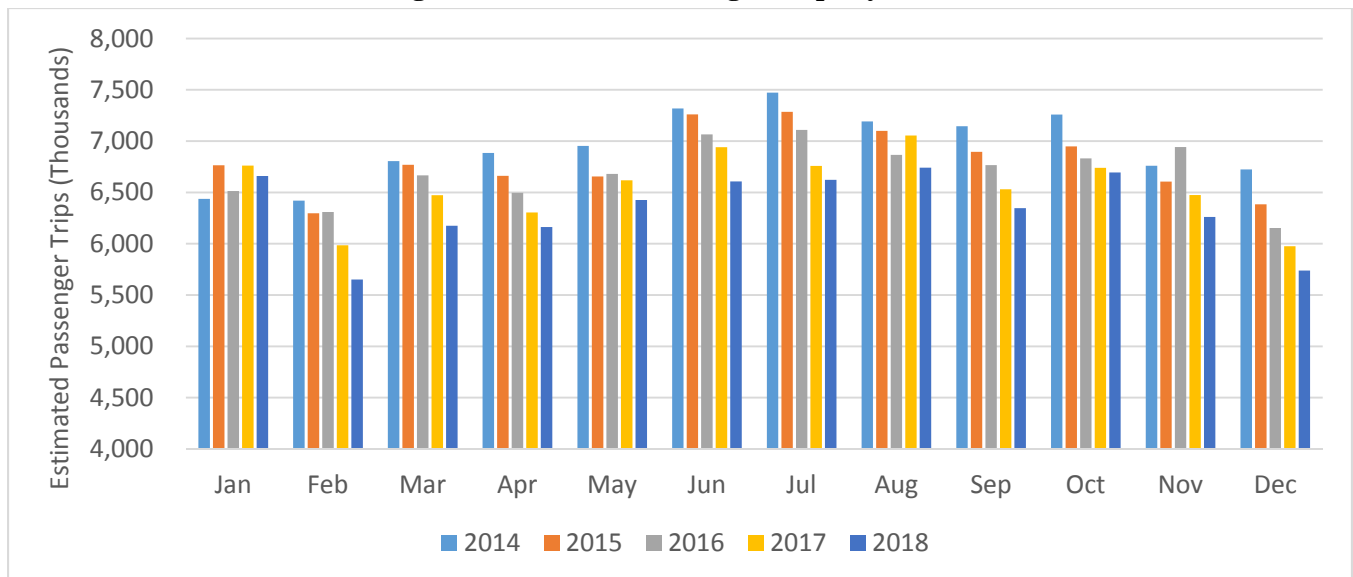
Estimated passenger trips decreased 4.0 percent in December 2018 compared to December 2017. December 2018 the same number of Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays compared to December 2017.

Estimated passenger trips have decreased 3.2 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	6,694	-7.8%	-0.7%
Nov	6,760	6,606	6,943	6,475	6,261	-7.4%	-3.3%
Dec	6,724	6,385	6,153	5,976	5,739	-14.6%	-4.0%
Last 3 Months	20,744	19,939	19,928	19,191	18,694	-9.9%	-2.6%
Last 12 Months	83,370	81,630	80,402	78,621	76,088	-8.7%	-3.2%

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	6,694	-3.0%
Nov	6,500	6,261	-3.7%
Dec	5,900	5,739	-2.7%
4th Quarter	19,300	18,694	-3.1%
Total	77,800	76,088	-2.2%

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 2.6 percent in the last three months compared to the previous year, and decreased 3.2 percent in the last 12 months compared to the previous year.

Table 3: Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

Line	December			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	1,220,340	1,171,105	-4.0%	3,961,177	3,841,628	-3.0%	16,235,817	15,822,652	-2.5%
HC	54,557	53,444	-2.0%	176,701	178,669	1.1%	727,202	728,467	0.2%
MD-N	519,900	504,880	-2.9%	1,671,660	1,641,262	-1.8%	6,818,808	6,610,059	-3.1%
MD-W	478,323	459,410	-4.0%	1,545,059	1,499,731	-2.9%	6,349,963	6,143,996	-3.2%
ME	618,555	584,170	-5.6%	1,970,611	1,908,271	-3.2%	8,149,977	7,716,121	-5.3%
NCS	127,889	118,661	-7.2%	416,688	399,974	-4.0%	1,684,357	1,640,984	-2.6%
RI	614,534	578,889	-5.8%	1,940,630	1,858,949	-4.2%	7,923,588	7,578,330	-4.4%
SWS	188,790	184,239	-2.4%	613,702	598,385	-2.5%	2,457,418	2,420,921	-1.5%
UP-N	659,483	639,254	-3.1%	2,185,214	2,122,596	-2.9%	9,030,120	8,689,776	-3.8%
UP-NW	850,088	825,010	-3.0%	2,669,151	2,638,152	-1.2%	10,910,882	10,597,680	-2.9%
UP-W	643,934	620,323	-3.7%	2,040,368	2,006,641	-1.7%	8,332,483	8,139,344	-2.3%
Total	5,976,391	5,739,384	-4.0%	19,190,959	18,694,256	-2.6%	78,620,612	76,088,329	-3.2%

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	December (Thousands)			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
A-A	15	16	2.8%	55	57	2.7%	238	237	-0.3%
A-B	418	405	-3.1%	1,387	1,379	-0.6%	5,670	5,525	-2.6%
A-C	806	792	-1.8%	2,606	2,599	-0.3%	10,583	10,480	-1.0%
A-D	976	936	-4.1%	3,189	3,103	-2.7%	13,006	12,672	-2.6%
A-E	1,228	1,218	-0.8%	4,026	3,994	-0.8%	16,450	16,152	-1.8%
A-F	735	698	-5.0%	2,418	2,376	-1.8%	9,884	9,793	-0.9%
A-G	446	431	-3.4%	1,464	1,447	-1.2%	6,015	5,916	-1.6%
A-H	372	357	-4.1%	1,198	1,168	-2.5%	4,916	4,790	-2.6%
A-I	130	123	-5.2%	409	402	-1.6%	1,656	1,637	-1.2%
A-J	23	53	127.6%	72	169	133.8%	294	458	55.5%
A-K	26	-	-100%	82	-	-100%	332	177	-46.8%
A-M	7	-	-100%	21	-	-100%	89	43	-51.0%
A-J, K, & M	57	53	-7.2%	175	169	-3.5%	715	678	-5.2%
Intermediate	172	163	-5.4%	592	562	-5.0%	2,450	2,312	-5.7%
No Zone Pair	620	547	-11.7%	1,670	1,438	-13.9%	7,037	5,897	-16.2%
Total	5,976	5,739	-4.0%	19,191	18,694	-2.6%	78,621	76,088	-3.2%

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.

Table 5: Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	December (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	3,335	3,214	-3.6%	56.2%	56.4%	11,177	10,894	-2.5%	58.4%	58.4%
10-Ride Ticket	1,459	1,375	-5.8%	24.6%	24.1%	4,698	4,515	-3.9%	24.5%	24.2%
One-Way Ticket	744	769	3.3%	12.5%	13.5%	2,195	2,353	7.2%	11.5%	12.6%
Weekend Pass	323	273	-15.5%	5.4%	4.8%	849	684	-19.4%	4.4%	3.7%
Special Passes	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	0	0	-88.9%	0.0%	0.0%
RTA Ride Free Permit	69	66	-4.2%	1.2%	1.2%	226	218	-3.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	5,931	5,698	-3.9%			19,145	18,664	-2.5%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	46,136	44,395	-3.8%	58.7%	58.3%
10-Ride Ticket	18,664	18,438	-1.2%	23.7%	24.2%
One-Way Ticket	9,209	9,512	3.3%	11.7%	12.5%
Weekend Pass	3,544	2,801	-21.0%	4.5%	3.7%
Special Passes	129	90	-29.8%	0.2%	0.1%
RTA Ride Free Permit	946	882	-6.8%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	78,628	76,119	-3.2%		

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 3.5 percent in the current month, and average total weekday passenger loads decreased by 3.3 percent in the same period.

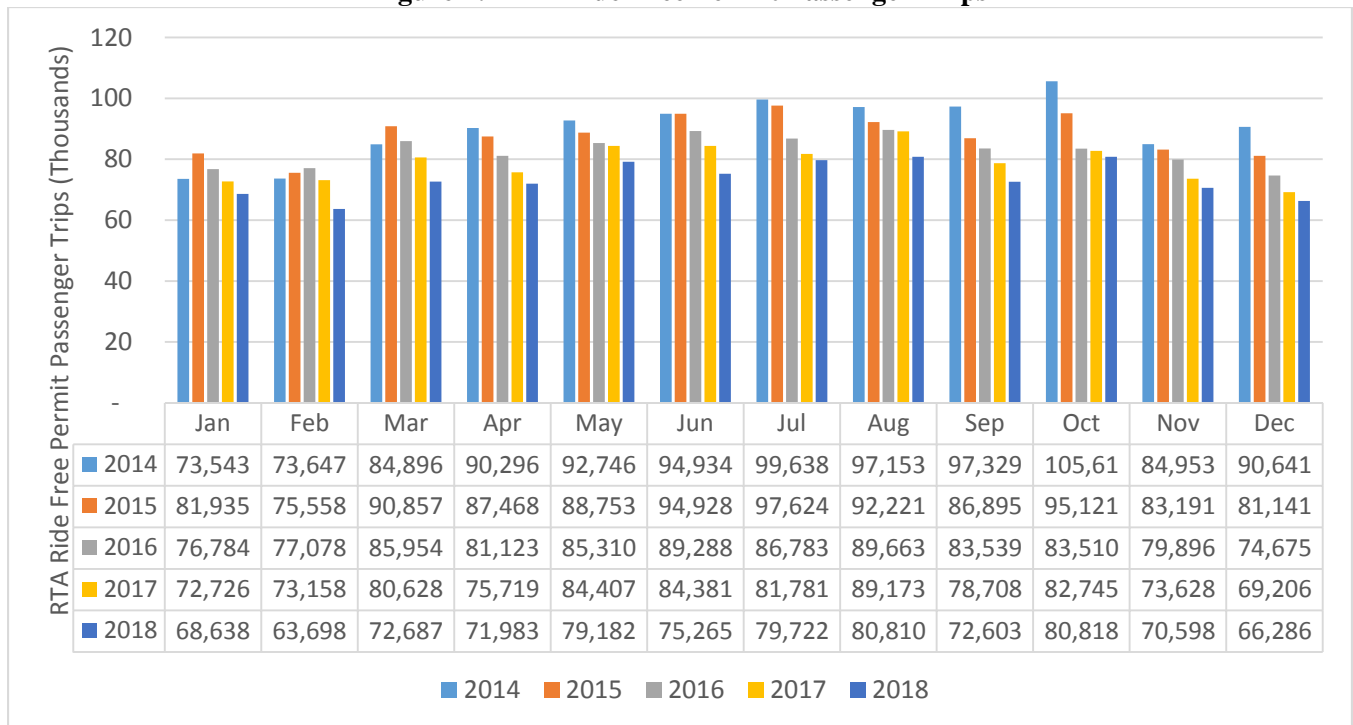
Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads

Service Period	December (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
Peak - Peak Direction	188	181	-3.5%	208	201	-3.6%	215	211	-2.1%
Peak - Reverse Direction	18	18	-2.8%	20	19	-7.5%	20	20	-2.2%
Midday	33	32	-2.7%	33	32	-5.8%	32	31	-3.7%
Evening	16	15	-3.0%	15	15	-2.4%	16	16	-2.4%
Weekday	255	246	-3.3%	277	266	-4.1%	284	278	-2.3%
Saturday	65	63	-3.8%	60	58	-2.8%	66	60	-9.3%
Sunday	35	38	7.5%	36	37	2.0%	41	38	-6.3%

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.

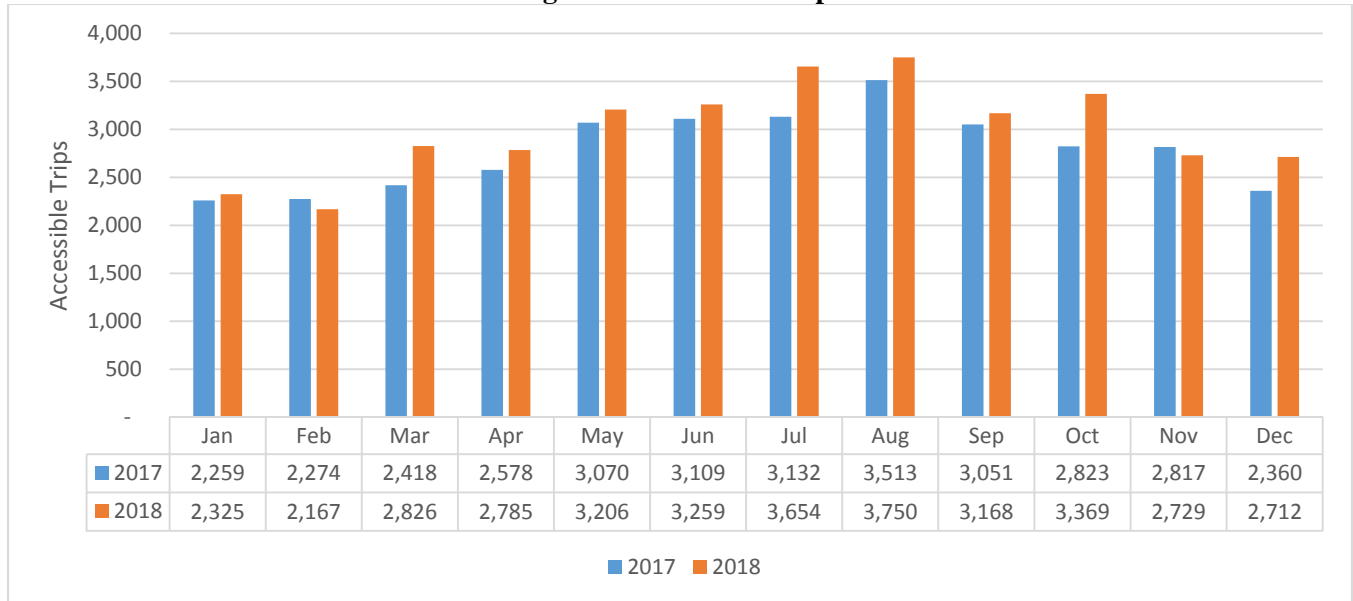
Figure 2: RTA Ride Free Permit Passenger Trips



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.

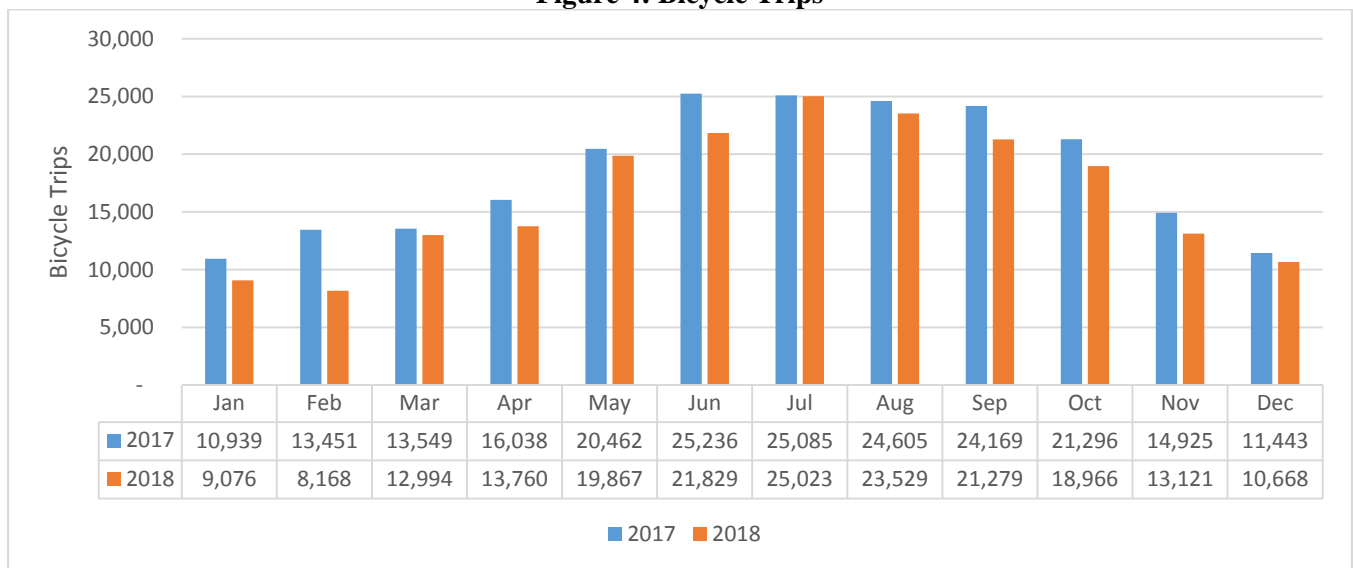
Figure 3: Accessible Trips



Bicycle Trips

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

Figure 4: Bicycle Trips



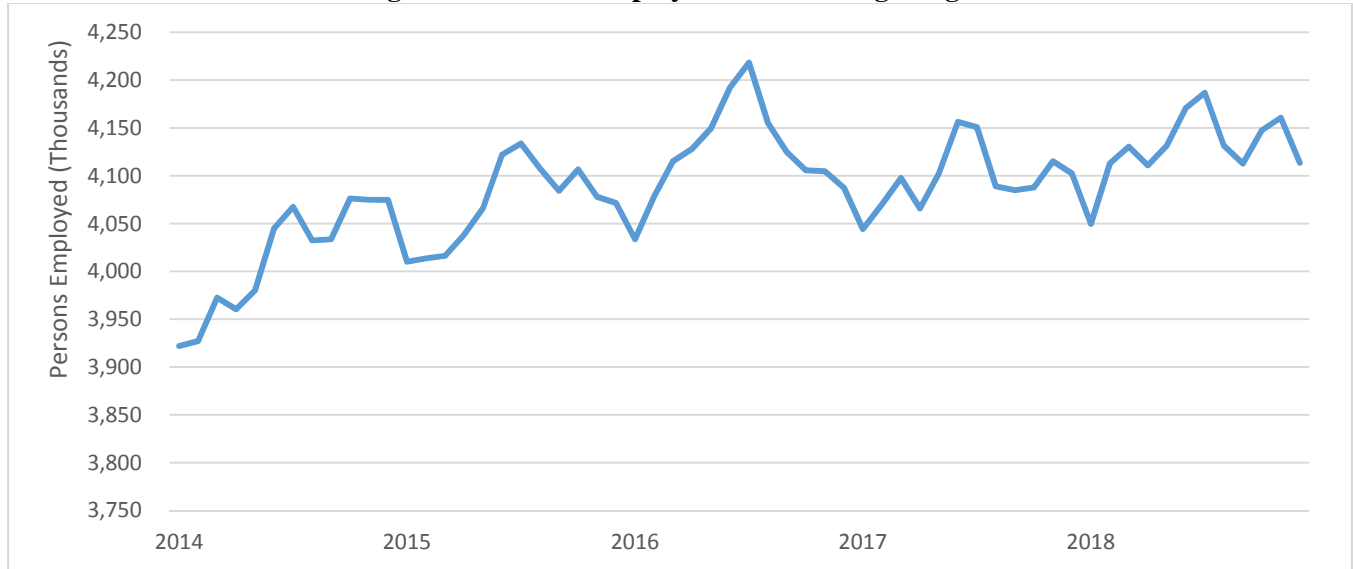
Ridership Influences

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 0.3 percent in December 2018 compared to December 2017.

Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region



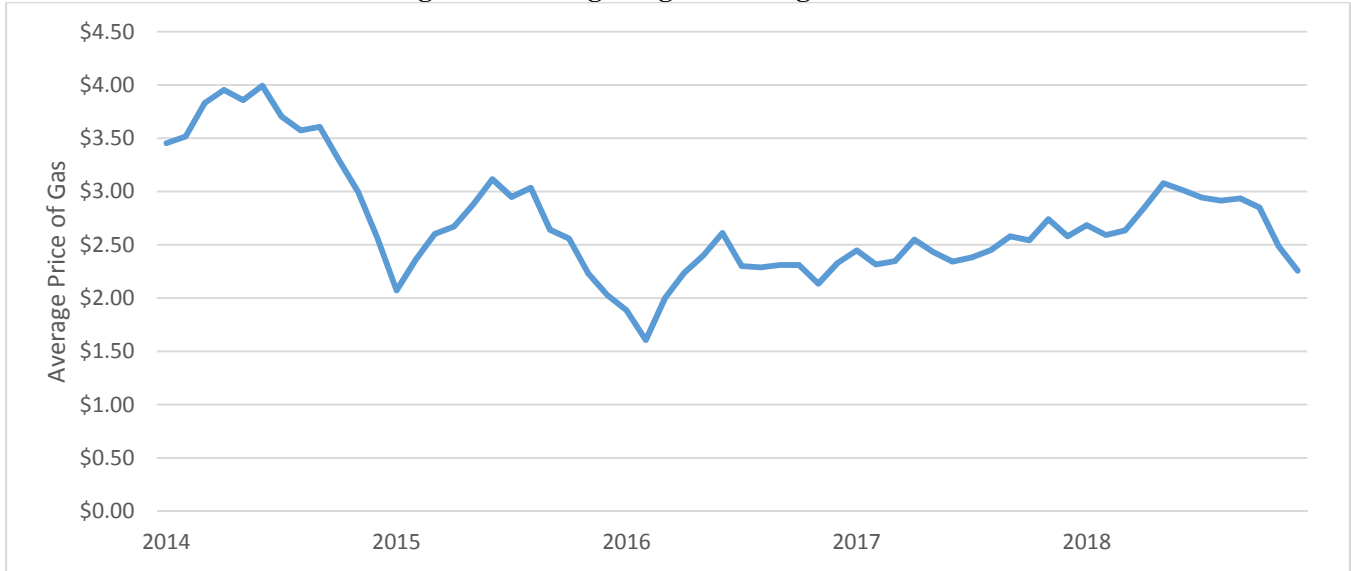
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-to-date Average
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	4,014
2015	4,010	4,014	4,016	4,038	4,066	4,122	4,134	4,108	4,084	4,107	4,078	4,072	4,071
2016	4,033	4,078	4,115	4,128	4,150	4,192	4,218	4,155	4,125	4,106	4,105	4,087	4,124
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	4,147	4,161	4,113	4,130
Change 2017-2018	0.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	1.5%	1.1%	0.3%	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 \$2.26 in December 2018, a \$0.32 decrease compared to December 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	\$3.53
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	\$2.60
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	\$2.20
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	\$2.48
2018	\$2.69	\$2.59	\$2.64	\$2.85	\$3.08	\$3.01	\$2.94	\$2.92	\$2.94	\$2.85	\$2.49	\$2.26	\$2.77
Change 2017-2018	\$0.24	\$0.28	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.65	\$0.67	\$0.56	\$0.46	\$0.36	\$0.31	-\$0.25	-\$0.32	\$0.29

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Road Construction

No new roadway construction projects of regional significance began in December. 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 2022.

Service Changes

No service changes occurred in December

Special Events and Promotions

Metra offered \$10 unlimited ride passes for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, December 24 and 25, and for New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, Dec 31 and Jan 1.

Family Fares were in effect December 24-January 1.

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 December 2018, an update to the Ventra app ended the option for purchasing mobile tickets without creating a Ventra account.
- 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 at 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.

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	December (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	\$5,752	\$5,922	3.0%	\$18,601	\$19,391	4.2%	\$75,649	\$79,382	4.9%
HC	\$270	\$280	4.0%	\$874	\$940	7.4%	\$3,585	\$3,808	6.2%
MD-N	\$2,458	\$2,569	4.5%	\$7,876	\$8,363	6.2%	\$32,001	\$33,587	5.0%
MD-W	\$2,237	\$2,313	3.4%	\$7,234	\$7,550	4.4%	\$29,650	\$30,877	4.1%
ME	\$2,598	\$2,619	0.8%	\$8,238	\$8,555	3.8%	\$33,936	\$34,540	1.8%
NCS	\$694	\$676	-2.6%	\$2,253	\$2,280	1.2%	\$9,063	\$9,349	3.2%
RI	\$2,704	\$2,727	0.9%	\$8,548	\$8,780	2.7%	\$34,769	\$35,653	2.5%
SWS	\$832	\$863	3.8%	\$2,697	\$2,805	4.0%	\$10,765	\$11,314	5.1%
UP-N	\$2,746	\$2,890	5.3%	\$9,076	\$9,566	5.4%	\$37,384	\$38,957	4.2%
UP-NW	\$4,123	\$4,274	3.7%	\$12,862	\$13,616	5.9%	\$52,237	\$54,583	4.5%
UP-W	\$2,984	\$3,113	4.3%	\$9,446	\$10,052	6.4%	\$38,470	\$40,601	5.5%
Total	\$27,396	\$28,247	3.1%	\$87,706	\$91,898	4.8%	\$357,509	\$372,652	4.2%

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	December (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$13,772	\$13,990	1.6%	50.4%	49.7%	\$46,242	\$47,535	2.8%	52.8%	51.7%
10-Ride Ticket	\$7,918	\$8,214	3.7%	29.0%	29.2%	\$25,356	\$26,815	5.8%	28.9%	29.2%
One-Way Ticket	\$4,586	\$4,879	6.4%	16.8%	17.3%	\$13,333	\$14,806	11.1%	15.2%	16.1%
Weekend Pass	\$1,034	\$1,092	5.6%	3.8%	3.9%	\$2,717	\$2,736	0.7%	3.1%	3.0%
Special Passes	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	\$2	\$0	-88.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Total ¹	\$27,310	\$28,175	3.2%			\$87,649	\$91,894	4.8%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$190,008	\$193,277	1.7%	53.1%	51.8%
10-Ride Ticket	\$100,344	\$108,554	8.2%	28.1%	29.1%
One-Way Ticket	\$55,464	\$59,617	7.5%	15.5%	16.0%
Weekend Pass	\$11,393	\$11,046	-3.0%	3.2%	3.0%
Special Passes	\$471	\$469	-0.5%	0.1%	0.1%
Total ¹	\$357,681	\$372,963	4.3%		

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	\$4,821	\$4,819	0.0%	35.0%	34.4%	\$631	\$623	-1.3%	8.0%	7.6%
Conductor	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Internet	\$473	-	-100%	3.4%	0.0%	\$65	-	-100%	0.8%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$4,149	\$4,289	3.4%	30.1%	30.7%	\$2,462	\$2,252	-8.6%	31.1%	27.4%
Vending Machine	\$599	\$486	-18.8%	4.3%	3.5%	\$465	\$362	-22.1%	5.9%	4.4%
Ventra App	\$3,729	\$4,396	17.9%	27.1%	31.4%	\$4,294	\$4,977	15.9%	54.2%	60.6%
Total	\$13,772	\$13,990	1.6%			\$7,918	\$8,214	3.7%		
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	\$1,045	\$974	-6.8%	22.8%	20.0%	\$515	\$529	2.7%	49.8%	51.8%
Internet	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$1,496	\$1,358	-9.3%	32.6%	27.8%	\$137	\$99	-27.7%	13.2%	9.7%
Vending Machine	\$180	\$172	-4.1%	3.9%	3.5%	\$37	\$38	0.2%	3.6%	3.7%
Ventra App	\$1,865	\$2,375	27.4%	40.7%	48.7%	\$344	\$356	3.5%	33.3%	34.9%
Total	\$4,586	\$4,879	6.4%			\$1,034	\$1,022	-1.2%		

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	\$5,452	\$5,443	-0.2%	20.0%	19.4%
Conductor	\$1,561	\$1,503	-3.7%	5.7%	5.3%
Internet	\$538	-	-100.0%	2.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$8,245	\$7,998	-3.0%	30.2%	28.5%
Vending Machine	\$1,281	\$1,058	-17.4%	4.7%	3.8%
Ventra App	\$10,232	\$12,104	18.3%	37.5%	43.1%
Total ¹	\$27,310	\$28,105	2.9%		

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

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 3.6 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and 10-Ride Ticket sales decreased by 5.8 percent in the same period.

Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	December (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share
				2017	2018				2017	2018
Monthly Pass	78	75	-3.6%	7.1%	6.9%	260	253	-2.5%	8.0%	7.6%
10-Ride Ticket	146	137	-5.8%	13.3%	12.6%	470	451	-3.9%	14.4%	13.6%
One-Way Ticket	744	769	3.3%	67.8%	70.5%	2,195	2,353	7.2%	67.2%	70.6%
Weekend Pass	129	109	-15.5%	11.8%	10.0%	340	274	-19.4%	10.4%	8.2%
Special Passes	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	0	0	-88.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Total ¹	1,097	1,091	-0.6%			3,265	3,331	2.0%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	1,073	1,032	-3.8%	7.9%	7.6%
10-Ride Ticket	1,866	1,844	-1.2%	13.7%	13.6%
One-Way Ticket	9,209	9,512	3.3%	67.6%	70.2%
Weekend Pass	1,417	1,120	-21.0%	10.4%	8.3%
Special Passes	53	40	-25.6%	0.4%	0.3%
Total ¹	13,619	13,548	-0.5%		

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	17,138	16,308	-4.8%	BNSF	30,491	29,547	-3.1%
HC	944	910	-3.6%	HC	1,130	1,113	-1.5%
MD-N	5,907	5,839	-1.2%	MD-N	14,755	13,853	-6.1%
MD-W	6,175	5,939	-3.8%	MD-W	10,000	9,353	-6.5%
ME	7,923	7,682	-3.0%	ME	12,713	10,851	-14.6%
NCS	1,771	1,635	-7.7%	NCS	3,476	3,050	-12.3%
RI	9,192	8,862	-3.6%	RI	11,701	10,547	-9.9%
SWS	2,995	2,887	-3.6%	SWS	4,015	3,782	-5.8%
UP-N	7,206	6,953	-3.5%	UP-N	20,807	20,142	-3.2%
UP-NW	10,289	10,051	-2.3%	UP-NW	20,835	19,810	-4.9%
UP-W	8,029	7,685	-4.3%	UP-W	15,967	15,450	-3.2%
Total	77,569	74,751	-3.6%	Total	145,890	137,498	-5.8%
One-Way Ticket (Mobile & Station)				One-Way Ticket (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	99,754	103,290	3.5%	BNSF	19,099	16,253	-14.9%
HC	2,328	2,757	18.4%	HC	333	319	-4.2%
MD-N	52,875	56,420	6.7%	MD-N	17,926	17,332	-3.3%
MD-W	48,393	52,057	7.6%	MD-W	18,053	17,167	-4.9%
ME	73,077	78,569	7.5%	ME	23,560	20,756	-11.9%
NCS	9,154	10,229	11.7%	NCS	5,170	4,692	-9.2%
RI	50,092	52,206	4.2%	RI	15,890	11,424	-28.1%
SWS	11,884	13,408	12.8%	SWS	3,908	3,738	-4.4%
UP-N	61,351	69,046	12.5%	UP-N	31,288	29,723	-5.0%
UP-NW	90,330	96,715	7.1%	UP-NW	27,026	26,491	-2.0%
UP-W	62,994	68,401	8.6%	UP-W	19,758	18,022	-8.8%
Total	562,232	603,098	7.3%	Total	182,011	165,917	-8.8%
Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Mobile & Station)				Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	12,355	11,147	-9.8%	BNSF	7,391	5,835	-21.1%
HC	-	-		HC	-	-	
MD-N	8,274	6,807	-17.7%	MD-N	7,363	6,223	-15.5%
MD-W	5,917	5,337	-9.8%	MD-W	6,669	6,378	-4.4%
ME	7,053	6,353	-9.9%	ME	3,111	2,398	-22.9%
NCS	-	-		NCS	-	-	
RI	3,510	3,272	-96.8%	RI	6,017	3,470	-42.3%
SWS	160	249	55.6%	SWS	351	493	40.5%
UP-N	6,473	4,887	-24.5%	UP-N	7,598	6,398	-15.8%
UP-NW	12,782	10,889	-14.8%	UP-NW	16,356	13,243	-19.0%
UP-W	8,294	7,373	-11.1%	UP-W	9,556	8,486	-11.2%
Total	64,818	56,314	-13.1%	Total	64,412	52,924	-17.8%

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	27	25	-5.3%	34.3%	33.7%	11	10	-9.6%	7.4%	7.1%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	3	-	-100%	3.4%		1	-	-100%	0.8%	
Ticket Agent	24	23	-1.9%	30.7%	31.3%	47	39	-16.7%	32.4%	28.6%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	4	4	-7.2%			8	6	-24.6%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	20	20	-0.9%			39	33	-15.0%		
Vending Machine	3	3	-23.1%	4.4%	3.5%	8	6	-29.6%	5.8%	4.3%
Ventra App	21	24	11.8%	27.2%	31.5%	78	82	5.3%	53.6%	59.9%
<i>Credit Card</i>	19	22	11.8%			74	78	5.6%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	1	1	-2.8%			1	1	-20.0%		
<i>Ventra</i>	1	1	34.3%			3	3	8.9%		
Total	78	75	-3.6%			146	137	-5.8%		
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	182	166	-8.8%	24.5%	21.6%	64	53	-17.8%	49.8%	48.4%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	235	208	-11.6%	31.6%	27.1%	17	10	-42.1%	13.2%	9.1%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	136	115	-15.3%			9	5	-45.7%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	99	93	-6.5%			8	5	-37.7%		
Vending Machine	28	26	-6.4%	3.8%	3.4%	5	4	-19.9%	3.6%	3.4%
Ventra App	299	369	23.4%	40.1%	47.9%	43	43	-0.8%	33.3%	39.1%
<i>Credit Card</i>	265	336	27.2%			39	40	2.5%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	3	2	-35.8%			0	0	-50.7%		
<i>Ventra</i>	31	30	-2.8%			3	2	-33.3%		
Total	744	769	3.3%			129	109	-15.5%		

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	340	321	-5.8%	31.7%	31.1%	129	125	-3.6%	6.9%	6.8%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	32	17	-48.1%	3.0%	1.6%	14	7	-51.5%	0.8%	0.4%
Mail	17	-	-100%	1.6%		0	-	-100%	0.0%	
Ticket Agent	350	325	-7.0%	32.6%	31.5%	636	559	-12.1%	34.1%	30.3%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	60	54	-10.6%			112	89	-20.3%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	290	271	-6.3%			524	470	-10.3%		
Vending Machine	46	38	-17.9%	4.3%	3.6%	131	86	-34.4%	7.0%	4.7%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-				1	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	46	38	-17.9%			524	470	-10.3%		
Ventra App	287	332	15.6%	26.8%	32.2%	956	1,067	11.7%	51.2%	57.9%
<i>Credit Card</i>	263	303	15.3%			905	1,011	11.7%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	18	19	8.2%			14	13	-4.5%		
<i>Ventra</i>	7	10	49.0%			36	43	17.8%		
Total	1,073	1,032	-3.8%			1,866	1,844	-1.2%		
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	2,391	2,153	-10.0%	26.0%	22.6%	778	584	-24.9%	52.8%	50.3%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Mail	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	3,031	2,704	-10.8%	32.9%	28.4%	242	155	-35.7%	16.4%	13.4%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	1,769	1,510	-14.6%			133	79	-40.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,262	1,194	-5.4%			109	77	-29.4%		
Vending Machine	403	340	-15.8%	4.4%	3.6%	49	34	-30.8%	3.3%	2.9%
<i>Cash</i>	52	-	-100%			3	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	351	340	-3.4%			46	34	-25.9%		
Ventra App	3,384	4,315	27.5%	36.7%	45.4%	403	388	-3.8%	27.4%	33.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	2,972	3,881	30.6%			363	361	-0.5%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	36	30	-17.8%			4	3	-39.7%		
<i>Ventra</i>	376	404	7.5%			35	24	-33.1%		
Total	9,209	9,512	3.3%			1,471	1,161	-21.1%		

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	37	35	-6.5%	3.4%	3.2%
Conductor	246	219	-11.2%	22.5%	20.1%
Internet	4	-	-100%	0.3%	
Ticket Agent	324	281	-13.2%	29.5%	25.8%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	158	130	-17.4%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	166	151	-9.3%		
Vending Machine	45	39	-13.4%	4.1%	3.5%
Ventra App	441	517	17.3%	40.2%	47.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	397	476	19.9%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	6	4	-27.7%		
<i>Ventra</i>	38	37	-3.8%		
Total	1,097	1,091	-0.6%		

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	470	445	-5.2%	3.4%	3.3%
Conductor	3,169	2,737	-13.6%	23.3%	20.2%
Internet	46	23	-49.2%	0.3%	0.2%
Mail	17	-	-100%	0.1%	
Ticket Agent	4,259	3,744	-12.1%	31.3%	27.6%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	2,075	1,732	-16.5%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	2,184	2,012	-7.9%		
Vending Machine	629	497	-21.0%	4.6%	3.7%
<i>Cash</i>	56	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	967	881	-8.9%		
Ventra App	5,030	6,102	21.3%	36.9%	45.0%
<i>Credit Card</i>	4,503	5,556	23.4%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	72	65	-10.2%		
<i>Ventra</i>	454	481	5.8%		
Total	13,620	13,549	-0.5%		

Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes decreased by 4.1 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes decreased by 13.3 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	2,899	1,111	-4.3%	-10.3%	27.6%	22.5%
Nov	3,084	1,232	2,925	1,070	-5.2%	-13.1%	28.5%	23.4%
Dec	2,814	1,063	2,699	922	-4.1%	-13.3%	28.2%	23.9%
Last 3 Months	8,928	3,534	8,523	3,103	-4.5%	-12.2%	28.1%	30.2%
Last 12 Months	37,034	14,453	35,195	13,107	-5.0%	-9.3%	24.9%	20.5%

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	3,318	14,436	52,359	25,649
Nov	3,139	14,168	50,670	24,346	3,122	12,216	53,685	22,797
Dec	2,645	12,291	54,938	24,845	2,675	11,029	57,839	24,766
Last 3 Months	9,190	40,957	155,772	75,920	9,115	37,681	163,883	73,212
Last 12 Months	36,417	157,749	691,597	341,517	35,408	152,093	698,481	312,420

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	-2.6%	-0.4%	4.4%	-4.0%
Nov	-0.5%	-13.8%	6.0%	-6.4%
Dec	1.1%	-10.3%	5.3%	-0.3%
Last 3 Months	-0.8%	-8.0%	5.2%	-3.6%
Last 12 Months	-2.8%	-3.6%	1.0%	-8.5%