Ridership increased in January compared to December as Northeastern Illinois remained in Phase 4 of the State of Illinois Restore Illinois COVID-19 recovery plan. The city of Chicago maintained its Stay-at-Home advisory for the month of January. Preliminary January 2021 estimated passenger trips were approximately 501,488, a 0.9 percent increase from the 497,980 estimated passenger trips in December 2020, and a 91.6 percent decrease from January 2020. January 2021 had two fewer weekdays and one additional Sunday compared to January 2020.

On January 11, 2 trains were added to the Milwaukee District-North and 6 trains were added to the Milwaukee District-West. This change brought the total number of trains Metra operates from 392 trains per weekday to 398.

Sales for the special $10 all-day pass continued in January.

The system averaged 20,600 riders per weekday in January, excluding New Year’s Day. Metra operated on a regular schedule on January 18, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, carrying 14,600 passengers. Thursdays were the strongest performing weekday in January, carrying an average of 21,200 passengers.
January 2021 is preliminary and subject to revision as data reported during the COVID-19 Pandemic is reviewed.

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