RIDERSHIP TRENDS

August 2016

Metra

Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning
October 2016

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Executive Summary

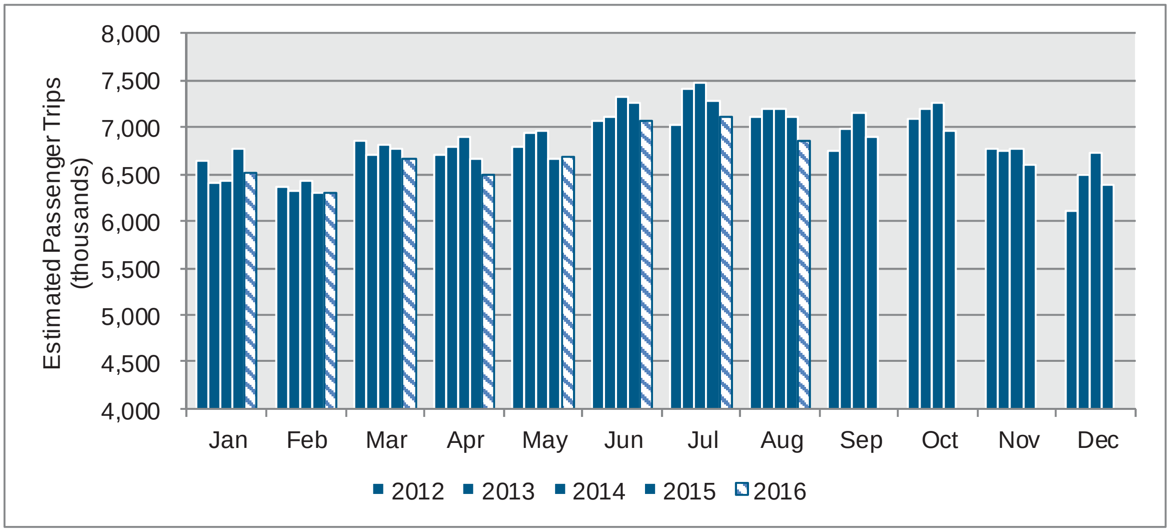
Estimated passenger trips decreased by 3.3% in August 2016 compared to August 2015. August 2016 had two additional weekdays, one less Saturday, and one less Sunday compared to August 2015. Year-to-date, 2016 has had the same number of weekdays and Saturdays, and one less Sunday/holiday compared to 2015.

Due to a reporting anomaly, most August monthly tickets sold through Ticket by Internet were accounted for in July. The results presented in this report account for these tickets in July. Adjusting for this anomaly, July 2016 ridership was 3.6 percent lower than July 2015, and August 2016 ridership was 2.1 percent lower than August 2015. July 2016 ridership was approximately 86,000 trips lower than what was reported in the July 2016 Ridership Trends Report, and August 2016 is approximately 86,000 trips higher than what is reported in this report.

Table 1: Estimated Passenger Trips by Month

	Estimated Passenger Trips (thousands)					Change	
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2012-2016	2015-2016
Jan	6,638	6,412	6,437	6,764	6,513	-1.9%	-3.7%
Feb	6,371	6,329	6,419	6,297	6,310	-1.0%	0.2%
Mar	6,856	6,707	6,805	6,770	6,666	-2.8%	-1.5%
Apr	6,694	6,783	6,885	6,663	6,497	-2.9%	-2.5%
May	6,792	6,928	6,953	6,656	6,681	-1.6%	0.4%
Jun	7,056	7,103	7,318	7,260	7,066	0.2%	-2.7%
Jul	7,017	7,399	7,473	7,286	7,110	1.3%	-2.4%
Aug	7,113	7,194	7,192	7,100	6,866	-3.5%	-3.3%
Sep	6,756	6,987	7,144	6,896	-	-	-
Oct	7,091	7,187	7,260	6,949	-	-	-
Nov	6,773	6,750	6,760	6,606	-	-	-
Dec	6,113	6,489	6,724	6,385	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	21,186	21,695	21,982	21,646	21,042	-0.7%	-2.8%
Last 12 Months	82,078	81,587	82,895	82,684	80,543	-1.9%	-2.6%
Year-to-date	54,537	54,854	55,482	54,795	53,708	-1.5%	-2.0%

Figure 1: Estimated Passenger Trips by Month



For the 2016 budget year, Metra estimated total annual passenger trips to be 81.8 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. Table 2 shows the estimated monthly passenger trips compared to this distribution.

Table 2: Estimated vs. Budget Passenger Trips

	2016 Budget (thousands)	2016 Actual (thousands)	Variance
Jan	6,739	6,513	-3.4%
Feb	6,241	6,310	1.1%
Mar	6,709	6,666	-0.6%
1st Quarter	**19,690**	**19,489**	**-1.0%**
Apr	6,603	6,497	-1.6%
May	6,596	6,681	1.3%
Jun	7,195	7,066	-1.8%
2nd Quarter	**20,394**	**20,244**	**-0.7%**
Jul	7,221	7,110	-1.5%
Aug	6,945	6,866	-1.1%
Sep	7,055	-	-
3rd Quarter	**21,221**	**-**	**-**
Oct	7,169	-	-
Nov	6,675	-	-
Dec	6,640	-	-
4th Quarter	**20,483**	**-**	**-**
Year-to-date	54,250	53,708	-1.0%

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 Benefit Access free passenger trips reported by conductors.

Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

Table 3 shows estimated passenger trips by line for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Estimated passenger trips decreased 2.8 percent in the last three months compared to the previous year, and decreased 2.6 percent in the last 12 months compared to the previous year. Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor passenger trips are overstated in 2015, while the other lines traveling to Chicago Union Station are understated.

Table 3: Estimated Passenger Trips by Line

	August			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	1,433,226	1,394,745	-2.7%	4,347,646	4,274,437	-1.7%	16,554,440	16,285,210	-1.6%
MED	746,796	714,294	-4.4%	2,321,286	2,203,649	-5.1%	9,211,308	8,789,641	-4.6%
HC	57,084	60,649	6.2%	177,732	183,946	3.5%	742,709	697,074	-6.1%
MD-N	618,701	600,601	-2.9%	1,909,592	1,840,119	-3.6%	7,225,128	6,940,723	-3.9%
MD-W	600,123	563,515	-6.1%	1,819,590	1,733,647	-4.7%	6,864,718	6,659,781	-3.0%
NCS	150,869	147,593	-2.2%	461,787	450,848	-2.4%	1,780,919	1,740,332	-2.3%
RID	716,676	678,487	-5.3%	2,186,621	2,087,065	-4.6%	8,426,852	8,133,292	-3.5%
SWS	214,842	210,947	-1.8%	659,053	639,686	-2.9%	2,632,622	2,567,405	-2.5%
UP-N	822,118	804,683	-2.1%	2,494,494	2,458,902	-1.4%	9,327,126	9,227,841	-1.1%
UP-NW	1,000,231	974,381	-2.6%	3,026,770	2,962,184	-2.1%	11,476,803	11,173,376	-2.6%
UP-W	739,489	716,175	-3.2%	2,241,368	2,207,747	-1.5%	8,440,914	8,328,791	-1.3%
Total	7,100,153	6,866,069	-3.3%	21,645,937	21,042,227	-2.8%	82,683,536	80,543,463	-2.6%

Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

Table 4 shows estimated passenger trips by fare zone pair for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months.

Table 4: Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

	August (thousands)			**Last 3 Months** (thousands)			**Last 12 Months** (thousands)		
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**
A-A	21	21	0.2%	66	64	-1.6%	261	266	1.7%
A-B	472	481	1.9%	1,455	1,463	0.6%	5,895	5,816	-1.3%
A-C	887	902	1.7%	2,722	2,741	0.7%	10,670	10,722	0.5%
A-D	1,095	1,115	1.9%	3,379	3,387	0.2%	13,334	13,154	-1.3%
A-E	1,422	1,419	-0.2%	4,352	4,308	-1.0%	16,995	16,658	-2.0%
A-F	842	860	2.1%	2,587	2,603	0.6%	10,110	10,063	-0.5%
A-G	510	516	1.2%	1,560	1,564	0.3%	6,121	6,032	-1.5%
A-H	441	441	0.1%	1,351	1,343	-0.6%	5,207	5,110	-1.9%
A-I	145	149	2.5%	446	447	0.1%	1,763	1,715	-2.8%
A-J	27	27	-1.4%	84	83	-1.6%	330	317	-3.9%
A-K	31	29	-3.6%	92	88	-3.5%	366	350	-4.3%
A-M	11	9	-14.7%	34	27	-19.8%	120	111	-7.7%
Intermediate	209	216	3.7%	628	642	2.3%	2,657	2,575	-3.1%
No Zone Pair	988	681	-31.1%	2,892	2,281	-21.1%	8,855	7,655	-13.5%
Total	7,100	6,866	-3.3%	21,646	21,042	-2.8%	82,684	80,543	-2.6%

Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

Table 5 shows estimated passenger trips by ticket type for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Passenger trip totals are adjusted for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds. The large decrease in passenger trips attributed to special event tickets in August 2016 compared to August 2015 is due to the fact that Lollapalooza tickets were accounted for in August in 2015, and July in 2016.

Table 5: Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

	August (thousands)				**Last 3 Months** (thousands)				**Last 12 Months** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Monthly	4,073	3,914	-3.9%	57.0%	12,516	12,068	-3.6%	57.4%	52,105	49,349	-5.3%	61.3%
Ten-Ride	1,462	1,598	9.3%	23.3%	4,429	4,621	4.3%	22.0%	15,718	17,306	10.1%	21.5%
One-Way	977	966	-1.2%	14.1%	3,026	2,971	-1.8%	14.1%	10,125	9,475	-6.4%	11.8%
Weekend	388	307	-20.8%	4.5%	1,140	1,054	-7.5%	5.0%	3,490	3,360	-3.7%	4.2%
Special Event & Ravinia	134	6	-95.2%	0.1%	315	93	-70.6%	0.4%	318	98	-69.1%	0.1%
Benefit Access (free)	92	90	-2.8%	1.3%	285	266	-6.7%	1.3%	1,088	1,018	-6.4%	1.3%
Total	7,100	6,866	-3.3%		21,646	21,042	-2.8%		82,684	80,543	-2.6%	

Passenger Loads

Table 6 shows the average daily passenger loads by service period for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months, derived from conductor counts. Average peak-peak direction passenger loads decreased by 0.2 percent in August compared to the previous year, and total weekday passenger loads decreased by 1.6 percent in the same period.

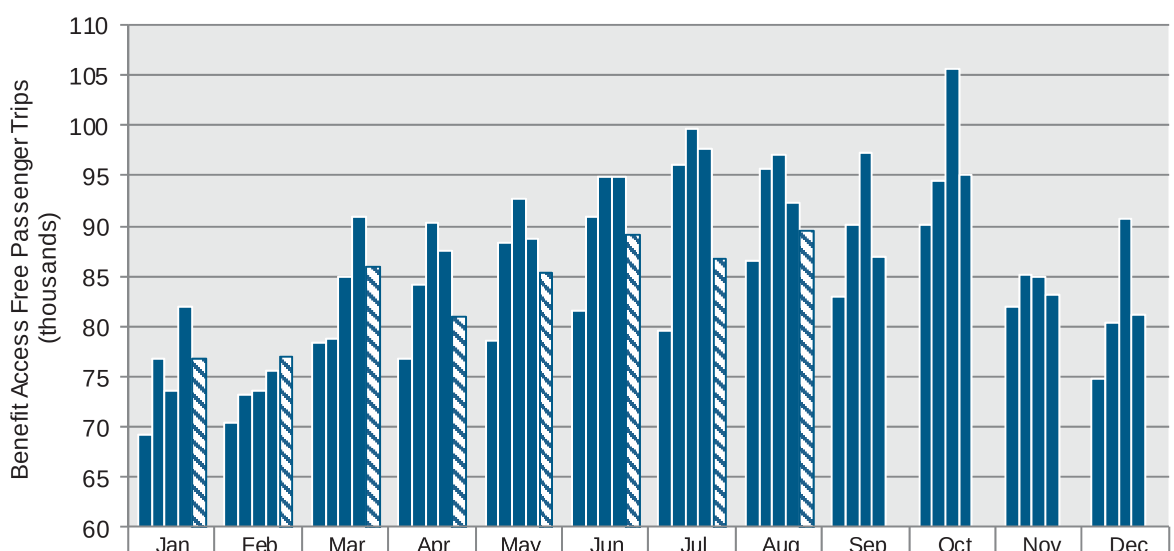
Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads

	August (thousands)			**Last 3 Months** (thousands)			**Last 12 Months** (thousands)		
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**
Peak - Peak Direction	223	223	-0.2%	225	222	-1.3%	222	224	0.8%
Peak - Reverse Direction	21	20	-4.4%	22	21	-4.7%	21	20	-3.2%
Midday	35	33	-4.5%	36	35	-2.5%	33	32	-2.7%
Evening	20	18	-8.5%	20	20	-4.3%	18	17	-4.2%
Weekday	300	295	-1.6%	303	298	-1.9%	294	293	-0.2%
Saturday	76	71	-6.4%	81	75	-8.2%	67	65	-3.1%
Sunday	46	43	-6.0%	52	50	-4.4%	42	42	-1.8%

Free Trips

Figure 2 shows the number of Benefit Access free passenger trips for the last five years. Benefit Access trips are included in ridership estimates because Metra is eligible for reimbursement for the number provided.

Figure 2: Benefit Access Free Passenger Trips

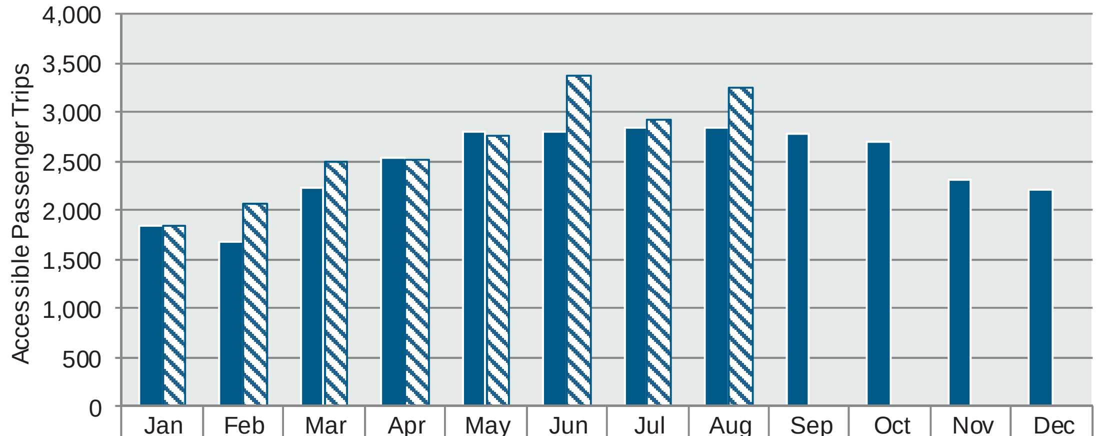


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2012	69,123	70,491	78,307	76,694	78,507	81,498	79,551	86,543	83,034	90,053	81,871	74,816
2013	76,802	73,179	78,710	84,089	88,367	90,828	96,166	95,616	90,054	94,499	85,149	80,425
2014	73,543	73,647	84,896	90,296	92,746	94,934	99,638	97,153	97,329	105,618	84,953	90,641
2015	81,935	75,558	90,857	87,468	88,753	94,928	97,624	92,221	86,895	95,121	83,191	81,141
2016	76,784	77,078	85,954	81,123	85,310	89,288	86,783	89,663				

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

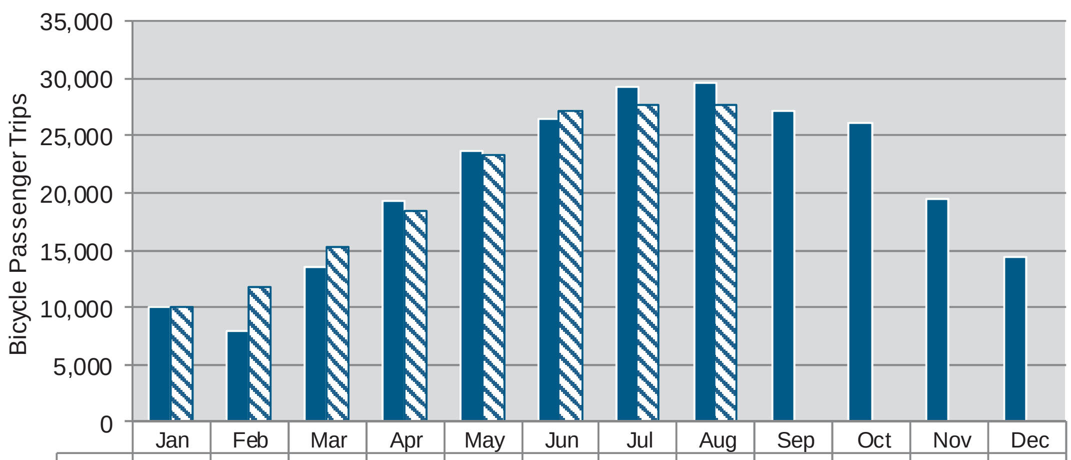


	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2015	1,839	1,670	2,235	2,531	2,790	2,793	2,837	2,830	2,770	2,704	2,316	2,203
2016	1,841	2,073	2,501	2,522	2,767	3,380	2,936	3,257				

Bicycle Trips

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

Figure 4: Bicycle Trips



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2015	10,026	7,983	13,550	19,356	23,710	26,412	29,197	29,692	27,160	26,126	19,505	14,411
2016	10,054	11,911	15,394	18,423	23,443	27,311	27,829	27,756				

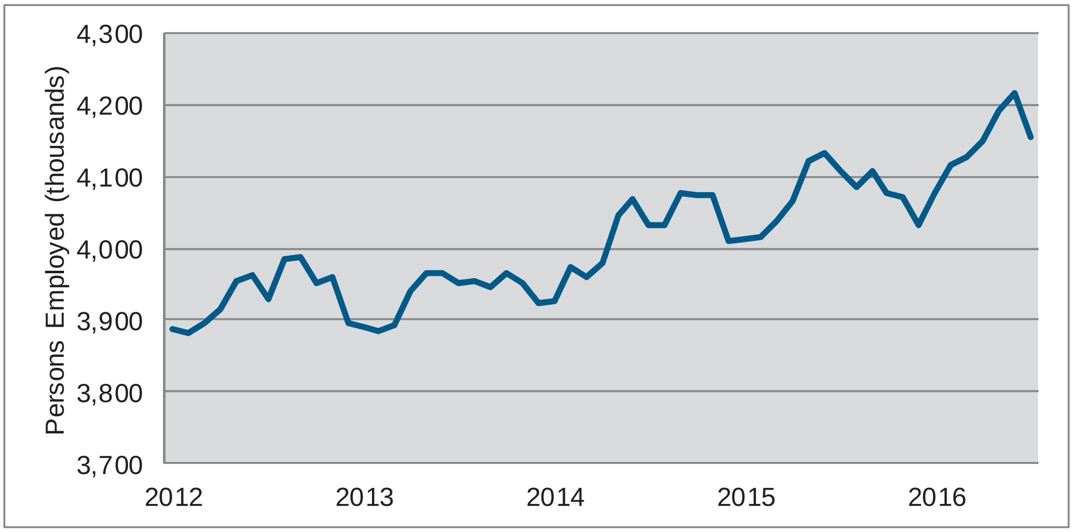
Ridership Influences

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 in August 2016 increased 1.2 percent compared to August 2015.

Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region



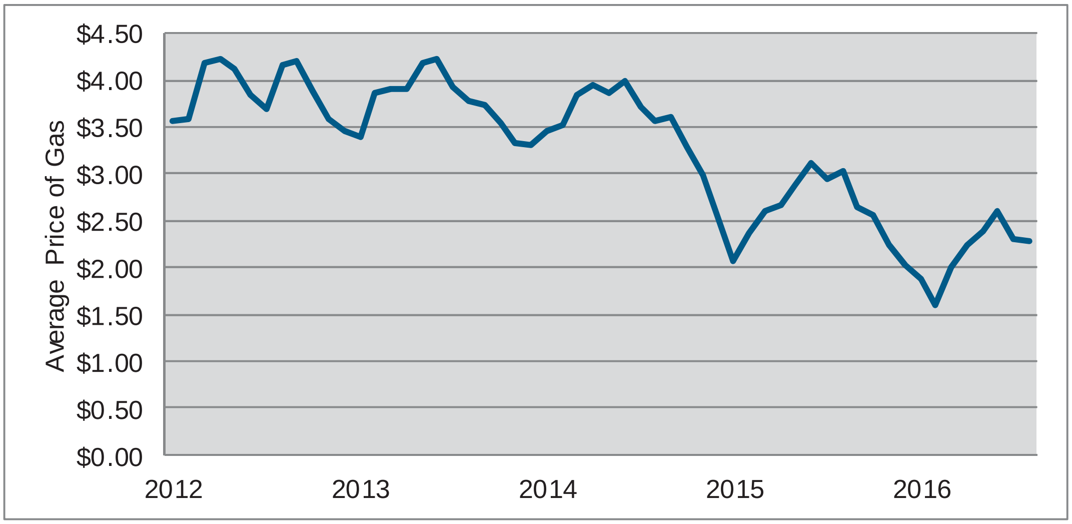
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2012	3,834	3,886	3,881	3,896	3,915	3,954	3,961	3,928	3,984	3,989	3,951	3,960	3,928
2013	3,896	3,890	3,884	3,893	3,940	3,964	3,966	3,951	3,955	3,945	3,964	3,951	3,933
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	4,014
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	4,216	4,156	-	-	-	-	4,134
Change	0.6%	1.6%	2.5%	2.2%	2.1%	1.7%	2.0%	1.2%	-	-	-	-	1.5%

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 $2.29 in August 2016, $0.75 lower than the previous year.

Figure 6: Chicago Region Average Gas Prices



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2012	$3.56	$3.59	$4.17	$4.22	$4.11	$3.84	$3.69	$4.15	$4.21	$3.89	$3.59	$3.46	$ 3.87
2013	$3.39	$3.85	$3.90	$3.90	$4.18	$4.23	$3.92	$3.79	$3.74	$3.54	$3.34	$3.30	$ 3.76
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	-	-	-	-	$ 2.17
Change	-$0.19	-$0.75	-$0.60	-$0.43	-$0.48	-$0.51	-$0.65	-$0.75	-	-	-	-	-$0.43

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Road Construction

No new roadway construction projects of regional significance began in August. Work continues on the following projects:

- Jane Byrne Interchange Reconfiguration – In 2015, work began on a major reconfiguration of the Jane Byrne Interchange. The project is expected to last through fall 2016.
- Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Reconstruction and Widening – Phase 1 of the project, between Rockford and Elgin, was completed in 2014. The second phase of the project, between Elgin and the Kennedy Expressway, began in 2015 and is scheduled for completion in 2016.
- Union Station Access - The Adams Street Bridge Reconstruction project began in January 2016 and is scheduled for completion in early 2017. The project will periodically restrict pedestrian access to Union Station via Adams Street throughout 2016. The Union Station Transit Center, a component of the Loop Link project, began construction in 2015. The center will consolidate CTA bus connections for Metra passengers at Union Station, and is scheduled for completion in summer 2016.

Service Changes

On August 1, three inbound express trains and two outbound express trains were added to the midday Rock Island District schedule as part of a six-month trial program.

Special Events and Promotions

Special events often bring large crowds into Chicago during off-peak hours. Additional service was added in August for Arlington Million at Arlington International Racecourse (August 12) and the Chicago Air and Water Show (August 20-21).

Passenger Revenue and Ticket Sales

Passenger Revenue

Table 7 shows passenger revenue by line for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor passenger revenues are overstated in 2015, while the other lines traveling to Chicago Union Station are understated.

Table 7: Passenger Revenue by Line

	August (thousands)			**Last 3 Months** (thousands)			**Last 12 Months** (thousands)		
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**
BNSF	$ 6,152	$ 6,232	1.3%	$ 18,708	$ 18,970	1.4%	$ 67,926	$ 70,942	4.4%
MED	$ 2,878	$ 2,852	-0.9%	$ 8,932	$ 8,744	-2.1%	$ 33,517	$ 34,150	1.9%
HC	$ 258	$ 283	9.5%	$ 799	$ 853	6.7%	$ 3,206	$ 3,190	-0.5%
MD-N	$ 2,670	$ 2,708	1.4%	$ 8,275	$ 8,238	-0.4%	$ 29,816	$ 30,440	2.1%
MD-W	$ 2,596	$ 2,546	-1.9%	$ 7,900	$ 7,766	-1.7%	$ 28,402	$ 29,302	3.2%
NCS	$ 757	$ 764	0.9%	$ 2,306	$ 2,323	0.7%	$ 8,520	$ 8,796	3.2%
RID	$ 2,895	$ 2,849	-1.6%	$ 8,854	$ 8,724	-1.5%	$ 32,521	$ 33,333	2.5%
SWS	$ 866	$ 880	1.7%	$ 2,648	$ 2,654	0.2%	$ 10,006	$ 10,444	4.4%
UP-N	$ 3,152	$ 3,208	1.8%	$ 9,606	$ 9,729	1.3%	$ 34,051	$ 35,503	4.3%
UP-NW	$ 4,436	$ 4,510	1.6%	$ 13,479	$ 13,635	1.2%	$ 48,509	$ 50,288	3.7%
UP-W	$ 3,155	$ 3,192	1.2%	$ 9,589	$ 9,773	1.9%	$ 34,154	$ 36,013	5.4%
Total	$ 29,815	$ 30,024	0.7%	$ 91,098	$ 91,409	0.3%	$330,627	$342,401	3.6%

Table 8 shows passenger revenue by ticket type for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Passenger revenue totals are adjusted for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds.

Table 8: Passenger Revenue by Ticket Type

	August (thousands)				**Last 3 Months** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Monthly	$ 15,588	$ 15,192	-2.5%	50.6%	$ 47,893	$ 46,805	-2.3%	51.2%
Ten-Ride	$ 7,301	$ 8,247	12.9%	27.5%	$ 22,097	$ 23,815	7.8%	26.1%
One-Way	$ 5,508	$ 5,635	2.3%	18.8%	$ 16,970	$ 17,260	1.7%	18.9%
Weekend	$ 1,241	$ 982	-20.8%	3.3%	$ 3,649	$ 3,373	-7.5%	3.7%
Special Event & Ravinia	$ 281	$ 26	0.0%	0.0%	$ 751	$ 303	0.0%	0.0%
Total	$ 29,815	$ 30,024	0.7%		$ 91,098	$ 91,409	0.3%	

	Last 12 Months (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Monthly	$189,009	$190,049	0.6%	55.5%
Ten-Ride	$ 77,325	$ 87,706	13.4%	25.6%
One-Way	$ 53,708	$ 54,052	0.6%	15.8%
Weekend	$ 10,590	$ 10,752	1.5%	3.1%
Special Event & Ravinia	$ 759	$ 323	-57.5%	0.1%
Total	$330,627	$342,401	3.6%	

Table 9 shows passenger revenue by ticket type and sales channel for August 2015 and 2016. Passenger revenue totals are adjusted for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds. The commuter benefit category includes only direct ticket sales through third party employee benefit providers; it does not include purchases made with the RTA Transit Benefit Prepaid MasterCard through the internet, ticket agents, vending machines, and the Ventra Mobile App.

Table 9: Passenger Revenue by Ticket Type and Sales Channel

August	Monthly (thousands)				Ten-Ride (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	$ 5,402	$ 5,145	-4.8%	33.9%	$ 636	$ 625	-1.7%	7.6%
Conductor	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	$ 842	$ 22	-97.4%	0.1%	$ 165	$ 84	-49.1%	1.0%
Mail	$ 753	$ 574	-23.8%	3.8%	$ 0	$ 0	-6.1%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	$ 7,412	$ 5,228	-29.5%	34.4%	$ 4,954	$ 3,325	-32.9%	40.3%
Vending Machine	$ 1,177	$ 813	-30.9%	5.4%	$ 1,545	$ 856	-44.6%	10.4%
Ventra Mobile App	$ 2	$ 3,410	0.0%	22.4%	$ 2	$ 3,356	0.0%	40.7%
Total	$15,588	$15,192	-2.5%		$ 7,302	$ 8,247	12.9%	

	One-Way (thousands)				Weekend, Special Event. & Ravinia (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Conductor	$ 2,196	$ 1,622	-26.1%	28.8%	$ 953	$ 616	-35.4%	61.1%
Internet	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%	$ -	$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	$ 2,810	$ 2,226	-20.8%	39.5%	$ 505	$ 199	-60.7%	19.7%
Vending Machine	$ 502	$ 374	-25.5%	6.6%	$ 64	$ 38	-41.2%	3.7%
Ventra Mobile App	$ 1	$ 1,414	0.0%	25.1%	$ 0	$ 156	0.0%	15.5%
Total	$ 5,508	$ 5,635	2.3%		$ 1,522	$ 1,008	-33.8%	

	Total (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	$ 6,038	$ 5,771	-4.4%	19.2%
Conductor	$ 3,149	$ 2,237	-29.0%	7.4%
Internet	$ 1,006	$ 106	-89.5%	0.4%
Mail	$ 754	$ 574	-23.8%	1.9%
Ticket Agent	$15,681	$10,977	-30.0%	36.5%
Vending Machine	$ 3,287	$ 2,080	-36.7%	6.9%
Ventra Mobile App	$ 4	$ 8,337	0.0%	27.7%
Total	$29,815	$30,024	0.7%	

Ticket Sales

Table 10 shows ticket sales by ticket type for August, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Monthly ticket sales decreased by 3.9 percent in August compared to the previous year, while ten-ride ticket sales increased by 9.3 percent in the same period. The shift from monthly tickets to ten-ride tickets has been gradual and continued throughout 2015. The effects of this shift in ticket preference will continue to be evident in the month to month comparisons through most of 2016. As the year progresses, these effects are anticipated to become less pronounced.

Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type

	August (thousands)				**Last 3 Months** (thousands)				**Last 12 Months** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Monthly	95	91	-3.9%	6.8%	291	281	-3.6%	6.8%	1,212	1,148	-5.3%	8.4%
Ten-Ride	146	160	9.3%	11.9%	443	462	4.3%	11.1%	1,572	1,731	10.1%	12.6%
One-Way	977	966	-1.2%	71.9%	3,026	2,971	-1.8%	71.5%	10,125	9,475	-6.4%	69.1%
Weekend	155	123	-20.8%	9.1%	456	422	-7.5%	10.1%	1,396	1,344	-3.7%	9.8%
Special Event & Ravinia	29	3	-88.8%	0.2%	120	21	-82.5%	0.5%	121	24	-80.4%	0.2%
Total	1,402	1,343	-4.3%		4,335	4,156	-4.1%		14,426	13,721	-4.9%	

Tables 11-16 detail ticket sales by line and ticket type. Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor ticket sales are overstated in 2015, while the other lines traveling to Chicago Union Station are understated.

Table 11: Monthly Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	20,564	20,017	-2.7%
MED	9,757	9,320	-4.5%
HC	1,044	1,070	2.5%
MD-N	7,388	7,158	-3.1%
MD-W	7,870	7,449	-5.3%
NCS	2,304	2,176	-5.6%
RID	10,738	10,227	-4.8%
SWS	3,585	3,381	-5.7%
UP-N	9,019	8,516	-5.6%
UP-NW	12,977	12,422	-4.3%
UP-W	9,480	9,289	-2.0%
Total	94,726	91,025	-3.9%

Table 12: Ten-Ride Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	30,203	32,634	8.0%
MED	13,845	14,440	4.3%
HC	972	1,169	20.3%
MD-N	14,801	15,881	7.3%
MD-W	10,017	10,855	8.4%
NCS	3,053	3,407	11.6%
RID	12,286	13,037	6.1%
SWS	3,797	4,293	13.1%
UP-N	21,619	24,393	12.8%
UP-NW	20,088	22,428	11.6%
UP-W	15,499	17,214	11.1%
Total	146,180	159,751	9.3%

Table 13: One-Way (Station and Mobile) Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	104,184	117,324	12.6%
MED	89,157	100,500	12.7%
HC	1,137	2,440	114.6%
MD-N	48,662	60,638	24.6%
MD-W	54,153	61,513	13.6%
NCS	6,271	10,094	61.0%
RID	52,937	56,876	7.4%
SWS	9,664	13,041	34.9%
UP-N	59,872	78,909	31.8%
UP-NW	87,215	100,743	15.5%
UP-W	63,979	71,749	12.1%
Total	577,231	673,827	16.7%

Table 14: One-Way (Conductor) Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	43,371	31,583	-27.2%
MED	47,685	31,231	-34.5%
HC	1,254	672	-46.4%
MD-N	40,494	29,603	-26.9%
MD-W	40,936	31,334	-23.5%
NCS	13,451	9,346	-30.5%
RID	29,516	23,335	-20.9%
SWS	9,636	6,954	-27.8%
UP-N	74,862	51,626	-31.0%
UP-NW	57,565	46,631	-19.0%
UP-W	41,435	29,667	-28.4%
Total	400,205	291,982	-27.0%

Table 15: Weekend, Special Event, Ravinia (Station and Mobile) Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	14,453	9,638	-33.3%
MED	6,827	5,066	-25.8%
HC	3	5	-
MD-N	6,803	4,901	-28.0%
MD-W	6,063	4,180	-31.1%
NCS	38	45	-
RID	3,559	2,475	-30.5%
SWS	73	106	45.2%
UP-N	10,164	8,379	-17.6%
UP-NW	11,684	8,802	-24.7%
UP-W	8,293	5,422	-34.6%
Total	67,960	49,019	-27.9%

Table 16: Weekend, Special Event, Ravinia (Conductor) Ticket Sales by Line

August	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	18,397	10,846	-41.0%
MED	5,407	2,692	-50.2%
HC	96	-	-
MD-N	14,095	10,232	-27.4%
MD-W	14,413	8,416	-41.6%
NCS	259	-	-
RID	10,940	6,073	-44.5%
SWS	720	482	-33.1%
UP-N	16,441	12,401	-24.6%
UP-NW	20,370	15,569	-23.6%
UP-W	14,849	10,244	-31.0%
Total	115,987	76,955	-33.7%

Table 17 shows ticket sales by ticket type, sales channel, and tender type for August 2015 and 2016. Table 18 shows ticket sales by ticket type, sales channel, and tender type for January-August 2015 and 2016. The commuter benefit category includes only direct ticket sales through third party employee benefit providers; it does not include purchases made with the RTA Transit Benefit Prepaid MasterCard through the internet, ticket agents, vending machines, and the Ventra Mobile App.

Table 17: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type, Sales Channel, and Tender Type (August)

August	**Monthly** (thousands)				**Ten-Ride** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Commuter Benefit	32	30	-6.1%	33.2%	12	11	-5.2%	7.1%
Conductor	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	5	0	-97.4%	0.1%	3	2	-50.7%	1.0%
Mail	5	4	-24.4%	3.9%	0	0	100.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	45	32	-30.2%	34.9%	100	66	-33.8%	41.6%
Cash & Other	*11*	*5*	*-52.1%*	-	*17*	*12*	*-32.0%*	-
Credit Card	*34*	*26*	*-23.1%*	-	*83*	*55*	*-34.1%*	-
Vending Machine	7	5	-32.5%	5.4%	31	16	-46.5%	10.3%
Cash	-	-	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*0*	*45.8%*	-
Credit Card	*7*	*5*	*-32.5%*	-	*31*	*16*	*-47.1%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	20	0.0%	22.4%	0	64	0.0%	40.1%
Credit Card	*0*	*19*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*61*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*1*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*1*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*0*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*2*	*0.0%*	-
Total	95	91	-3.9%		146	160	9.3%	

	One-Way (thousands)				**Weekend, Special Event. & Ravinia** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**	**2015**	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Commuter Benefit	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Conductor	400	292	-27.0%	30.2%	116	77	-33.7%	61.1%
Internet	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	488	372	-23.8%	38.5%	60	25	-58.6%	19.7%
Cash & Other	*290*	*220*	*-24.1%*	-	*34*	*14*	*-59.8%*	-
Credit Card	*199*	*153*	*-23.3%*	-	*26*	*11*	*-57.1%*	-
Vending Machine	89	63	-28.6%	6.6%	8	5	-41.2%	3.7%
Cash	*10*	*17*	*75.1%*	-	*1*	*0*	*-18.3%*	-
Credit Card	*79*	*47*	*-41.2%*	-	*7*	*4*	*-43.1%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	238	0.0%	24.7%	0	20	0.0%	15.5%
Credit Card	*0*	*207*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*17*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*3*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*0*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*29*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*2*	*0.0%*	-
Total	977	966	-1.2%		184	126	-31.5%	

Table 18: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type, Sales Channel, and Tender Type (Year-to-date)

Year-to-date	Monthly (thousands)				Ten-Ride (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	262	248	-5.7%	32.5%	92	92	0.1%	8.0%
Conductor	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	41	28	-31.4%	3.7%	25	13	-47.1%	1.1%
Mail	40	30	-24.2%	4.0%	0	0	-18.5%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	395	277	-29.9%	36.4%	754	535	-29.0%	46.0%
Cash & Other	*100*	*57*	*-42.8%*	-	*135*	*96*	*-29.1%*	-
Credit Card	*295*	*220*	*-25.5%*	-	*619*	*439*	*-29.0%*	-
Vending Machine	55	40	-27.0%	5.3%	217	135	-37.8%	11.6%
Cash	-	-	*0.0%*	-	*3*	*3*	*-6.4%*	-
Credit Card	*55*	*40*	*-27.0%*	-	*214*	*132*	*-38.3%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	139	0.0%	18.2%	0	387	0.0%	33.3%
Credit Card	*0*	*125*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*368*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*12*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*7*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*2*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*12*	*0.0%*	-
Total	794	762	-4.0%		1,089	1,163	6.8%	

	One-Way (thousands)				Weekend, Special Event. & Ravinia (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Conductor	2,698	2,006	-25.6%	31.4%	705	580	-17.8%	63.3%
Internet	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	3,223	2,586	-19.8%	40.5%	275	172	-37.4%	18.8%
Cash & Other	*1,947*	*1,547*	*-20.6%*	-	*162*	*95*	*-41.5%*	-
Credit Card	*1,277*	*1,040*	*-18.6%*	-	*113*	*78*	*-31.5%*	-
Vending Machine	687	525	-23.6%	8.2%	52	43	-16.1%	4.7%
Cash	*180*	*185*	*2.5%*	-	*9*	*11*	*22.4%*	-
Credit Card	*506*	*340*	*-32.9%*	-	*43*	*33*	*-23.9%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	1,261	0.0%	19.8%	0	120	0.0%	13.1%
Credit Card	*0*	*1,091*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*106*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*16*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*2*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*154*	*0.0%*	-	*0*	*12*	*0.0%*	-
Total	6,608	6,378	-3.5%		1,032	915	-11.3%	

Table 19 shows total ticket sales by sales channel and tender type for August 2015 and 2016. Table 20 shows total ticket sales by sales channel and tender type for January-August 2015-2016. The commuter benefit category includes only direct ticket sales through third party employee benefit providers; it does not include purchases made with the RTA Transit Benefit Prepaid MasterCard through the internet, ticket agents, vending machines, and the Ventra Mobile App.

Table 19: Total Ticket Sales by Sales Channel and Tender Type (August)

August	**Total** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Commuter Benefit	44	42	-5.8%	3.1%
Conductor	516	369	-28.5%	27.5%
Internet	8	2	-79.5%	0.1%
Mail	5	4	-24.3%	0.3%
Ticket Agent	694	495	-28.7%	36.9%
Cash & Other	*352*	*250*	*-28.8%*	-
Credit Card	*342*	*245*	*-28.5%*	-
Vending Machine	135	89	-33.7%	6.7%
Cash	*10*	*18*	*69.1%*	-
Credit Card	*124*	*72*	*-42.2%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	342	0.0%	25.5%
Credit Card	*0*	*304*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*5*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*33*	*0.0%*	-
Total	1,402	1,343	-4.3%	

Table 20: Total Ticket Sales by Sales Channel and Tender Type (Year-to-date)

Year-to-date	**Total** (thousands)			
	2015	**2016**	**Change**	**Share**
Commuter Benefit	355	340	-4.2%	3.7%
Conductor	3,403	2,585	-24.0%	28.0%
Internet	66	41	-37.4%	0.4%
Mail	40	30	-24.2%	0.3%
Ticket Agent	4,648	3,571	-23.2%	38.7%
Cash & Other	*2,344*	*1,795*	*-23.4%*	-
Credit Card	*2,304*	*1,776*	*-22.9%*	-
Vending Machine	1,011	744	-26.4%	8.1%
Cash	*192*	*199*	*3.2%*	-
Credit Card	*818*	*545*	*-33.4%*	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	1,907	0.0%	20.7%
Credit Card	*0*	*1,690*	*0.0%*	-
Mixed & Other	*0*	*36*	*0.0%*	-
Ventra	*0*	*180*	*0.0%*	-
Total	9,522	9,218	-3.2%	

Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes declined by 9.1 percent in August compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes declined by 6.2 percent in the same period. Table 21 shows Link-Up and PlusBus sales by month for 2015 and 2016.

Table 21: Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

	2015		2016		Change		Mobile Share (2016)	
	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	PlusBus	Link-Up	Plus Bus
Jan	4,235	1,471	3,686	1,314	-13.0%	-10.7%	7.8%	6.1%
Feb	4,116	1,463	3,737	1,333	-9.2%	-8.9%	9.6%	8.9%
Mar	4,082	1,442	3,657	1,360	-10.4%	-5.7%	10.7%	10.1%
Apr	3,825	1,414	3,496	1,320	-8.6%	-6.6%	11.2%	10.4%
May	3,746	1,319	3,443	1,269	-8.1%	-3.8%	11.4%	10.7%
Jun	3,725	1,304	3,410	1,261	-8.5%	-3.3%	12.4%	11.6%
Jul	3,606	1,324	3,310	1,221	-8.2%	-7.8%	11.8%	11.1%
Aug	3,561	1,298	3,182	1,201	-10.6%	-7.5%	14.3%	13.5%
Sep	3,583	1,328	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct	3,622	1,350	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nov	3,573	1,327	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	3,446	1,219	-	-	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	10,892	3,926	9,902	3,683	-9.1%	-6.2%	-	-
Last 12 Months	47,198	16,838	42,145	15,503	-10.7%	-7.9%	-	-
Year-to-date	30,896	11,035	27,921	10,279	-9.6%	-6.9%	-	-

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 22 shows the number of reduced fare tickets sold by month for 2015 and 2016.

Table 22: Reduced Fare Ticket Sales

	2015				2016			
	Monthly	Ten-Ride	One-Way Station & Mobile	One-Way Conductor	Monthly	Ten-Ride	One-Way Station & Mobile	One-Way Conductor
January	3,194	12,701	29,752	31,566	3,227	13,652	29,830	27,709
February	3,136	8,722	26,460	30,165	3,229	10,806	32,860	28,032
March	3,337	11,446	43,689	38,790	3,328	12,215	56,952	34,402
April	3,134	11,848	47,752	38,249	3,286	12,109	43,836	29,853
May	3,174	11,078	42,979	40,082	3,223	12,472	51,834	36,428
June	2,970	12,989	73,214	50,145	3,064	13,604	75,390	45,745
July	3,050	12,526	87,205	49,640	3,104	12,094	86,271	41,886
August	2,822	12,792	66,996	41,582	2,803	12,941	67,737	38,311
September	3,342	12,529	35,973	33,656	-	-	-	-
October	3,438	13,325	40,336	36,099	-	-	-	-
November	3,320	12,238	37,391	32,810	-	-	-	-
December	2,820	11,917	54,298	37,473	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	8,842	38,307	227,415	141,367	8,971	38,639	229,398	125,942
Last 12 Months	38,339	140,101	592,202	483,015	38,184	149,902	612,708	422,404
Year-to-date	24,817	94,102	418,047	320,219	25,264	99,893	444,710	282,366

	Change			
	Monthly	Ten-Ride	One-Way Station & Mobile	One-Way Conductor
January	1.0%	7.5%	0.3%	-12.2%
February	3.0%	23.9%	24.2%	-7.1%
March	-0.3%	6.7%	30.4%	-11.3%
April	4.9%	2.2%	-8.2%	-22.0%
May	1.5%	12.6%	20.6%	-9.1%
June	3.2%	4.7%	3.0%	-8.8%
July	1.8%	-3.4%	-1.1%	-15.6%
August	-0.7%	1.2%	1.1%	-7.9%
September	-	-	-	-
October	-	-	-	-
November	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	1.5%	0.9%	0.9%	-10.9%
Last 12 Months	-0.4%	7.0%	3.5%	-12.5%
Year-to-date	1.8%	6.2%	6.4%	-11.8%