

RIDERSHIP TRENDS

October 2018



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

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Executive Summary

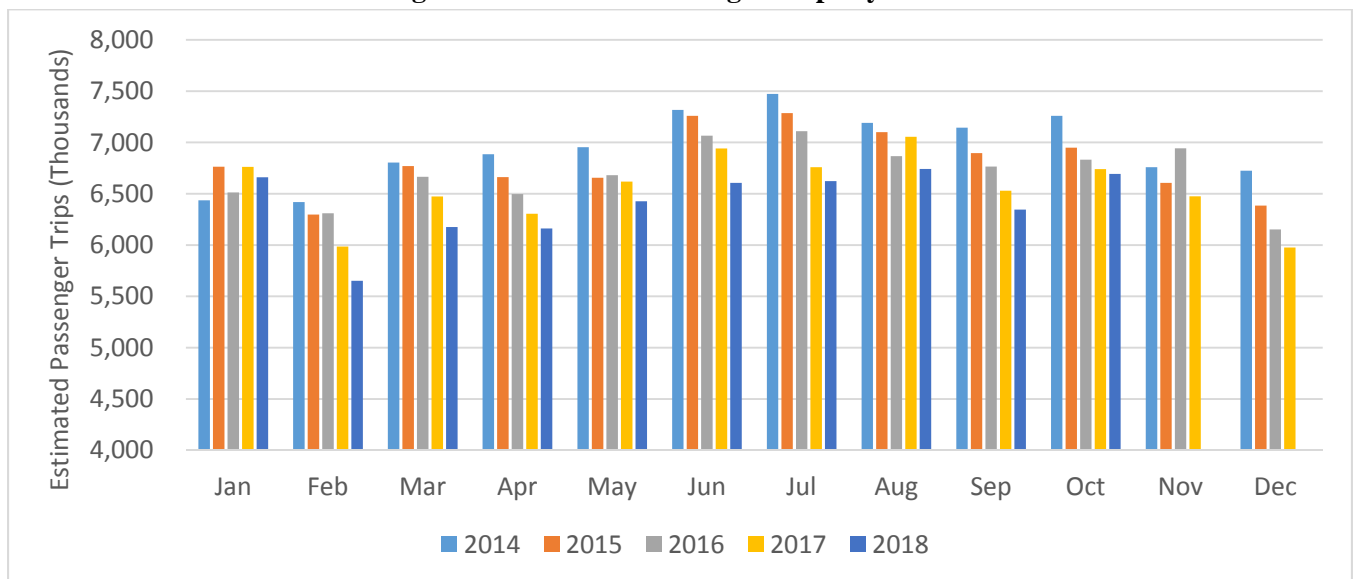
Estimated passenger trips decreased 0.7 percent in October 2018 compared to October 2017. October 2018 had one additional weekday, the same number of Saturdays, and one less Sunday compared to October 2018.

Estimated passenger trips have decreased 3.4 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			
Dec	6,724	6,385	6,153	5,976			
Year-to-date	69,886	68,640	67,306	66,170	64,088	-8.3%	-3.1%
Last 3 Months	21,596	20,945	20,464	20,326	19,783	-8.4%	-2.7%
Last 12 Months	83,125	82,124	80,296	79,266	76,539	-7.9%	-3.4%

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		
Dec	5,900		
4th Quarter	19,300		
Year-to-date	65,400	64,088	-2.0%
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 2.7 percent in the last three months compared to the previous year, and decreased 3.4 percent in the last 12 months compared to the previous year.

Table 3: Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

Line	October			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	1,400,931	1,378,720	-1.6%	4,222,864	4,101,453	-2.9%	16,337,191	15,919,990	-2.6%
HC	62,311	64,602	3.7%	185,179	187,954	1.5%	732,458	728,791	-0.5%
MD-N	585,183	584,239	-0.2%	1,778,660	1,724,544	-3.0%	6,871,462	6,639,513	-3.4%
MD-W	547,291	536,674	-1.9%	1,644,519	1,603,275	-2.5%	6,427,779	6,178,707	-3.9%
ME	692,168	689,432	-0.4%	2,057,260	1,992,021	-3.2%	8,258,048	7,775,726	-5.8%
NCS	148,238	146,521	-1.2%	437,030	426,126	-2.5%	1,695,021	1,655,982	-2.3%
RI	672,431	654,831	-2.6%	2,021,858	1,947,039	-3.7%	7,992,327	7,642,410	-4.4%
SWS	215,951	212,031	-1.8%	631,331	617,951	-2.1%	2,468,311	2,432,318	-1.5%
UP-N	783,716	774,570	-1.2%	2,368,701	2,288,133	-3.4%	9,104,294	8,743,249	-4.0%
UP-NW	920,447	934,508	1.5%	2,811,289	2,762,197	-1.7%	10,991,516	10,642,740	-3.2%
UP-W	711,366	717,858	0.9%	2,167,226	2,131,911	-1.6%	8,387,394	8,179,563	-2.5%
Total	6,740,029	6,693,984	-0.7%	20,325,914	19,782,601	-2.7%	79,265,799	76,538,986	-3.4%

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	October (Thousands)			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
A-A	21	22	6.2%	60	63	5.2%	243	237	-2.4%
A-B	499	512	2.7%	1,454	1,442	-0.8%	5,711	5,546	-2.9%
A-C	915	932	1.9%	2,688	2,702	0.5%	10,617	10,505	-1.1%
A-D	1,130	1,125	-0.5%	3,340	3,264	-2.3%	13,057	12,753	-2.3%
A-E	1,432	1,430	-0.1%	4,236	4,180	-1.3%	16,513	16,183	-2.0%
A-F	859	871	1.4%	2,545	2,550	0.2%	9,930	9,848	-0.8%
A-G	518	526	1.6%	1,549	1,533	-1.1%	6,022	5,942	-1.3%
A-H	423	419	-1.0%	1,258	1,234	-1.9%	4,955	4,816	-2.8%
A-I	142	144	1.4%	424	423	-0.1%	1,666	1,645	-1.3%
A-J	25	59	135.9%	75	175	134.8%	297	392	31.6%
A-K	28	-	-100%	84	-	-100%	334	233	-30.2%
A-M	7	-	-100%	22	-	-100%	90	58	-35.9%
A-J, K, & M	60	59	-1.5%	182	175	-3.4%	722	683	-5.4%
Intermediate	218	210	-3.8%	645	612	-5.0%	2,477	2,333	-5.8%
No Zone Pair	523	443	-15.3%	1,946	1,602	-17.7%	7,353	6,048	-17.7%
Total	6,740	6,694	-0.7%	20,326	19,783	-2.7%	79,266	76,539	-3.4%

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	October (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	4,017	3,943	-1.9%	59.6%	58.8%	11,629	11,344	-2.4%	57.2%	57.3%
10-Ride Ticket	1,642	1,660	1.1%	24.4%	24.8%	4,902	4,782	-2.4%	24.1%	24.2%
One-Way Ticket	754	830	10.1%	11.2%	12.4%	2,493	2,632	5.6%	12.3%	13.3%
Weekend Pass	242	187	-22.8%	3.6%	2.8%	949	734	-22.7%	4.7%	3.7%
Special Passes	0	0	-88.9%	0.0%	0.0%	121	73	-39.6%	0.6%	0.4%
RTA Ride Free Permit	83	81	-2.3%	1.2%	1.2%	251	234	-6.5%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	6,738	6,700	-0.6%			20,344	19,799	-2.7%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	46,672	44,603	-4.4%	58.9%	58.3%
10-Ride Ticket	18,466	18,639	0.9%	23.3%	24.3%
One-Way Ticket	9,294	9,430	1.5%	11.7%	12.3%
Weekend Pass	3,511	2,911	-17.1%	4.4%	3.8%
Special Passes	369	90	-75.5%	0.5%	0.1%
RTA Ride Free Permit	958	888	-7.3%	1.2%	1.2%
Total ¹	79,270	76,561	-3.4%		

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 3.0 percent compared to the previous year, and average total weekday passenger loads decreased by 3.9 percent in the same period.

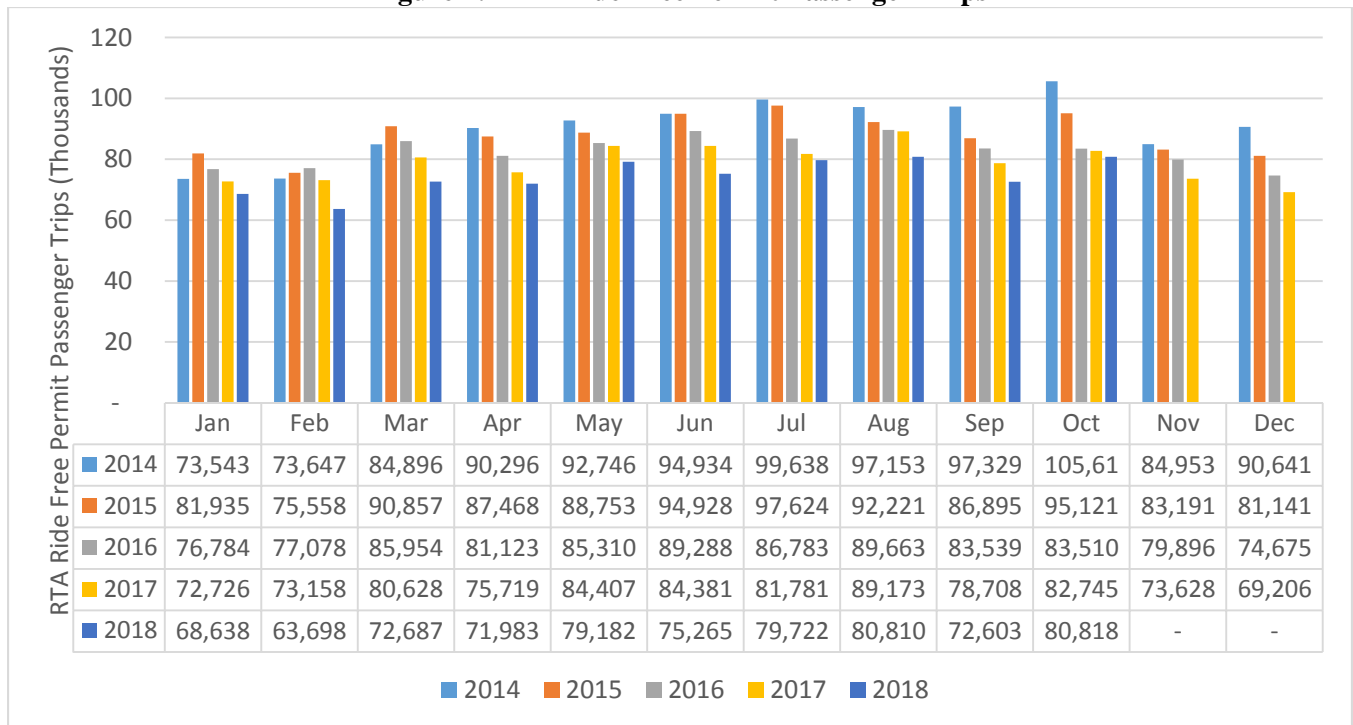
Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads

Service Period	October (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
Peak - Peak Direction	223	216	-3.0%	221	215	-2.7%	216	212	-1.5%
Peak - Reverse Direction	21	19	-9.6%	21	20	-7.3%	20	20	-0.9%
Midday	33	31	-7.6%	34	32	-4.6%	33	31	-3.6%
Evening	15	15	0.0%	17	17	-1.8%	16	16	-2.1%
Weekday	292	281	-3.9%	294	284	-3.2%	284	279	-1.8%
Saturday	55	52	-4.5%	68	62	-9.0%	67	60	-10.0%
Sunday	38	37	-1.2%	46	43	-6.2%	41	38	-7.8%

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.

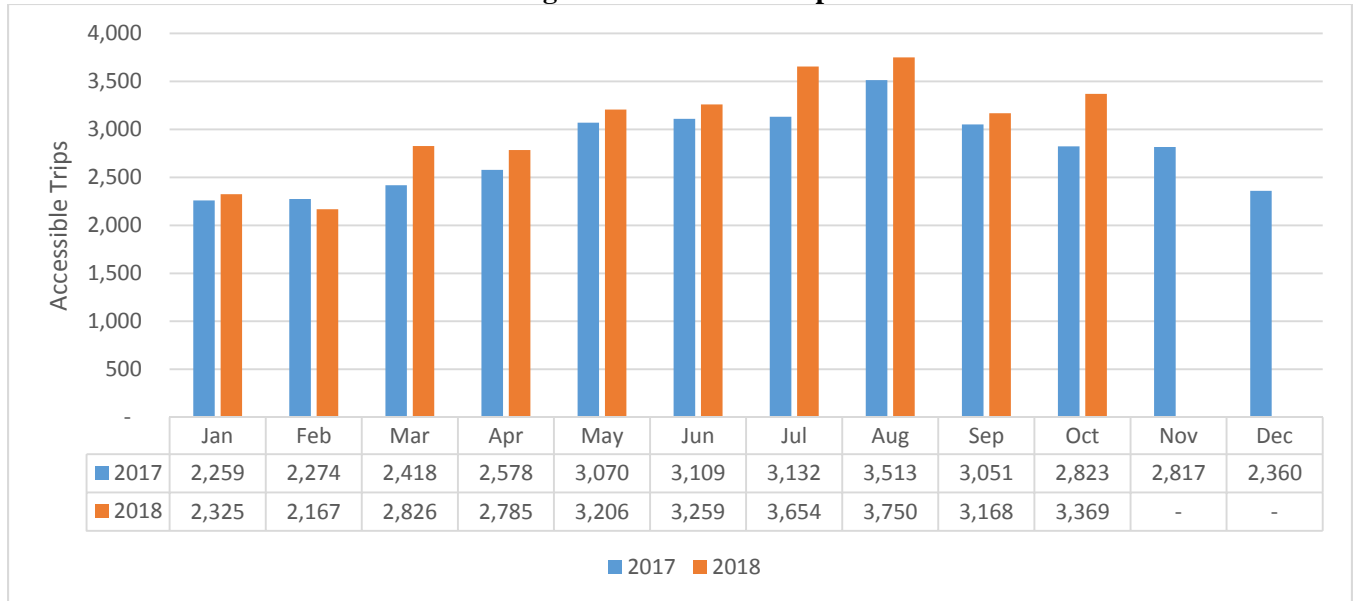
Figure 2: RTA Ride Free Permit Passenger Trips



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.

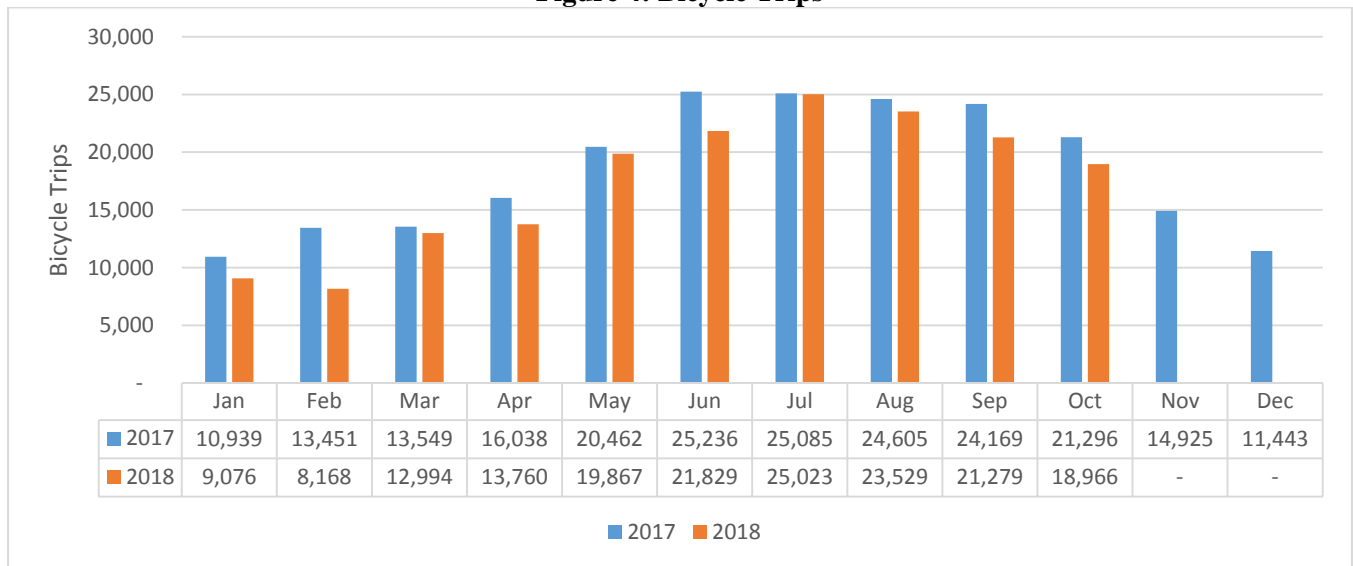
Figure 3: Accessible Trips



Bicycle Trips

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

Figure 4: Bicycle Trips



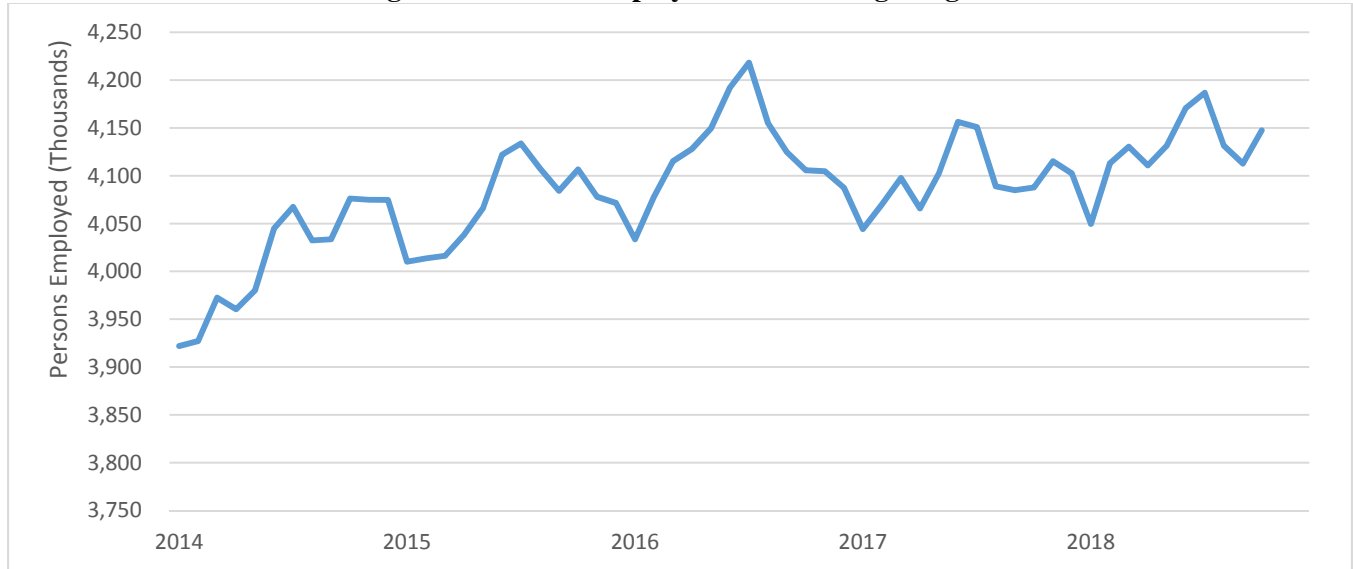
Ridership Influences

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 1.5 percent in October 2018 compared to October 2017.

Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region



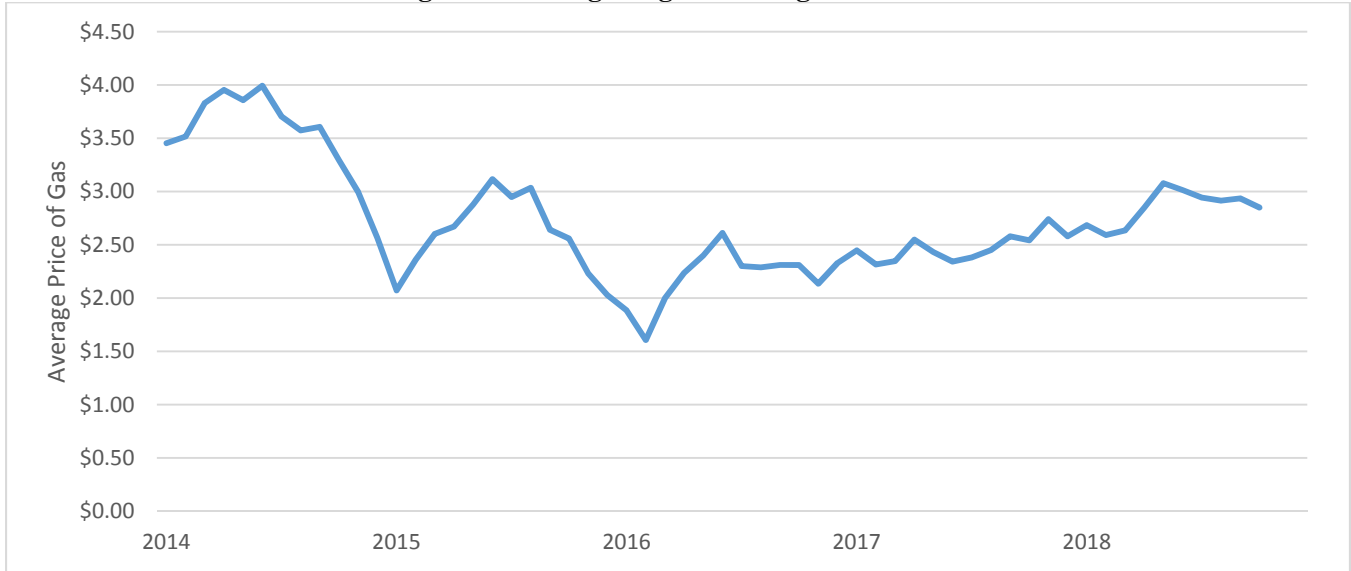
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year-to-date Average
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	4,002
2015	4,010	4,014	4,016	4,038	4,066	4,122	4,134	4,108	4,084	4,107	4,078	4,072	4,070
2016	4,033	4,078	4,115	4,128	4,150	4,192	4,218	4,155	4,125	4,106	4,105	4,087	4,130
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	4,095
2018	4,050	4,113	4,130	4,111	4,131	4,171	4,187	4,131	4,113	4,147			4,128
Change 2017-2018	0.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	1.5%			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 \$2.85 in October 2018, a \$0.31 increase compared to October 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	\$3.68
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	\$2.69
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	\$2.19
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	\$2.44
2018	\$2.69	\$2.59	\$2.64	\$2.85	\$3.08	\$3.01	\$2.94	\$2.92	\$2.94	\$2.85			\$2.85
Change 2017-2018	\$0.24	\$0.28	\$0.29	\$0.30	\$0.65	\$0.67	\$0.56	\$0.46	\$0.36	\$0.31			\$0.41

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Road Construction

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

Special Events and Promotions

Extra service was added for the Bank of America Chicago Marathon (October 7).

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 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.
- 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	October (Thousands)			Last 3 Months (Thousands)			Last 12 Months (Thousands)		
	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	\$6,569	\$6,961	6.0%	\$19,817	\$20,752	4.7%	\$75,254	\$78,983	5.0%
HC	\$309	\$340	10.1%	\$920	\$989	7.5%	\$3,570	\$3,774	5.7%
MD-N	\$2,762	\$2,989	8.2%	\$8,424	\$8,858	5.2%	\$31,891	\$33,328	4.5%
MD-W	\$2,562	\$2,708	5.7%	\$7,730	\$8,121	5.1%	\$29,688	\$30,707	3.4%
ME	\$2,883	\$3,088	7.1%	\$8,616	\$8,975	4.2%	\$33,999	\$34,428	1.3%
NCS	\$800	\$836	4.4%	\$2,368	\$2,444	3.2%	\$9,014	\$9,358	3.8%
RI	\$2,964	\$3,101	4.6%	\$8,953	\$9,255	3.4%	\$34,674	\$35,557	2.5%
SWS	\$949	\$996	5.0%	\$2,789	\$2,915	4.5%	\$10,691	\$11,254	5.3%
UP-N	\$3,256	\$3,493	7.3%	\$9,936	\$10,380	4.5%	\$37,266	\$38,704	3.9%
UP-NW	\$4,422	\$4,825	9.1%	\$13,555	\$14,317	5.6%	\$52,030	\$54,233	4.2%
UP-W	\$3,298	\$3,600	9.2%	\$10,089	\$10,732	6.4%	\$38,314	\$40,298	5.2%
Total	\$30,773	\$32,938	7.0%	\$93,196	\$97,738	4.9%	\$356,390	\$370,625	4.0%

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	October (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$16,640	\$17,230	3.5%	54.0%	52.3%	\$48,210	\$49,613	2.9%	51.7%	50.7%
10-Ride Ticket	\$8,831	\$9,805	11.0%	28.7%	29.7%	\$26,445	\$28,389	7.4%	28.4%	29.0%
One-Way Ticket	\$4,541	\$5,187	14.2%	14.8%	15.7%	\$15,053	\$16,486	9.5%	16.1%	16.9%
Weekend Pass	\$775	\$748	-3.4%	2.5%	2.3%	\$3,104	\$2,935	-5.5%	3.3%	3.0%
Special Passes	\$2	\$0	-88.9%	0.0%	0.0%	\$441	\$401	-9.2%	0.5%	0.4%
Total ¹	\$30,788	\$32,971	7.1%			\$93,255	\$97,824	4.9%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Monthly Pass	\$190,171	\$192,573	1.3%	53.3%	51.9%
10-Ride Ticket	\$98,485	\$108,069	9.7%	27.6%	29.1%
One-Way Ticket	\$55,546	\$58,790	5.8%	15.6%	15.9%
Weekend Pass	\$11,256	\$11,000	-2.3%	3.2%	3.0%
Special Passes	\$1,021	\$469	-54.1%	0.3%	0.1%
Total ¹	\$356,478	\$370,901	4.0%		

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	\$5,122	\$5,116	-0.1%	30.8%	29.7%	\$643	\$685	6.6%	7.3%	7.0%
Conductor	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Internet	\$682	-	-100.0%	4.1%	0.0%	\$72	-	-100.0%	0.8%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$5,262	\$5,329	1.3%	31.6%	30.9%	\$2,729	\$2,765	1.3%	30.9%	28.2%
Vending Machine	\$660	\$602	-8.8%	4.0%	3.5%	\$593	\$423	-28.6%	6.7%	4.3%
Ventra App	\$4,914	\$6,183	25.8%	29.5%	35.9%	\$4,793	\$5,932	23.8%	54.3%	60.5%
Total	\$16,640	\$17,230	3.5%			\$8,831	\$9,805	11.0%		
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	\$1,092	\$1,033	-5.4%	24.0%	19.9%	\$423	\$403	-4.6%	54.4%	53.9%
Internet	-	-		0.0%	0.0%	-	-		0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$1,443	\$1,428	-1.0%	31.8%	27.5%	\$105	\$73	-30.5%	13.6%	9.8%
Vending Machine	\$169	\$176	4.1%	3.7%	3.4%	\$26	\$24	-8.2%	3.4%	3.2%
Ventra App	\$1,837	\$2,550	38.8%	40.5%	49.2%	\$222	\$248	11.5%	28.6%	33.1%
Total	\$4,541	\$5,187	14.2%			\$777	\$749	-3.6%		

Sales Channel	All Ticket Types (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share 2017	Share 2018
Commuter Benefit	\$5,765	\$5,801	0.6%	18.7%	17.6%
Conductor	\$1,515	\$1,437	-5.2%	4.9%	4.4%
Internet	\$754	-	-100.0%	2.4%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$9,539	\$9,595	0.6%	31.0%	29.1%
Vending Machine	\$1,449	\$1,225	-15.4%	4.7%	3.7%
Ventra App	\$11,767	\$14,913	26.7%	38.2%	45.2%
Total ¹	\$30,788	\$32,971	7.1%		

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 1.9 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and 10-Ride Ticket sales increased by 1.1 percent in the same period.

Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type

Ticket Type	October (Thousands)					Last 3 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share
				2017	2018				2017	2018
Monthly Pass	93	92	-1.9%	8.4%	7.9%	270	264	-2.4%	7.3%	7.1%
10-Ride Ticket	164	166	1.1%	14.8%	14.3%	490	478	-2.4%	13.3%	12.9%
One-Way Ticket	754	830	10.1%	68.0%	71.4%	2,493	2,632	5.6%	67.7%	71.2%
Weekend Pass	97	75	-22.8%	8.7%	6.4%	380	293	-22.7%	10.3%	7.9%
Special Passes	0	0	-88.8%	0.0%	0.0%	50	31	-37.1%	1.3%	0.8%
Total ¹	1,108	1,162	4.9%			3,683	3,699	0.4%		

Ticket Type	Last 12 Months (Thousands)				
	2017	2018	Change	Share	Share
				2017	2018
Monthly Pass	1,085	1,037	-4.4%	7.9%	7.7%
10-Ride Ticket	1,847	1,864	0.9%	13.4%	13.8%
One-Way Ticket	9,294	9,430	1.5%	67.3%	69.7%
Weekend Pass	1,404	1,164	-17.1%	10.2%	8.6%
Special Passes	173	40	-77.1%	1.3%	0.3%
Total ¹	13,804	13,535	-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	20,936	20,407	-2.5%	BNSF	33,301	33,487	0.6%
HC	1,058	1,081	2.2%	HC	1,327	1,394	5.0%
MD-N	7,294	7,271	-0.3%	MD-N	16,731	17,124	2.3%
MD-W	7,704	7,561	-1.9%	MD-W	10,923	10,995	0.7%
ME	8,955	8,781	-1.9%	ME	15,861	15,297	-3.6%
NCS	2,215	2,129	-3.9%	NCS	3,638	3,688	1.4%
RI	10,551	10,346	-1.9%	RI	12,944	12,285	-5.1%
SWS	3,600	3,429	-4.8%	SWS	4,198	4,386	4.5%
UP-N	8,851	8,646	-2.3%	UP-N	25,253	25,138	-0.5%
UP-NW	12,597	12,457	-1.1%	UP-NW	22,123	23,500	6.2%
UP-W	9,664	9,587	-0.8%	UP-W	17,920	18,670	4.2%
Total	93,425	91,695	-1.9%	Total	164,219	165,964	1.1%
One-Way Ticket (Mobile & Station)				One-Way Ticket (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	98,835	109,077	10.4%	BNSF	20,579	16,286	-20.9%
HC	2,978	3,660	22.9%	HC	467	475	1.7%
MD-N	50,502	60,968	20.7%	MD-N	18,680	16,292	-12.8%
MD-W	49,226	55,683	13.1%	MD-W	20,144	16,595	-17.6%
ME	80,334	98,623	22.8%	ME	28,995	28,362	-2.2%
NCS	9,587	11,766	22.7%	NCS	6,199	5,391	-13.0%
RI	49,510	55,297	11.7%	RI	15,138	12,897	-14.8%
SWS	12,812	14,655	14.4%	SWS	3,983	3,653	-8.3%
UP-N	67,664	80,033	18.3%	UP-N	36,811	33,861	-8.0%
UP-NW	76,149	90,988	19.5%	UP-NW	26,692	27,969	4.8%
UP-W	60,005	67,931	13.2%	UP-W	18,352	19,158	4.4%
Total	557,602	648,681	16.3%	Total	196,040	180,939	-7.7%
Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Mobile & Station)				Weekend, Special, Ravinia Passes (Conductor)			
Line	2017	2018	Change	Line	2017	2018	Change
BNSF	9,778	7,681	-21.4%	BNSF	6,165	4,796	-22.2%
HC	27	10	-63.0%	HC	-	-	
MD-N	4,877	3,366	-31.0%	MD-N	6,914	3,851	-44.3%
MD-W	4,001	3,404	-14.9%	MD-W	6,210	4,624	-25.5%
ME	4,878	3,998	-18.0%	ME	2,753	2,130	-22.6%
NCS	55	41	-25.5%	NCS	-	-	
RI	2,133	1,898	-11.0%	RI	4,403	2,989	-32.1%
SWS	119	98	-17.6%	SWS	211	212	0.5%
UP-N	5,572	3,993	-28.3%	UP-N	7,600	5,956	-21.6%
UP-NW	7,022	5,462	-22.2%	UP-NW	11,319	9,293	-17.9%
UP-W	5,782	4,586	-20.7%	UP-W	7,245	6,467	-10.7%
Total	44,244	34,537	-21.9%	Total	52,820	40,318	-23.7%

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	-5.4%	30.2%	29.1%	11	11	-2.7%	6.7%	6.5%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	4	-	-100%	4.1%		1	-	-100%	0.8%	
Ticket Agent	30	29	-3.9%	32.1%	31.5%	53	49	-7.2%	32.2%	29.5%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	5	5	-7.9%			9	8	-16.6%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	25	24	-3.1%			43	41	-5.2%		
Vending Machine	4	3	-14.3%	4.0%	3.5%	11	7	-36.3%	6.6%	4.2%
Ventra App	28	33	19.2%	29.6%	36.0%	88	99	12.5%	53.7%	59.8%
<i>Credit Card</i>	25	30	19.0%			84	94	12.7%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	1	2	6.9%			1	1	-13.9%		
<i>Ventra</i>	1	1	47.3%			3	4	18.5%		
Total	93	92	-1.9%			164	166	1.1%		
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	196	181	-7.7%	26.0%	21.8%	53	40	-23.7%	54.4%	53.9%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	232	220	-5.2%	30.8%	26.5%	13	7	-44.4%	13.6%	9.8%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	135	124	-8.5%			7	4	-49.1%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	97	96	-0.5%			6	4	-38.6%		
Vending Machine	27	28	2.8%	3.6%	3.4%	3	2	-26.6%	3.4%	3.2%
Ventra App	298	400	34.3%	39.6%	48.3%	28	25	-10.8%	28.6%	33.1%
<i>Credit Card</i>	262	362	38.1%			25	23	-6.9%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	3	2	-29.2%			0	0	-54.7%		
<i>Ventra</i>	33	37	10.1%			3	1	-43.3%		
Total	754	830	10.1%			97	75	-22.9%		

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	286	269	-5.9%	31.6%	30.9%	106	103	-2.6%	6.8%	6.6%
Conductor	-	-				-	-			
Internet	26	17	-37.5%	2.9%	1.9%	12	7	-42.2%	0.8%	0.4%
Mail	17	-	-100%	1.9%		0	-	-100%	0.0%	
Ticket Agent	298	275	-7.8%	32.9%	31.5%	537	476	-11.3%	34.4%	30.6%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	52	46	-11.1%			95	76	-19.5%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	246	229	-7.1%			442	400	-9.5%		
Vending Machine	38	32	-16.8%	4.2%	3.7%	113	73	-35.1%	7.2%	4.7%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-				1	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	38	32	-16.8%			112	73	-34.5%		
Ventra App	240	278	15.9%	26.5%	32.0%	793	898	13.3%	50.8%	57.6%
<i>Credit Card</i>	219	253	15.5%			751	851	13.3%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	15	17	9.4%			12	12	-0.8%		
<i>Ventra</i>	5	8	51.4%			30	36	20.6%		
Total	906	871	-3.9%			1,561	1,558	-0.2%		
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	2,039	1,828	-10.3%	26.2%	22.9%	655	485	-25.9%	53.3%	50.4%
Internet	-	-				-	-			
Mail	-	-				-	-			
Ticket Agent	2,584	2,300	-11.0%	33.3%	28.8%	206	135	-34.7%	16.8%	14.0%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	1,511	1,287	-14.8%			114	69	-39.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,073	1,013	-5.6%			92	66	-28.4%		
Vending Machine	349	288	-17.7%	4.5%	3.6%	41	28	-31.8%	3.3%	2.9%
<i>Cash</i>	52	-	-100%			3	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	298	288	-3.4%			38	28	-25.9%		
Ventra App	2,796	3,573	27.8%	36.0%	44.7%	327	314	-3.8%	26.6%	32.7%
<i>Credit Card</i>	2,453	3,206	30.7%			294	292	-0.6%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	30	26	-14.4%			4	2	-36.5%		
<i>Ventra</i>	313	341	8.9%			29	20	-32.1%		
Total	7,768	7,989	2.8%			1,229	962	-21.7%		

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	-4.6%	3.5%	3.2%
Conductor	249	221	-11.1%	22.5%	19.0%
Internet	5	-	-100%	0.5%	
Ticket Agent	328	305	-6.9%	29.6%	26.3%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	157	140	-10.8%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	171	165	-3.4%		
Vending Machine	45	41	-10.2%	4.1%	3.5%
Ventra App	442	557	26.2%	39.9%	48.0%
<i>Credit Card</i>	396	509	28.7%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	6	5	-18.7%		
<i>Ventra</i>	40	43	8.2%		
Total	1,108	1,162	4.9%		

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	392	373	-5.0%	3.4%	3.3%
Conductor	2,693	2,313	-14.1%	23.5%	20.3%
Internet	38	23	-39.0%	0.3%	0.2%
Mail	17	-	-100%	0.2%	
Ticket Agent	3,625	3,185	-12.1%	31.6%	28.0%
<i>Cash & Other</i>	1,772	1,478	-16.6%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,853	1,708	-7.8%		
Vending Machine	542	421	-22.3%	4.7%	3.7%
<i>Cash</i>	56	-	-100%		
<i>Credit Card</i>	486	421	-13.4%		
Ventra App	4,156	5,064	21.9%	36.3%	44.5%
<i>Credit Card</i>	3,718	4,603	23.8%		
<i>Mixed & Other</i>	61	56	-7.1%		
<i>Ventra</i>	377	405	7.3%		
Total	11,464	11,380	-0.7%		

Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes decreased by 4.3 percent in the current month compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes decreased by 10.3 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						
Dec	2,814	1,063						
Year-to-date	31,136	12,158	29,571	11,115	-5.0%	-8.6%	24.3%	19.9%
Last 3 Months	8,912	3,600	8,517	3,234	-4.4%	-10.2%	26.1%	22.4%
Last 12 Months	37,671	14,623	35,469	13,410	-5.8%	-8.3%	23.9%	19.5%

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				
Dec	2,645	12,291	54,938	24,845				
Year-to-date	30,633	131,290	585,989	292,326	29,611	128,848	586,957	264,857
Last 3 Months	9,297	41,539	179,985	88,652	9,175	39,785	184,049	81,974
Last 12 Months	36,792	156,542	696,456	352,124	35,395	155,307	692,565	314,048

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				
Dec				
Year-to-date	-3.3%	-1.9%	0.2%	-9.4%
Last 3 Months	-1.3%	-4.2%	2.3%	-7.5%
Last 12 Months	-3.8%	-0.8%	-0.6%	-10.8%