

RIDERSHIP TRENDS

June 2018



Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning
August 2018

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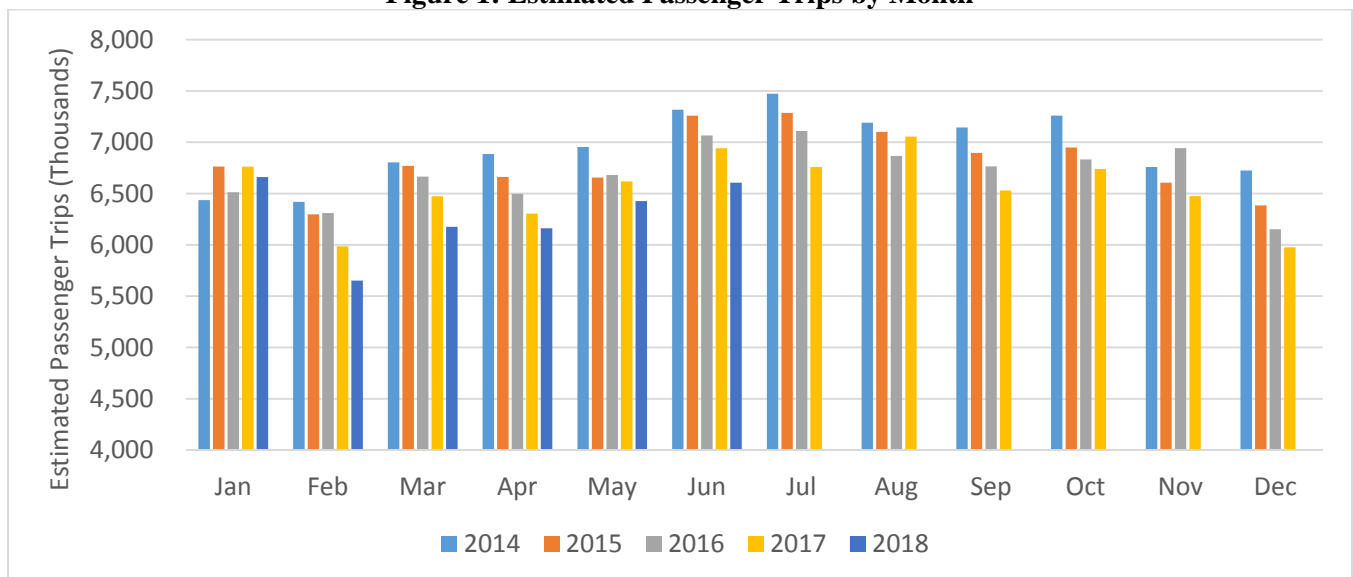
Executive Summary

Estimated passenger trips decreased 4.8 percent in June 2018 compared to June 2017. June 2018 had one less weekday, one additional Saturday, and the same number of Sundays compared to June 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			
Aug	7,192	7,100	6,866	7,055			
Sep	7,144	6,896	6,766	6,530			
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	40,817	40,409	39,733	39,085	37,682	-7.7%	-3.6%
Last 3 Months	21,156	20,578	20,244	19,865	19,195	-9.3%	-3.4%
Last 12 Months	82,823	82,962	80,954	79,755	77,218	-6.8%	-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		
Aug	7,000		
Sep	6,200		
3rd Quarter	20,100		
Oct	6,900		
Nov	6,500		
Dec	5,900		
4th Quarter	19,300		
Year-to-date	38,400	37,682	-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 3.4 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	June			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	1,439,251	1,383,374	-3.9%	4,108,095	4,025,821	-2.0%	16,318,841	16,056,945	-1.6%
HC	61,907	62,418	0.8%	182,337	184,365	1.1%	732,938	724,400	-1.2%
MD-N	612,023	579,431	-5.3%	1,716,719	1,650,890	-3.8%	6,883,558	6,706,440	-2.6%
MD-W	554,532	527,868	-4.8%	1,601,079	1,545,440	-3.5%	6,500,258	6,231,408	-4.1%
ME	702,944	652,812	-7.1%	2,066,916	1,944,348	-5.9%	8,446,520	7,872,976	-6.8%
NCS	149,794	141,743	-5.4%	423,692	414,200	-2.2%	1,705,949	1,668,403	-2.2%
RI	695,193	647,402	-6.9%	2,001,707	1,906,349	-4.8%	8,046,348	7,739,755	-3.8%
SWS	207,049	203,907	-1.5%	609,194	607,988	-0.2%	2,487,287	2,442,398	-1.8%
UP-N	806,301	768,928	-4.6%	2,280,027	2,200,415	-3.5%	9,146,198	8,849,060	-3.2%
UP-NW	970,516	926,204	-4.6%	2,768,006	2,665,051	-3.7%	11,098,839	10,708,836	-3.5%
UP-W	741,676	712,428	-3.9%	2,107,028	2,049,902	-2.7%	8,388,201	8,217,215	-2.0%
Total	6,941,185	6,606,512	-4.8%	19,864,797	19,194,767	-3.4%	79,754,934	77,217,833	-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.

Table 4: Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

Zone Pair	June (Thousands)			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
A-A	22	21	-4.2%	64	61	-5.0%	252	234	-7.0%
A-B	480	457	-4.8%	1,428	1,387	-2.9%	5,769	5,562	-3.6%
A-C	922	899	-2.5%	2,681	2,653	-1.0%	10,677	10,481	-1.8%
A-D	1,138	1,094	-3.9%	3,287	3,215	-2.2%	13,115	12,825	-2.2%
A-E	1,447	1,393	-3.8%	4,161	4,059	-2.4%	16,560	16,243	-1.9%
A-F	861	847	-1.6%	2,488	2,484	-0.2%	10,009	9,819	-1.9%
A-G	532	511	-4.0%	1,529	1,499	-1.9%	6,025	5,964	-1.0%
A-H	436	418	-4.1%	1,245	1,209	-2.9%	5,025	4,835	-3.8%
A-I	145	143	-1.3%	416	413	-0.9%	1,691	1,642	-2.9%
A-J	26	24	-7.8%	74	68	-8.5%	306	282	-7.9%
A-K	29	27	-6.9%	85	80	-6.1%	338	323	-4.5%
A-M	8	7	-13.5%	23	20	-14.3%	94	84	-10.8%
Intermediate	206	193	-6.6%	617	585	-5.2%	2,518	2,369	-5.9%
No Zone Pair	690	575	-16.7%	1,767	1,463	-17.2%	7,375	6,555	-11.1%
Total	6,941	6,607	-4.8%	19,865	19,195	-3.4%	79,755	77,218	-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.
- 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	June (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	3,926	3,765	-4.1%	56.5%	56.9%	11,812	11,337	-4.0%	59.4%	59.0%
10-Ride Ticket	1,617	1,550	-4.2%	23.3%	23.4%	4,534	4,556	0.5%	22.8%	23.7%
One-Way Ticket	967	939	-2.9%	13.9%	14.2%	2,394	2,407	0.5%	12.0%	12.5%
Weekend Pass	350	277	-20.7%	5.0%	4.2%	884	670	-24.2%	4.4%	3.5%
Special Passes	4	9	160.7%	0.1%	0.1%	4	9	160.6%	0.0%	0.0%
RTA Ride Free Permit	84	75	-10.8%	1.2%	1.1%	245	226	-7.4%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	6,947	6,616	-4.8%			19,871	19,206	-3.3%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	47,648	44,909	-5.7%	59.7%	58.1%
10-Ride Ticket	18,045	18,788	4.1%	22.6%	24.3%
One-Way Ticket	9,365	9,233	-1.4%	11.7%	12.0%
Weekend Pass	3,408	3,267	-4.1%	4.3%	4.2%
Special Passes	336	134	-60.0%	0.4%	0.2%
RTA Ride Free Permit	969	907	-6.4%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	79,772	77,238	-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 1.9 percent compared to the previous year, and average total weekday passenger loads decreased by 2.8 percent in the same period.

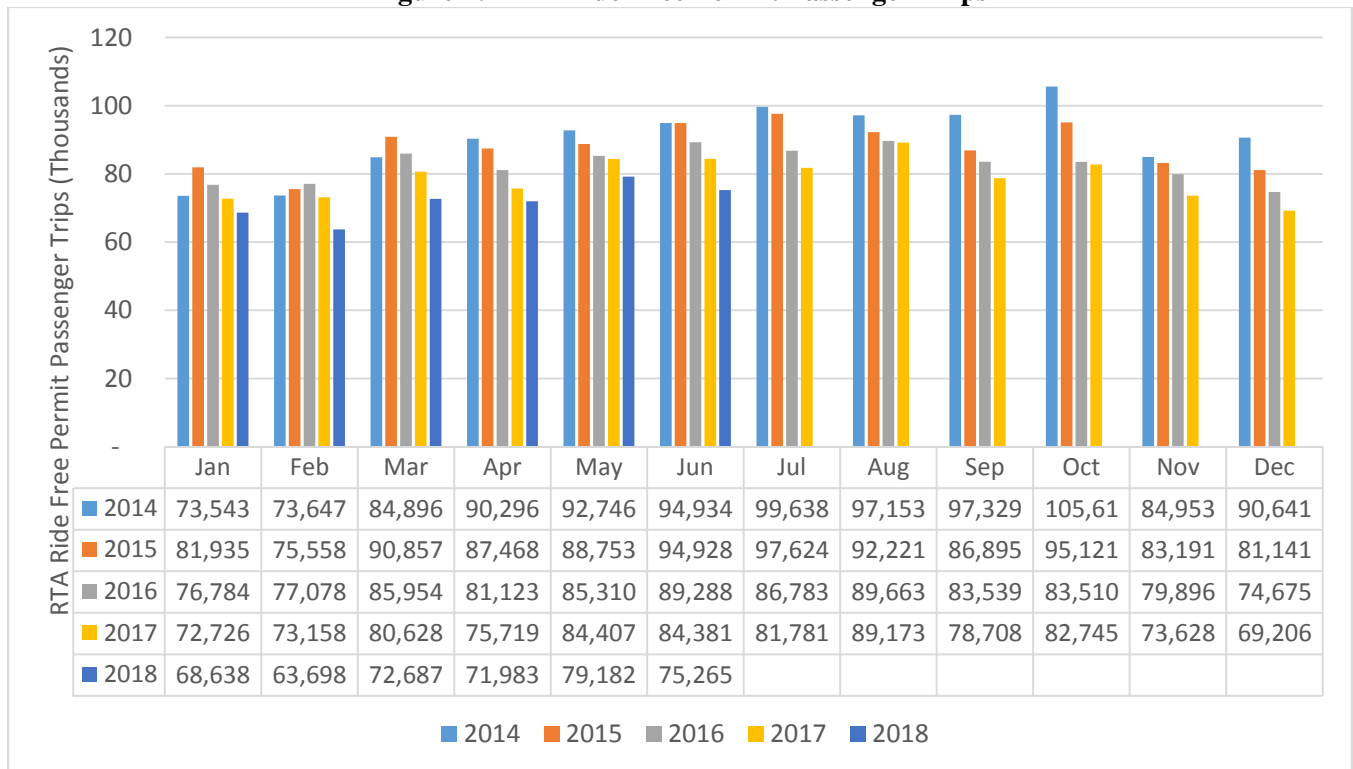
Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads

Service Period	June (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
Peak - Peak Direction	220	216	-1.9%	217	217	0.4%	216	214	-1.0%
Peak - Reverse Direction	21	21	-2.1%	21	20	-3.1%	20	20	0.7%
Midday	34	32	-7.7%	33	31	-6.5%	32	32	-1.5%
Evening	19	18	-4.6%	17	16	-3.4%	16	16	-2.1%
Weekday	294	286	-2.8%	287	285	-0.9%	285	282	-1.0%
Saturday	75	66	-11.5%	65	58	-11.4%	67	63	-5.9%
Sunday	54	48	-10.0%	44	39	-10.5%	42	39	-5.7%

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.

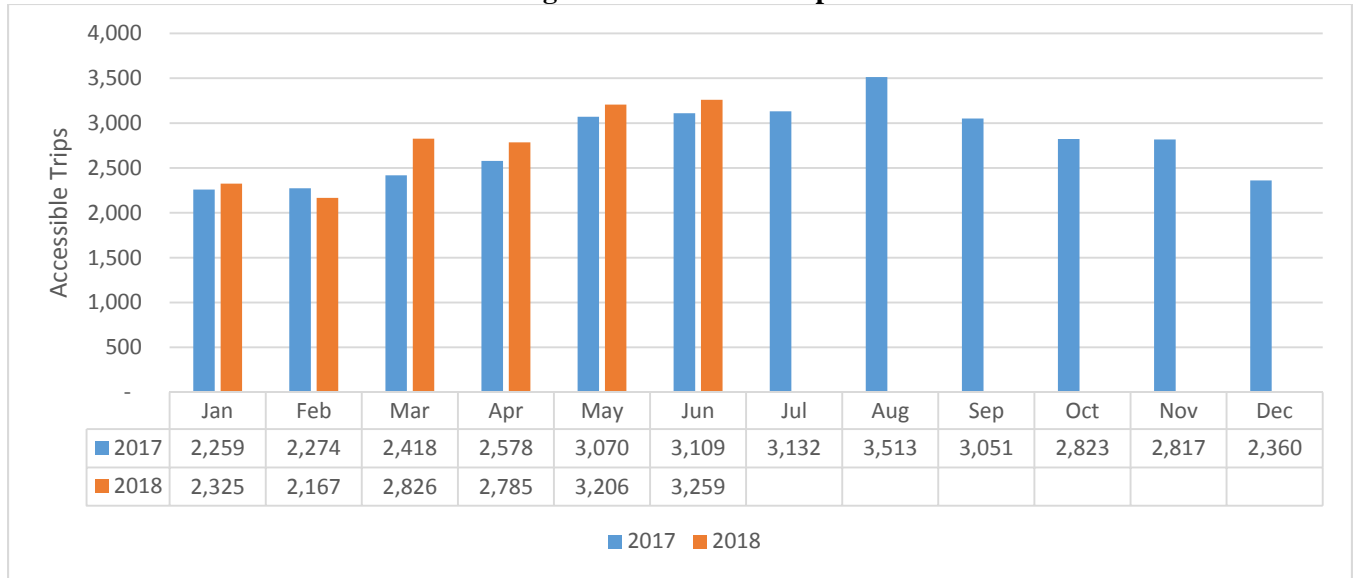
Figure 2: RTA Ride Free Permit Passenger Trips



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.

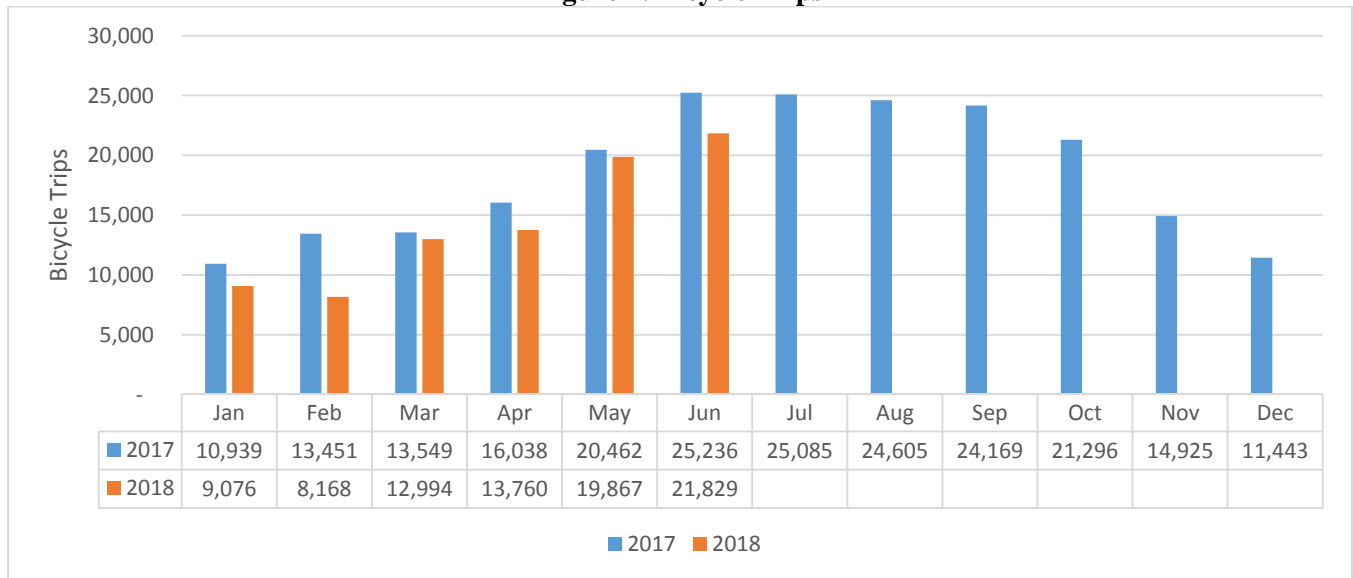
Figure 3: Accessible Trips



Bicycle Trips

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

Figure 4: Bicycle Trips



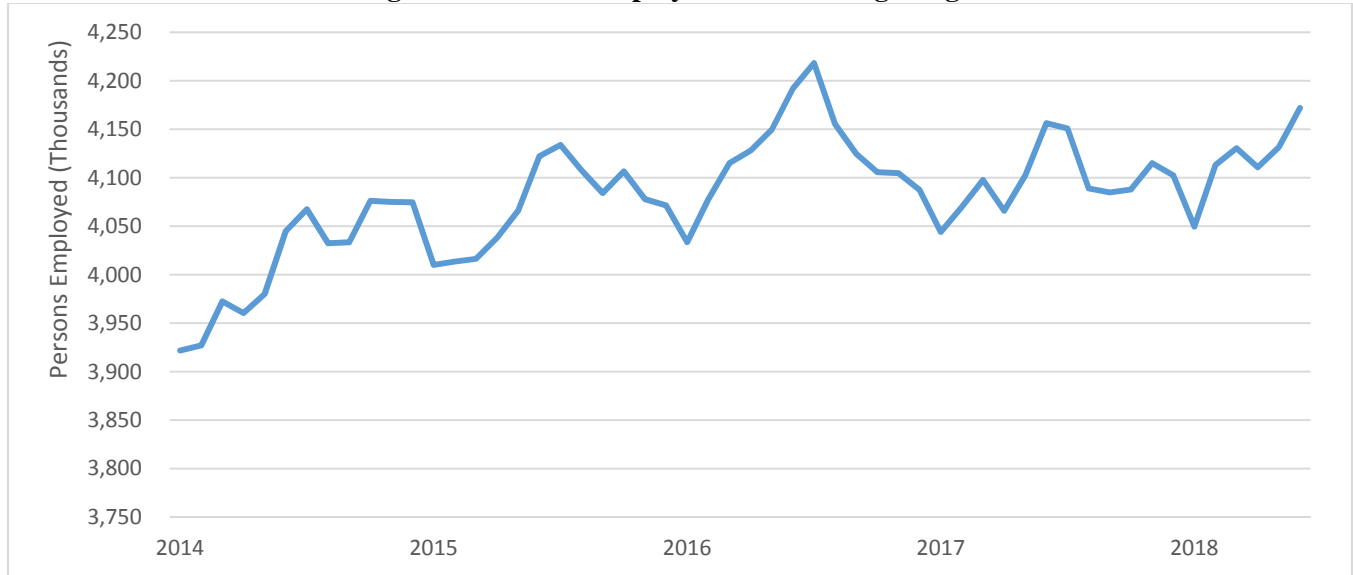
Ridership Influences

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 0.4 percent in June 2018 compared to June 2017.

Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region



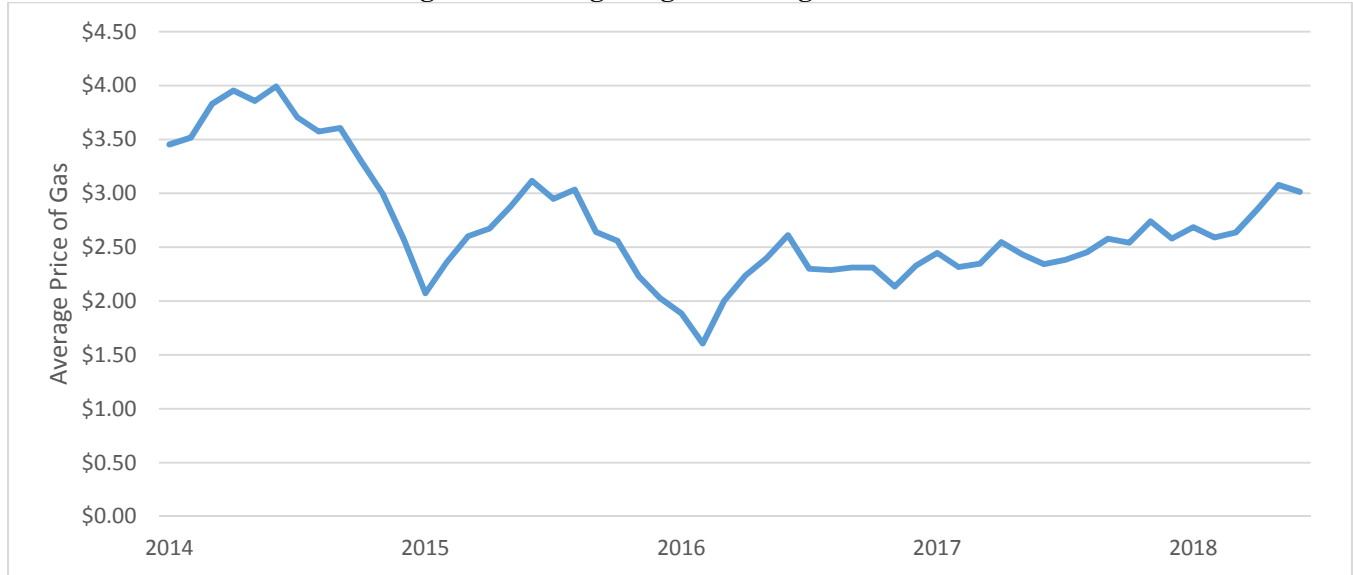
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-to-date Average
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	3,968
2015	4,010	4,014	4,016	4,038	4,066	4,122	4,134	4,108	4,084	4,107	4,078	4,072	4,044
2016	4,033	4,078	4,115	4,128	4,150	4,192	4,218	4,155	4,125	4,106	4,105	4,087	4,116
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	4,089
2018	4,050	4,113	4,130	4,111	4,131	4,172							4,118
Change 2017-2018	0.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%							0.7%

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 \$3.01 in June 2018, a \$0.67 increase compared to June 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	\$2.52
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	\$2.03
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	\$2.42
2018	\$2.69	\$2.59	\$2.64	\$2.85	\$3.08	\$3.01							\$2.77
Change 2017-2018	\$0.24	\$0.28	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.65	\$0.67							\$0.35

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Road Construction

No new roadway construction projects of regional significance began in June. 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

In preparation for the implementation of Positive Train Control (PTC), a new schedule took effect on the BNSF Line on June 11.

Special Events and Promotions

Additional service was added in June for the following events:

- Blues Fest and Spring Awakening (June 8 and 9)
- Chicago Pride Parade (June 24)

Family Fares were in effect for the entire month of June.

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.
- 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.

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.
- The large decrease in special pass passenger revenue and ticket sales in the last 12 months compared to the previous year is due to the November 2016 Cubs Rally.

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	June (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	\$6,774	\$7,003	3.4%	\$19,194	\$20,276	5.6%	\$73,598	\$77,583	5.4%
HC	\$309	\$328	6.1%	\$901	\$966	7.2%	\$3,489	\$3,680	5.5%
MD-N	\$2,907	\$2,983	2.6%	\$8,093	\$8,436	4.2%	\$31,285	\$32,697	4.5%
MD-W	\$2,620	\$2,683	2.4%	\$7,509	\$7,795	3.8%	\$29,484	\$30,164	2.3%
ME	\$2,969	\$2,953	-0.5%	\$8,644	\$8,749	1.2%	\$34,033	\$33,995	-0.1%
NCS	\$814	\$816	0.2%	\$2,286	\$2,374	3.8%	\$8,894	\$9,247	4.0%
RI	\$3,078	\$3,071	-0.2%	\$8,809	\$8,992	2.1%	\$34,170	\$35,147	2.9%
SWS	\$920	\$964	4.8%	\$2,682	\$2,852	6.3%	\$10,529	\$11,053	5.0%
UP-N	\$3,400	\$3,500	2.9%	\$9,464	\$9,921	4.8%	\$36,544	\$38,104	4.3%
UP-NW	\$4,702	\$4,834	2.8%	\$13,272	\$13,816	4.1%	\$51,540	\$53,184	3.2%
UP-W	\$3,471	\$3,605	3.9%	\$9,770	\$10,288	5.3%	\$37,528	\$39,390	5.0%
Total	\$31,962	\$32,740	2.4%	\$90,625	\$94,465	4.2%	\$351,095	\$364,245	3.7%

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	June (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$16,267	\$16,481	1.3%	50.9%	50.3%	\$48,916	\$49,598	1.4%	53.9%	52.5%
10-Ride Ticket	\$8,765	\$9,251	5.5%	27.4%	28.2%	\$24,508	\$27,112	10.6%	27.0%	28.7%
One-Way Ticket	\$5,830	\$5,906	1.3%	18.2%	18.0%	\$14,436	\$15,122	4.8%	15.9%	16.0%
Weekend Pass	\$1,113	\$1,110	-0.3%	3.5%	3.4%	\$2,801	\$2,681	-4.3%	3.1%	2.8%
Special Passes	\$14	\$37	160.7%	0.0%	0.1%	\$14	\$37	160.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Total ¹	\$31,990	\$32,785	2.5%			\$90,674	\$94,550	4.3%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$189,863	\$190,430	0.3%	54.1%	52.3%
10-Ride Ticket	\$94,572	\$105,414	11.5%	26.9%	28.9%
One-Way Ticket	\$55,101	\$56,774	3.0%	15.7%	15.6%
Weekend Pass	\$10,787	\$11,274	4.5%	3.1%	3.1%
Special Passes	\$843	\$494	-41.4%	0.2%	0.1%
Total ¹	\$351,166	\$364,387	3.8%		

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	\$5,163	\$5,102	-1.2%	31.7%	31.0%	\$629	\$671	6.7%	7.2%	7.2%
Conductor	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Internet	\$431	\$393	-8.7%	2.6%	2.4%	\$69	\$74	7.3%	0.8%	0.8%
Mail	\$442	-	-100%	2.7%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$5,112	\$4,994	-2.3%	31.4%	30.3%	\$2,960	\$2,691	-9.1%	33.8%	29.1%
Vending Machine	\$691	\$667	-3.6%	4.2%	4.0%	\$652	\$498	-23.7%	7.4%	5.4%
Ventra App	\$4,428	\$5,325	20.2%	27.2%	32.3%	\$4,456	\$5,319	19.4%	50.8%	57.5%
Total ¹	\$16,267	\$16,481	1.3%			\$8,765	\$9,251	5.5%		
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	\$1,469	\$1,303	-11.3%	25.2%	22.1%	\$633	\$576	-9.0%	55.9%	50.2%
Internet	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Mail	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$2,086	\$1,789	-14.3%	35.8%	30.3%	\$159	\$151	-5.3%	14.1%	13.2%
Vending Machine	\$236	\$235	-0.5%	4.1%	4.0%	\$37	\$38	4.0%	3.2%	3.3%
Ventra App	\$2,039	\$2,578	26.4%	35.0%	43.7%	\$304	\$382	25.6%	26.8%	33.3%
Total ¹	\$5,830	\$5,906	1.3%			\$1,133	\$1,147	1.2%		

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	\$5,791	\$5,773	-0.3%	18.1%	17.6%
Conductor	\$2,102	\$1,879	-10.6%	6.6%	5.7%
Internet	\$500	\$467	-6.5%	1.6%	1.4%
Mail	\$442	\$0	-100%	1.4%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$10,318	\$9,625	-6.7%	32.2%	29.4%
Vending Machine	\$1,616	\$1,437	-11.1%	5.1%	4.4%
Ventra App	\$11,227	\$13,603	21.2%	35.1%	41.5%
Total ¹	\$31,996	\$32,785	2.5%		

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 4.1 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and 10-Ride Ticket sales decreased by 4.0 percent in the same period.

Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	June (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share
				2017	2018				2017	2018
Monthly Pass	91	88	-4.1%	6.7%	6.8%	275	264	-4.0%	7.9%	7.8%
10-Ride Ticket	162	155	-4.2%	11.9%	11.9%	453	456	0.5%	13.0%	13.4%
One-Way Ticket	967	939	-2.9%	71.0%	72.4%	2,394	2,407	0.5%	68.8%	70.8%
Weekend Pass	140	111	-20.7%	10.3%	8.6%	353	268	-24.2%	10.2%	7.9%
Special Passes	2	5	160.7%	0.1%	0.4%	2	5	160.6%	0.1%	0.1%
Total ¹	1,361	1,297	-4.7%			3,477	3,398	-2.3%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	1,108	1,044	-5.7%	8.0%	7.7%
10-Ride Ticket	1,805	1,879	4.1%	13.1%	13.9%
One-Way Ticket	9,365	9,233	-1.4%	67.9%	68.3%
Weekend Pass	1,363	1,307	-4.1%	9.9%	9.7%
Special Passes	143	56	-60.6%	1.0%	0.4%
Total ¹	13,784	13,520	-1.9%		

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	20,335	19,652	-3.4%	BNSF	33,466	32,773	-2.1%
HC	1,051	1,052	0.1%	HC	1,295	1,352	4.4%
MD-N	7,200	6,895	-4.2%	MD-N	16,699	16,138	-3.4%
MD-W	7,303	7,024	-3.8%	MD-W	10,468	10,221	-2.4%
ME	9,073	8,449	-6.9%	ME	14,287	12,733	-10.9%
NCS	2,145	2,031	-5.3%	NCS	3,690	3,473	-5.9%
RI	10,317	9,859	-4.4%	RI	12,865	11,733	-8.8%
SWS	3,302	3,293	-0.3%	SWS	4,193	4,044	-3.6%
UP-N	8,693	8,271	-4.9%	UP-N	24,684	23,135	-6.3%
UP-NW	12,354	11,879	-3.8%	UP-NW	22,404	21,681	-3.2%
UP-W	9,521	9,158	-3.8%	UP-W	17,698	17,682	-0.1%
Total	91,294	87,563	-4.1%	Total	161,749	154,965	-4.2%
One-Way Ticket (Mobile & Station)				One-Way Ticket (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	131,448	129,532	-1.5%	BNSF	28,253	22,826	-19.2%
HC	3,019	3,018	0.0%	HC	707	601	-15.0%
MD-N	64,879	66,552	2.6%	MD-N	26,751	21,868	-18.3%
MD-W	62,355	62,049	-0.5%	MD-W	27,212	23,940	-12.0%
ME	90,430	94,905	4.9%	ME	33,531	28,405	-15.3%
NCS	11,453	12,632	10.3%	NCS	8,236	6,503	-21.0%
RI	63,892	60,009	-6.1%	RI	22,398	19,163	-14.4%
SWS	14,264	14,614	2.5%	SWS	6,080	4,798	-21.1%
UP-N	82,001	89,079	8.6%	UP-N	42,891	37,841	-11.8%
UP-NW	104,712	105,934	1.2%	UP-NW	36,719	31,762	-13.5%
UP-W	79,912	78,757	-1.4%	UP-W	25,458	24,095	-5.4%
Total	708,365	717,081	1.2%	Total	258,236	221,802	-14.1%
Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Mobile & Station)				Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	13,290	12,740	-4.1%	BNSF	11,813	7,993	-32.3%
HC	12	8	-33.3%	HC	-	-	
MD-N	6,404	5,329	-16.8%	MD-N	8,724	5,879	-32.6%
MD-W	5,671	5,161	-9.0%	MD-W	8,862	6,924	-21.9%
ME	6,650	5,917	-11.0%	ME	4,190	3,015	-28.0%
NCS	88	61	-30.7%	NCS	-	-	
RI	3,455	3,216	-6.9%	RI	8,257	5,085	-38.4%
SWS	136	126	-7.4%	SWS	442	297	-32.8%
UP-N	8,988	8,900	-1.0%	UP-N	10,516	9,002	-14.4%
UP-NW	10,797	10,045	-7.0%	UP-NW	15,472	11,891	-23.1%
UP-W	7,023	6,186	-11.9%	UP-W	10,915	7,819	-28.4%
Total	62,514	57,689	-7.7%	Total	79,191	57,905	-26.9%

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	-6.5%	31.1%	30.4%	11	10	-2.6%	6.7%	6.8%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	2	2	-12.9%	2.6%	2.4%	1	1	-1.3%	0.8%	0.8%
Mail	3	-	-100%	2.8%		-	-			
Ticket Agent	29	27	-7.1%	31.9%	30.9%	57	47	-17.0%	35.1%	30.4%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	5	4	-7.2%			10	7	-23.1%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	24	23	-7.1%			47	40	-15.8%		
Vending Machine	4	4	-9.5%	4.3%	4.0%	12	8	-30.6%	7.3%	5.3%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-				0	-			
<i>Credit Card</i>	4	4	-9.5%			12	8	-30.6%		
Ventra App	25	28	13.7%	27.3%	32.3%	81	88	8.4%	50.1%	56.7%
<i>Credit Card</i>	23	26	14.0%			77	84	8.5%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	1	2	1.1%			1	1	-1.8%		
<i>Ventra</i>	1	1	34.1%			3	3	9.5%		
Total	91	88	-4.1%			162	155	-4.2%		
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	258	222	-14.1%	26.7%	23.6%	79	58	-26.9%	55.9%	50.1%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Mail	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	338	277	-18.2%	35.0%	29.5%	20	16	-21.3%	14.1%	13.6%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	197	152	-22.9%			11	8	-26.5%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	142	125	-11.7%			9	8	-15.6%		
Vending Machine	38	37	-3.3%	3.9%	3.9%	5	4	-16.8%	3.2%	3.3%
<i>Cash</i>	0	-				0	-			
<i>Credit Card</i>	38	37	-3.3%			5	4	-16.8%		
Ventra App	332	404	21.6%	34.4%	43.0%	38	38	0.5%	26.8%	33.1%
<i>Credit Card</i>	293	365	24.8%			34	36	4.4%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	3	3	-15.7%			0	0	-28.4%		
<i>Ventra</i>	36	36	-1.2%			3	2	-34.9%		
Total	967	939	-2.9%			142	116	-18.4%		

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	174	163	-6.0%	31.5%	31.2%	64	62	-2.5%	7.0%	6.8%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	14	15	3.1%	2.6%	2.8%	7	7	-6.0%	0.8%	0.8%
Mail	17	-	-100%	3.2%		0	-	-100%	0.0%	
Ticket Agent	181	164	-9.4%	32.8%	31.4%	326	287	-12.1%	35.9%	31.2%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	32	29	-11.5%			58	46	-19.4%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	149	135	-9.0%			269	241	-10.5%		
Vending Machine	24	20	-17.3%	4.4%	3.8%	70	45	-35.2%	7.7%	4.9%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-				1	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	24	20	-17.3%			69	45	-34.4%		
Ventra App	141	161	14.2%	25.6%	30.9%	440	519	17.8%	48.5%	56.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	128	146	13.6%			418	491	17.4%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	10	11	9.2%			6	8	21.5%		
<i>Ventra</i>	3	5	56.1%			16	21	28.0%		
Total	552	523	-5.2%			908	920	1.4%		
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	1,145	1,021	-10.8%	26.6%	23.6%	343	261	-24.0%	55.9%	51.6%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Mail	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	1,458	1,248	-14.4%	33.9%	28.9%	91	65	-28.6%	14.9%	12.9%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	857	706	-17.6%			51	34	-33.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	601	542	-9.9%			40	32	-21.9%		
Vending Machine	216	154	-28.6%	5.0%	3.6%	23	15	-31.5%	3.7%	3.1%
<i>Cash</i>	52	-	-100%			3	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	164	154	-6.1%			19	15	-20.0%		
Ventra App	1,480	1,899	28.3%	34.4%	43.9%	156	164	4.9%	25.5%	32.4%
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,297	1,690	30.2%			140	151	7.6%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	15	16	11.6%			2	1	-20.0%		
<i>Ventra</i>	168	193	15.1%			14	12	-18.6%		
Total	4,298	4,322	0.6%			613	505	-17.6%		

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	39	37	-5.4%	2.9%	2.9%
Conductor	337	280	-17.1%	24.8%	21.6%
Internet	4	3	-9.0%	0.3%	0.3%
Mail	3	-	-100%	0.2%	
Ticket Agent	444	367	-17.5%	32.6%	28.3%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	222	171	-22.7%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	222	195	-12.2%		
Vending Machine	58	52	-10.3%	4.3%	4.0%
<i>Cash</i>	0	-			
<i>Credit Card</i>	58	52	-10.3%		
Ventra App	476	558	17.2%	35.0%	43.0%
<i>Credit Card</i>	427	510	19.6%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	6	5	-10.0%		
<i>Ventra</i>	43	42	-2.6%		
Total	1,361	1,297	-4.7%		

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	237	225	-5.1%	3.7%	3.6%
Conductor	1,488	1,282	-13.8%	23.3%	20.4%
Internet	22	22	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%
Mail	17	-	-100%	0.3%	
Ticket Agent	2,057	1,764	-14.2%	32.3%	28.1%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	998	815	-18.3%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,059	949	-10.4%		
Vending Machine	332	235	-29.4%	5.2%	3.7%
<i>Cash</i>	56	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	276	235	-15.1%		
Ventra App	2,218	2,744	23.7%	34.8%	43.7%
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,984	2,477	24.9%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	33	36	11.0%		
<i>Ventra</i>	201	230	14.3%		
Total	6,371	6,271	-1.6%		

Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes decreased by 4.9 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes decreased by 7.3 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%	30.1%	21.5%
Apr	3,179	1,226	3,051	1,148	-4.0%	-6.4%	32.0%	22.5%
May	3,132	1,201	2,964	1,107	-5.4%	-7.8%	31.2%	25.5%
Jun	3,058	1,152	2,908	1,068	-4.9%	-7.3%	32.1%	26.8%
Jul	2,817	1,132						
Aug	2,971	1,175						
Sep	2,911	1,186						
Oct	3,030	1,239						
Nov	3,084	1,232						
Dec	2,814	1,063						
Year-to-date	19,407	7,426	18,242	6,843	-6.0%	-7.9%	23.5%	18.8%
Last 3 Months	9,369	3,579	8,923	3,323	-4.8%	-7.2%	24.1%	19.9%
Last 12 Months	39,038	14,852	35,869	13,870	-8.1%	-6.6%	22.1%	17.7%

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				
Aug	2,691	13,792	83,668	36,566				
Sep	3,200	13,249	46,153	25,357				
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	18,606	77,216	319,842	167,624	17,595	76,689	313,912	148,086
Last 3 Months	9,209	38,310	183,815	93,053	8,920	37,963	172,736	84,872
Last 12 Months	37,500	154,311	673,919	368,472	35,406	157,222	685,667	321,979

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				
Aug				
Sep				
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				
Year-to-date	-5.4%	-0.7%	-1.9%	-11.7%
Last 3 Months	-3.1%	-0.9%	-6.0%	-8.8%
Last 12 Months	-5.6%	1.9%	1.7%	-12.6%