

# **COMMUTER RAIL SYSTEM**

## **RIDERSHIP TRENDS**

**March 2016**



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Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning  
May 2016

# COMMUTER RAIL SYSTEM RIDERSHIP TRENDS

## March 2016

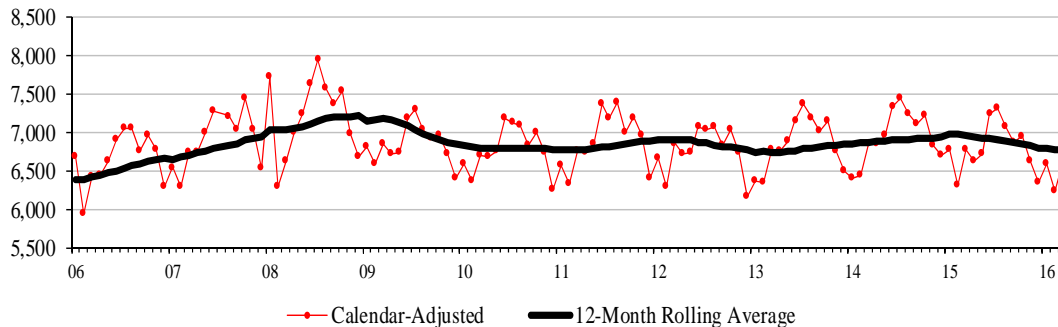
### I. OVERVIEW

Reported system ridership (including free trips) in March 2016 decreased by 1.5% compared to March 2015. The Easter and Passover holidays in 2016 fell on March 27 and April 22-30, compared to April 5 and April 3-11 in 2015. Spring break holidays for many regular riders extended this year from early March, before the Easter holiday through late April when Passover ended.

March	System Ridership			Percent Change	
	(in 000s)			14 vs. 16	15 vs. 16
	2014	2015	2016		
Reported	6,720	6,679	6,580	-2.1%	-1.5%
Free Trips	85	91	86	1.2%	-5.4%
Total (Reported & Free)	6,805	6,770	6,666	-2.0%	-1.5%
Free Trips & Calendar-Adjusted	6,861	6,780	6,627	-3.4%	-2.3%
January - March (Year-to-Date)	19,661	19,831	19,489	-0.9%	-1.7%
Last 12 Months	82,480	83,540	81,288	-1.4%	-2.7%

Figure 1 presents system ridership adjusted for calendar differences by month since 2006. The twelve-month rolling average is included to display the underlying trend in passenger use.

**Figure 1: Calendar-Adjusted System Ridership\***  
(in thousands)

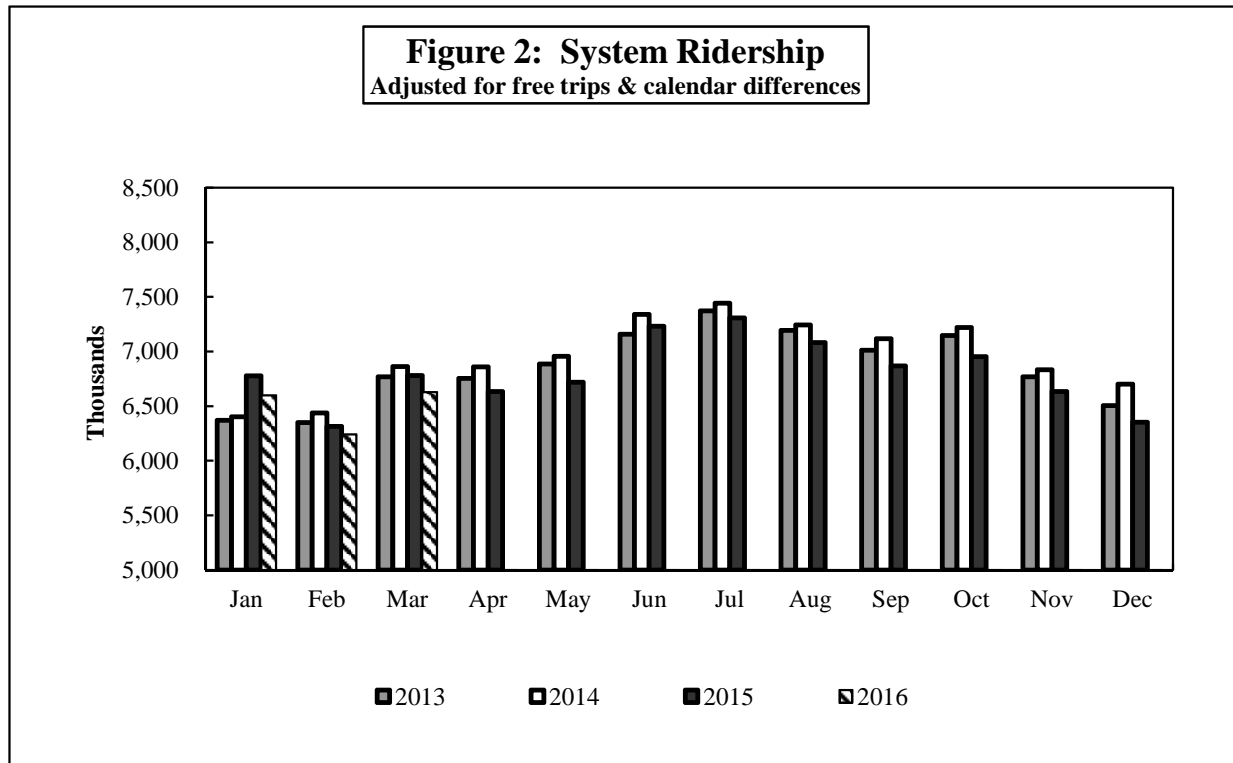


*\* Due to a change in calculation methodology, calendar-adjusted ridership figures for months prior to May 2014 may vary slightly from those previously reported.*

Table 1 and Figure 2 present calendar-adjusted monthly ridership totals for the Metra system.

**Table 1**  
**Metra System Passenger Trips by Month**  
 (Adjusted for free trips & calendar differences)

	Passenger Trips (in 000's)				Year-to-Year Percent Change		
	2013	2014	2015	2016	13 vs. 14	14 vs. 15	15 vs. 16
January	6,371	6,403	6,778	6,598	0.5%	5.9%	-2.7%
February	6,349	6,438	6,315	6,240	1.4%	-1.9%	-1.2%
March	6,769	6,861	6,780	6,627	1.3%	-1.2%	-2.3%
April	6,755	6,858	6,634		1.5%	-3.3%	
May	6,885	6,956	6,718		1.0%	-3.4%	
June	7,157	7,340	7,232		2.6%	-1.5%	
July	7,370	7,443	7,306		1.0%	-1.8%	
August	7,194	7,242	7,082		0.7%	-2.2%	
September	7,012	7,118	6,869		1.5%	-3.5%	
October	7,145	7,218	6,954		1.0%	-3.7%	
November	6,767	6,834	6,635		1.0%	-2.9%	
December	6,504	6,701	6,354		3.0%	-5.2%	
Annual Total	82,278	83,413	81,656		1.4%	-2.1%	



*Note: Due to a change in calculation methodology, calendar-adjusted ridership figures for months prior to May 2014 may vary slightly from those previously reported.*

## II. RIDERSHIP INFLUENCES

Many different factors influence day-to-day and year-to-year ridership trends. Some factors are within Metra’s control, such as service changes and marketing promotions. However, many more factors (such as weather, gas prices, and the economy) that are outside of Metra’s direct control can influence ridership.

**Calendar Differences** – March 2016 had one additional weekday, the same number of Saturdays, and one less Sunday compared to March 2015.

	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday/Holiday			All Days		
	2015	2016	Diff	2015	2016	Diff	2015	2016	Diff	2015	2016	Diff
Jan	21	20	-1	5	5	0	5	6	1	31	31	0
Feb	20	21	1	4	4	0	4	4	0	28	29	1
Mar	22	23	1	4	4	0	5	4	-1	31	31	0
YEAR-TO-DATE	63	64	1	13	13	0	14	14	0	90	91	1

### **Service Changes**

**Heritage Corridor** – On March 14, 2016, a mid-afternoon outbound train was permanently added to the weekday schedule.

**Rock Island District** – On June 6, 2015, six express trains were added to the Saturday and Sunday schedule as part of a trial weekend service enhancement lasting through November 29, 2015. On November 30, 2015, the weekend service enhancement became permanent, an additional outbound express train was added on weekdays, and schedule times were adjusted on several weekday trains to reflect actual operating conditions and improve connections. On June 15, 2014, schedule times were adjusted on 16 weekday inbound trains, 19 weekday outbound trains, and all Saturday and Sunday trains to increase schedule accuracy and improve service reliability.

### **Roadway Construction Projects**

**Jane Byrne Interchange Reconfiguration** – In March 2015, work began on a major reconfiguration of the Jane Byrne Interchange. During the first phase of the construction, the number of lanes was reduced on several ramps and the inbound Dan Ryan Expressway, and access to Congress Parkway from the Dan Ryan was via a detour. The project is expected to last until Summer 2016.

**Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) Reconstruction and Widening** – Phase 1 of the project, between Rockford and Elgin, was completed in December 2014. The second phase of the project, between Elgin and the Kennedy Expressway, began in Spring 2015 and is scheduled for completion in 2016.

**IL Route 59 Reconstruction and Widening** – Multiple phases of the project, which began Summer 2013, have caused significant traffic delays and impacted Metra commuters using the Route 59 Station on the BNSF Line. Construction was completed in late November 2015.

**Union Station Access** – The Adams Street Bridge Reconstruction Project began in late January 2016 and is scheduled for completion in early 2017. Throughout 2016, this project will periodically restrict pedestrian access to Union Station via Adams Street.

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 early summer 2016.

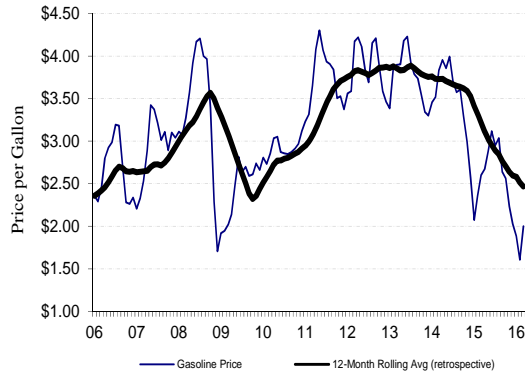
**Special Events** – Special events often bring large crowds into Chicago during off-peak hours. No special event tickets were sold in March. Metra provided additional service on six lines for the St. Patrick’s Day Parade on March 12. While passenger loads increased for the parade on Saturday (March 12) 6.5%, passenger loads on the Sunday of the South Side Irish Parade (March 13) were 27% lower than in 2015.

Chicago hosted numerous conventions and trade shows in March at McCormick Place and other venues throughout the city. The International Home + Housewares Show took place March 5-8 at McCormick Place. Organizers arranged for 4,180 Metra Electric Zone-A passes.

**Gas Prices** – The average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gas was \$2.00 in March 2016, \$0.60 lower than March 2015 and \$0.39 lower than February 2016.

**Chicago-Gary-Kenosha Region Average Gas Price**

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Jan	\$3.56	\$3.39	\$3.45	\$2.07	\$1.89
Feb	\$3.59	\$3.85	\$3.52	\$2.36	\$1.61
Mar	\$4.17	\$3.90	\$3.83	\$2.60	\$2.00
Apr	\$4.22	\$3.90	\$3.95	\$2.67	
May	\$4.11	\$4.18	\$3.86	\$2.88	
Jun	\$3.84	\$4.23	\$3.99	\$3.12	
Jul	\$3.69	\$3.92	\$3.71	\$2.95	
Aug	\$4.15	\$3.79	\$3.57	\$3.04	
Sep	\$4.21	\$3.74	\$3.61	\$2.64	
Oct	\$3.89	\$3.54	\$3.30	\$2.56	
Nov	\$3.59	\$3.34	\$3.00	\$2.23	
Dec	\$3.46	\$3.30	\$2.57	\$2.03	
YTD Average	\$3.77	\$3.71	\$3.60	\$2.35	\$1.83
Annual Average	\$3.87	\$3.76	\$3.53	\$2.60	\$1.83

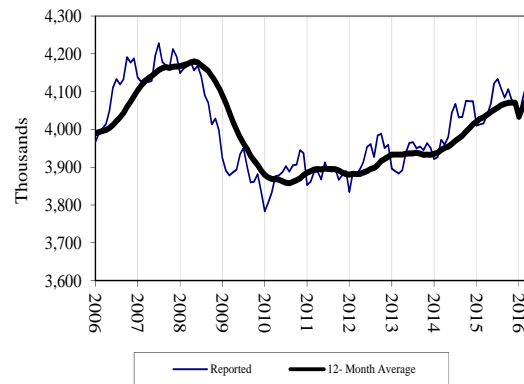


Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

**Economy** – The number of persons employed in the six-county Chicago Region increased 2.5% in March 2016 compared to March 2015.

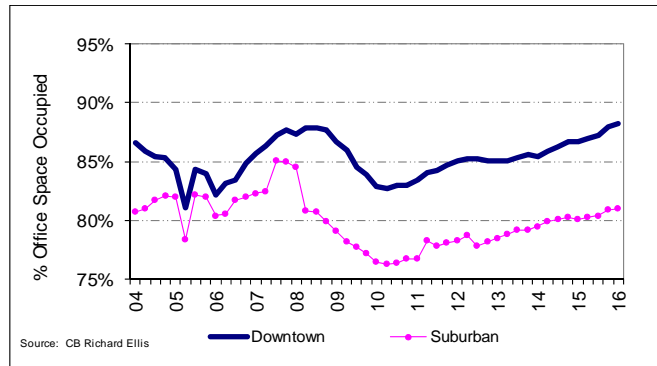
**Persons Employed in Chicago Region (thousands)**

Month	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	15 vs. 16
Jan	3,834	3,896	3,922	4,010	4,033	0.6%
Feb	3,886	3,890	3,927	4,014	4,078	1.6%
Mar	3,881	3,884	3,972	4,016	4,116	2.5%
Apr	3,896	3,893	3,960	4,038		
May	3,915	3,940	3,980	4,066		
Jun	3,954	3,964	4,045	4,122		
Jul	3,961	3,966	4,068	4,134		
Aug	3,928	3,951	4,032	4,108		
Sep	3,984	3,955	4,033	4,084		
Oct	3,989	3,945	4,076	4,107		
Nov	3,951	3,964	4,075	4,078		
Dec	3,960	3,951	4,075	4,072		
YTD Average	3,867	3,890	3,940	4,013	4,076	1.6%
Annual Average	3,928	3,933	4,014	4,071	4,076	0.1%



**Office Occupancy** - The graph below provides office occupancy rates for Downtown Chicago and suburban locations. In the First Quarter of 2016, Downtown Chicago posted an 88.2% office occupancy rate, up 0.2% from the previous quarter. The office occupancy rate in the suburbs rose to 81.0% from the previous quarter's rate of 80.9%.

**Downtown and Suburban Office Occupancy**



**Weather** –The average temperature (43.3) and inches of snowfall (2.6) in March 2016 compared favorably to the previous three winters. The table below presents weather statistics for the last five winter seasons.

**Winter Weather Statistics**

Year	Inches of Snowfall					Days Below Zero					Average Temperature				
	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2011-12	trace	1.7	12.2	5.6	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	44.9	35.2	30.2	32.9	53.5
2012-13	0.0	0.9	2.6	16.1	10.4	0	0	1	0	0	40.2	36.1	26.6	26.1	32.6
2013-14	0.9	14.2	33.7	19.5	12.3	0	4	11	7	1	37.5	23.4	15.7	17.3	31.7
2014-15	2.8	0.0	13.9	26.8	7.1	0	0	5	8	0	33.6	32.0	22.3	14.6	35.4
2015-16	11.2	4.5	6.3	5.5	2.6	0	0	4	0	0	44.6	39.0	24.7	30.4	43.3
45-year Avg	1.8	8.6	11.7	9.4	5.5	0.0	1.8	4.7	2.4	0.1	40.3	28.5	23.1	26.7	37.9

### **III. RIDERSHIP**

Table 2 (pg. 12) presents reported rail line ridership for three time periods (current month, last three months, and last 12 months) for the last two years based on reported ticket sales. Estimated ridership on the North region lines (UP-N, MD-N, NCS, and UP-NW) was down 1.3%, lines serving the West region (MD-W, UP-W, and BNSF) were down 0.7%, and lines serving the South region (HC, RID, SWS, and MED) were down 3.1%. A system summary of ridership by fare zone for March 2016 and the January 2016 – March 2016 period is provided in Table 3 (p. 13). Figure 3 and Table 4 (p. 14) provide data on average passenger trip length.

Passenger load counts are taken by conductors before the first stop on outbound trains and after the last stop before entering the downtown on inbound trains. Table 5 presents average daily conductor load counts by service period for January 2016 – March 2016 (p. 15). Table 6 presents capacity utilization by service period for January 2016 – March 2016 (p. 15).



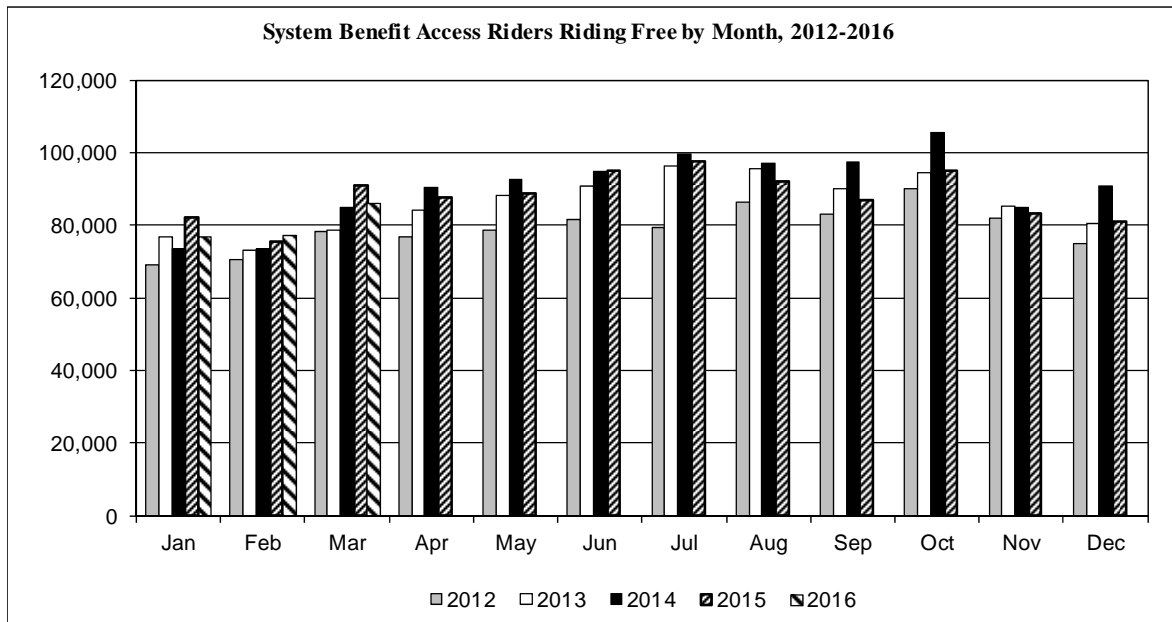
**Benefit Access Program (formerly Circuit Breaker)** – Under the Benefit Access Program, low-income seniors and individuals with disabilities are eligible for free transportation on Metra with proper identification. The table below presents the average daily conductor load counts for Benefit Access trips by service period as well as the total number of Benefit Access trips recorded for the month. The graph that follows shows the total number of Benefit Access trips by month between 2012 and 2016.

**Benefit-Access Free Trips**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>2015</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	3,332	3,305	3,632	3,498	3,661	3,758	3,713	3,647	3,518	3,734	3,486	3,205
<i>Avg Sat</i>	1,497	1,509	1,558	1,633	1,781	1,822	1,831	1,828	1,739	1,631	1,704	1,480
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	895	856	944	993	1,105	1,239	1,226	1,298	1,213	1,202	1,111	944
<i>Typical week</i>	19,053	18,890	20,662	20,118	21,190	21,853	21,621	21,362	20,541	21,505	20,242	18,447
<b>Total Reported*</b>	81,935	75,558	90,857	87,468	88,753	94,928	97,624	92,221	86,895	95,121	83,191	81,141
<b>2016</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	3,207	3,182	3,302									
<i>Avg Sat</i>	1,494	1,550	1,476									
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	864	1,012	1,024									
<i>Typical week</i>	18,391	18,474	19,012									
<b>Total Reported*</b>	76,784	77,078	85,954									

\*Seniors Ride Free Program ended in Sept. 2011; includes low-income seniors as of 9/6/11.

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**Reduced-Fare Sales** – In collaboration with the Regional Transportation Authority’s (RTA) Reduced-Fare Permit Program, Metra allows qualified users to ride at a reduced rate. The following types of users are eligible for a reduced-fare permit through the RTA’s Reduced-Fare Permit Program. Metra is eligible for reimbursement of the lost revenue by Illinois Department of Transportation.

- All senior citizens who are within three weeks of their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday or older (see Benefit Access Program for further information)
- Medicare card recipients who receive Social Security benefits
- People with disabilities who receive Social Security benefits
- Veterans with disabilities who receive Service-connected disability benefits
- People with disabilities whose doctors validate their disability
- Full-time students enrolled in an accredited grade school or high school with a valid letter of certification from their school (on school stationery) or valid school identification. Bearing the student's name, school name and authorized signature.

Metra also offers reduced-fare tickets to children ages 7 to 11 and to active duty U.S. military personnel. The table below shows all reduced-fare ticket sales by month for 2015 and 2016.

**Reduced-Fare Ticket Sales (2015-2016)**

	2015				2016			
	Monthly	Ten-Ride	One-Way	Conductor	Monthly	Ten-Ride	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				
May	3,174	11,078	42,979	40,082				
June	2,970	12,989	73,214	50,145				
July	3,050	12,526	87,205	49,640				
August	2,822	12,792	66,996	41,582				
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				
<b>YTD</b>	<b>9,667</b>	<b>32,869</b>	<b>99,901</b>	<b>100,521</b>	<b>9,784</b>	<b>36,673</b>	<b>119,642</b>	<b>90,143</b>

**Police Officer and Firefighter Free Rides** – Chicago-area uniformed police officers from any municipality, including sheriff’s deputies, bailiffs, and corrections officers, and Chicago firefighters are allowed free transportation on Metra. These free rides are not reimbursed by the State of Illinois. The table below presents the average daily conductor load counts for “Police Officer and Firefighter” trips by service period as well as the total number of these trips recorded for the month.

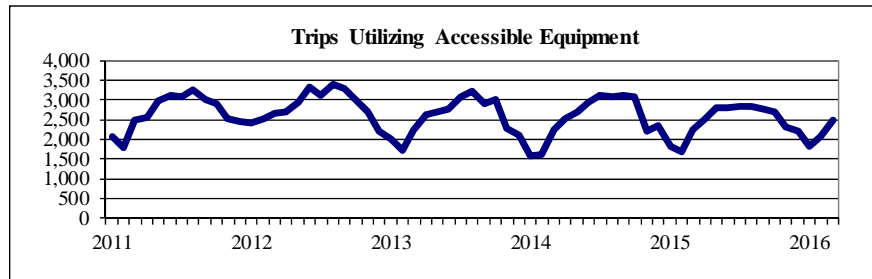
Police Officers and Firefighters in Uniform Riding Free

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>2015</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	219	207	216	222	232	256	236	239	204	188	184	182
<i>Avg Sat</i>	19	13	10	24	33	22	38	49	23	18	21	19
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	10	22	10	11	10	11	14	26	22	11	7	11
<i>Typical week</i>	1,126	1,067	1,103	1,144	1,203	1,312	1,233	1,272	1,066	966	947	938
<b>Total Reported</b>	<b>4,754</b>	<b>4,269</b>	<b>4,854</b>	<b>5,018</b>	<b>4,864</b>	<b>5,761</b>	<b>5,615</b>	<b>5,403</b>	<b>4,491</b>	<b>4,259</b>	<b>3,801</b>	<b>4,126</b>
<b>2016</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	194	186	211									
<i>Avg Sat</i>	10	9	18									
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	6	8	11									
<i>Typical week</i>	985	948	1,082									
<b>Total Reported</b>	<b>3,961</b>	<b>3,977</b>	<b>4,960</b>									

Most recent month's data from TOPS 04/15/16

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**Accessible Equipment Use** - All Metra trains have at least one accessible car; however, some individual stations are not yet fully accessible. The figure below presents the number of trips utilizing on-board accessibility equipment (wheelchair lifts on diesel lines or bridge plates on the Electric Line) by month since 2011.



**Bike Program** – Bikes are allowed on weekday early morning, off-peak, and reverse commute trains, and on all weekend trains. Five bikes are allowed in each diesel rail accessible car, and two bikes are allowed per car on the Metra Electric District. Train crews have the final authority on accommodating bikes. The table below shows the average usage by month for the program.

Bikes on Trains Program Usage

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>2015</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	383	333	507	698	854	938	1,023	1,080	975	947	779	546
<i>Avg Sat</i>	245	207	313	561	704	817	720	755	804	580	390	296
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	150	125	227	439	519	628	697	646	693	598	396	243
<b>Total Bikes Carried</b>	<b>10,026</b>	<b>7,983</b>	<b>13,550</b>	<b>19,356</b>	<b>23,710</b>	<b>26,412</b>	<b>29,197</b>	<b>29,692</b>	<b>27,160</b>	<b>26,126</b>	<b>19,505</b>	<b>14,411</b>
<b>2016</b>												
<i>Avg Wkday</i>	400	452	567									
<i>Avg Sat</i>	221	349	305									
<i>Avg Sun/Hol</i>	159	257	283									
<b>Total Bikes Carried</b>	<b>10,054</b>	<b>11,911</b>	<b>15,394</b>									

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**Comparison of Actual vs. Budgeted Passenger Trips** – Each year as part of the budgeting process, monthly passenger trips for upcoming years are forecasted. The table below shows 2015 actual, 2016 budgeted, and 2016 actual passenger trips. For March 2016, passenger trips were 0.6% unfavorable to budget.

**Passenger Trips (Reported + Free): Actual vs. Budget**

<b>Month</b>	<b>2015 Actual</b>	<b>2016 Budget</b>	<b>2016 Actual</b>	<b>% Chg</b>
JAN	6,764,204	6,739,437	6,512,955	-3.4%
FEB	6,297,426	6,241,176	6,309,556	1.1%
MAR	6,769,610	6,709,142	6,666,044	-0.6%
APR	6,662,551	6,603,039		
MAY	6,655,682	6,596,232		
JUN	7,259,878	7,195,031		
JUL	7,285,907	7,220,827		
AUG	7,100,153	6,945,335		
SEP	6,895,751	7,054,747		
OCT	6,949,189	7,168,594		
NOV	6,605,591	6,674,810		
DEC	6,384,538	6,639,677		
<b>YTD</b>	<b>19,831,239</b>	<b>19,689,754</b>	<b>19,488,555</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>81,630,476</b>	<b>81,788,046</b>		

**Table 2: Passenger Trips by Rail Line**

Reported				Reported & Free Trips		
March	2015	2016	2015 vs 2016 %Change	2015	2016	2015 vs 2016 %Change
BNSF	1,346,335	1,338,069	-0.6%	1,356,289	1,348,061	-0.6%
Electric Lines	733,760	713,077	-2.8%	757,571	732,959	-3.2%
Heritage*	65,668	59,200	-9.8%	65,683	59,211	-9.9%
Milw-N	577,186	561,487	-2.7%	583,488	567,894	-2.7%
Milw-W	548,775	545,149	-0.7%	560,551	555,981	-0.8%
North Central	143,871	144,289	0.3%	144,590	145,092	0.3%
Rock Island	688,850	672,411	-2.4%	696,370	679,110	-2.5%
SouthWest	220,518	215,757	-2.2%	222,222	216,937	-2.4%
UP-N	742,053	735,305	-0.9%	755,470	750,820	-0.6%
UP-NW	923,463	911,593	-1.3%	932,997	920,795	-1.3%
UP-W	688,276	683,755	-0.7%	694,381	689,186	-0.7%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>6,678,753</b>	<b>6,580,090</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>6,769,610</b>	<b>6,666,044</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>
January - March	2015	2016	2016 vs 2016 %Change	2015	2016	2016 vs 2016 %Change
BNSF	3,942,769	3,921,520	-0.5%	3,971,776	3,949,226	-0.6%
Electric Lines	2,165,874	2,076,445	-4.1%	2,229,863	2,132,869	-4.3%
Heritage*	205,815	171,906	-16.5%	205,865	171,941	-16.5%
Milw-N	1,713,403	1,649,023	-3.8%	1,730,792	1,666,212	-3.7%
Milw-W	1,585,801	1,579,888	-0.4%	1,618,242	1,609,821	-0.5%
North Central	426,631	424,688	-0.5%	428,363	426,788	-0.4%
Rock Island	2,017,527	1,967,347	-2.5%	2,037,490	1,987,329	-2.5%
SouthWest	649,034	639,709	-1.4%	652,765	643,091	-1.5%
UP-N	2,181,563	2,174,975	-0.3%	2,219,501	2,217,795	-0.1%
UP-NW	2,699,302	2,659,128	-1.5%	2,724,853	2,683,492	-1.5%
UP-W	1,995,172	1,984,112	-0.6%	2,011,731	1,999,993	-0.6%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>19,582,889</b>	<b>19,248,739</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>19,831,239</b>	<b>19,488,555</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>
Last 12 Months	2014-2015	2015-2016	14-15 vs 15-16 %Change	2014-2015	2015-2016	14-15 vs 15-16 %Change
BNSF	16,533,531	16,263,654	-1.6%	16,657,688	16,377,740	-1.7%
Electric Lines	9,109,432	8,705,343	-4.4%	9,376,336	8,957,655	-4.5%
Heritage*	752,335	689,671	-8.3%	752,778	689,879	-8.4%
Milw-N	7,210,107	6,948,814	-3.6%	7,284,595	7,029,984	-3.5%
Milw-W	6,798,886	6,632,779	-2.4%	6,940,610	6,763,216	-2.6%
North Central	1,814,431	1,747,301	-3.7%	1,824,464	1,756,543	-3.7%
Rock Island	8,428,725	8,163,994	-3.1%	8,525,308	8,255,112	-3.2%
SouthWest	2,647,702	2,580,353	-2.5%	2,658,800	2,594,618	-2.4%
UP-N	9,223,532	9,072,153	-1.6%	9,396,598	9,247,128	-1.6%
UP-NW	11,532,342	11,154,987	-3.3%	11,653,187	11,260,393	-3.4%
UP-W	8,387,215	8,281,587	-1.3%	8,469,532	8,355,526	-1.3%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>82,438,237</b>	<b>80,240,634</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>	<b>83,539,895</b>	<b>81,287,792</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>

\*Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor passenger trips are overstated in 2015, while the other lines traveling to CUS are understated.

**Table 3**  
**System Ridership by Fare Zone**

*March 2015 vs. March 2016*

Zone		2015	2016	Change	% Change	Percent Share	
Pair	Miles					2015	2016
AA	0-5	22,497	26,870	4,373	19.4%	0.3%	0.4%
AB	5-10	488,869	489,344	475	0.1%	7.3%	7.4%
AC	10-15	891,969	891,327	-642	-0.1%	13.4%	13.5%
AD	15-20	1,102,385	1,095,711	-6,674	-0.6%	16.5%	16.7%
AE	20-25	1,402,186	1,383,604	-18,582	-1.3%	21.0%	21.0%
AF	25-30	840,220	847,235	7,015	0.8%	12.6%	12.9%
AG	30-35	509,718	507,041	-2,677	-0.5%	7.6%	7.7%
AH	35-40	432,714	431,264	-1,450	-0.3%	6.5%	6.6%
AI	40-45	148,085	145,199	-2,886	-1.9%	2.2%	2.2%
AJ	45-50	27,447	27,315	-132	-0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
AK	50-55	30,040	31,050	1,010	3.4%	0.4%	0.5%
AM	60-65	9,704	10,791	1,087	11.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Intermediate*		221,926	216,955	-4,971	-2.2%	3.3%	3.3%
Conductor		304,585	233,542	-71,043	-23.3%	4.6%	3.5%
Group		6,457	5,712	-745	-11.5%	0.1%	0.1%
Weekend & Special Event Tickets		267,180	249,485	-17,696	-6.6%	4.0%	3.8%
Total		6,678,753	6,580,160	-98,593	-1.5%	100.0%	100.0%

*Last Three Months*

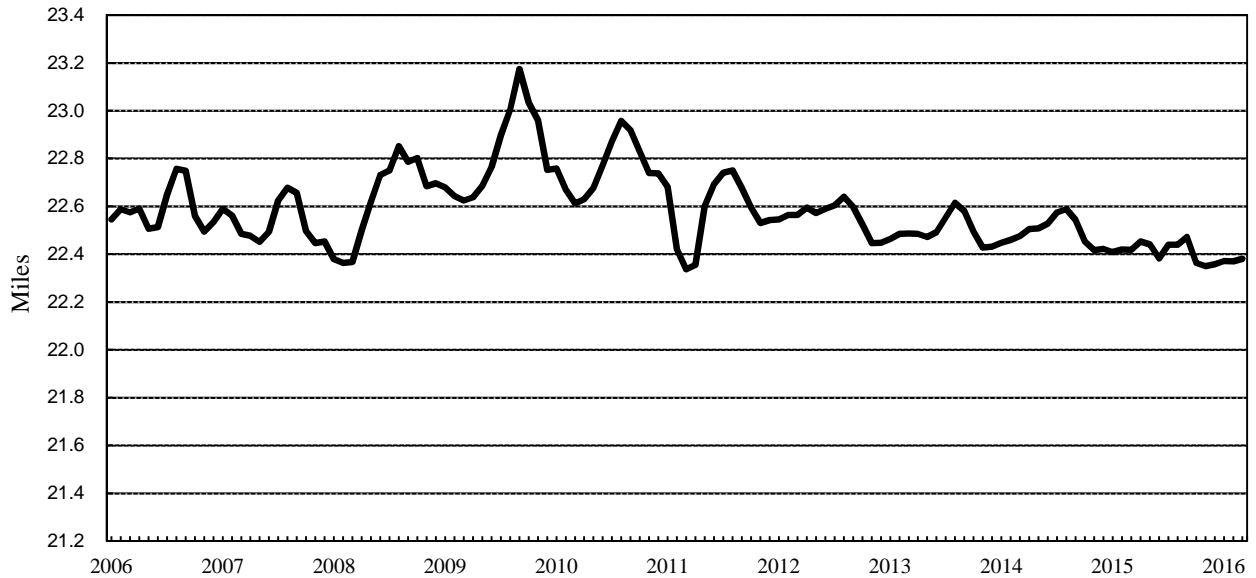
Zone		2015	2016	Change	% Change	Percent Share	
Pair	Miles					2015	2016
AA	0-5	66,122	70,950	4,828	7.3%	0.3%	0.4%
AB	5-10	1,457,334	1,440,883	-16,451	-1.1%	7.4%	7.5%
AC	10-15	2,625,374	2,648,916	23,542	0.9%	13.4%	13.8%
AD	15-20	3,279,129	3,234,038	-45,091	-1.4%	16.7%	16.8%
AE	20-25	4,169,107	4,081,022	-88,085	-2.1%	21.3%	21.2%
AF	25-30	2,487,207	2,489,482	2,275	0.1%	12.7%	12.9%
AG	30-35	1,506,878	1,483,903	-22,975	-1.5%	7.7%	7.7%
AH	35-40	1,260,145	1,248,938	-11,207	-0.9%	6.4%	6.5%
AI	40-45	434,913	420,108	-14,805	-3.4%	2.2%	2.2%
AJ	45-50	81,191	78,186	-3,005	-3.7%	0.4%	0.4%
AK	50-55	88,034	87,001	-1,033	-1.2%	0.4%	0.5%
AM	60-65	26,545	27,845	1,300	4.9%	0.1%	0.1%
Intermediate*		666,406	646,294	-20,112	-3.0%	3.4%	3.4%
Conductor		843,819	647,694	-196,125	-23.2%	4.3%	3.4%
Group		7,374	6,793	-581	-7.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Weekend & Special Event Tickets		647,358	675,010	27,652	4.3%	3.3%	3.5%
Total		19,582,889	19,248,807	-334,082	-1.7%	100.0%	100.0%

\*Trips that do not begin or end in Fare Zone A.

Note: Free trips and refunds are not included.

**Figure 3**

**Metra System\* Average Trip Distance**  
(Rolling 3-Month Averages)



\*Does not include free trips

**Table 4**  
**Passenger Miles & Average Trip Length by Rail Line**  
March

Line	Passenger Miles (in 000's)				% Chng in Trips	Average Trip Length		
	2015	2016	Change	% Chng		2015	2016	% Chng
BNSF	31,721	31,502	-219	-0.7%	-0.6%	23.56	23.54	-0.1%
Electric Lines	14,562	14,009	-552	-3.8%	-2.8%	19.85	19.65	-1.0%
Heritage	1,811	1,650	-161	-8.9%	-9.8%	27.57	27.87	1.1%
Milw-North	13,366	12,997	-369	-2.8%	-2.7%	23.16	23.15	0.0%
Milw-West	13,575	13,513	-61	-0.5%	-0.7%	24.74	24.79	0.2%
North Central	4,612	4,592	-19	-0.4%	0.3%	32.05	31.83	-0.7%
Rock Island	14,675	14,304	-372	-2.5%	-2.4%	21.30	21.27	-0.2%
SouthWest	4,236	4,126	-110	-2.6%	-2.2%	19.21	19.12	-0.5%
UP-North	12,658	12,397	-261	-2.1%	-0.9%	17.06	16.86	-1.2%
UP-NW	23,448	23,224	-224	-1.0%	-1.3%	25.39	25.48	0.3%
UP-West	15,341	15,362	21	0.1%	-0.7%	22.29	22.47	0.8%
<b>System*</b>	<b>150,004</b>	<b>147,676</b>	<b>-2,328</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>22.46</b>	<b>22.44</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

\*Does not include free trips.

**Table 5**  
**System Passenger Loads by Service Period**  
 January - February - March

Service Period	Passenger Loads			% Change		Share of Total*		
	2014	2015	2016	14 vs 16	15 vs 16	14	15	16
<b><u>Average Weekday</u></b>								
Peak Period/Peak Direction	215,400	219,100	226,400	5.1%	3.3%	77%	77%	78%
Peak Period/Reverse Direction	19,500	19,600	19,100	-2.1%	-2.6%	7%	7%	7%
Midday	30,000	29,700	29,500	-1.7%	-0.7%	11%	10%	10%
Evening	<u>16,300</u>	<u>16,300</u>	<u>15,600</u>	<u>-4.3%</u>	<u>-4.3%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>6%</u>	<u>5%</u>
Total Weekday	281,200	284,700	290,600	3.3%	2.1%	100%	100%	100%
<b><u>Typical Week with Five Weekdays</u></b>								
Weekday Peak Per/Peak Dir	1,077,000	1,095,500	1,132,000	5.1%	3.3%	72%	72%	73%
Weekday Off-Peak	329,000	328,000	321,000	-2.4%	-2.1%	22%	22%	21%
Saturday	56,200	54,100	55,200	-1.8%	2.0%	4%	4%	4%
Sunday	<u>31,400</u>	<u>33,300</u>	<u>33,500</u>	<u>6.7%</u>	<u>0.6%</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>2%</u>	<u>2%</u>
<b>Total Week</b>	1,493,600	1,510,900	1,541,700	3.2%	2.0%	100%	100%	100%
<i>Total Off-Peak</i>	<i>416,600</i>	<i>415,400</i>	<i>409,700</i>	<i>-1.7%</i>	<i>-1.4%</i>	<i>28%</i>	<i>27%</i>	<i>27%</i>

\*Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

**Table 6**  
**System Capacity Utilization by Service Period**  
 January - February - March

Service Period	% Capacity Utilization			% Change	
	2014	2015	2016	14 vs 16	15 vs 16
<b><u>Average Weekday</u></b>					
Peak Period/Peak Direction	69.4%	70.6%	71.9%	2.5%	1.4%
Peak Period/Reverse Direction	33.0%	35.0%	34.5%	1.5%	-0.5%
Midday	41.5%	42.2%	40.6%	-0.9%	-1.7%
Evening	<u>27.5%</u>	<u>28.6%</u>	<u>27.5%</u>	0.0%	-1.1%
Total Weekday	56.1%	57.6%	58.2%	2.0%	0.5%
<b><u>Typical Week with Five Weekdays</u></b>					
Weekday Peak Per/Peak Direction	69.4%	70.6%	71.9%	2.5%	1.4%
Weekday Off-Peak	34.5%	35.8%	34.7%	0.2%	-1.1%
Saturday	35.4%	33.8%	33.8%	-1.6%	-0.1%
Sunday	<u>37.1%</u>	<u>38.5%</u>	<u>36.6%</u>	-0.5%	-1.9%
<b>Total Week</b>	54.3%	55.6%	56.0%	1.7%	0.4%
<i>Total Off-Peak</i>	<i>34.8%</i>	<i>35.7%</i>	<i>34.7%</i>	<i>-0.1%</i>	<i>-1.0%</i>



## IV. TICKET SALES

Table 7 (p. 20) provides a breakdown by rail line of March sales by ticket type for 2015 and 2016. Estimated ridership and revenue data by ticket type is shown on Table 8 (p. 21).

Table 9 (p. 21) breaks down the March ticket sales by method of purchase, which includes station (agents and vending machines), Ventra Mobile App, Ticket-by-Mail, Ticket-by-Internet, conductor sales, and Commuter Benefit.

**February 2016 Fare Increase** – Effective February 1, 2016, Metra fares rose by an average of 2.0%. One-way ticket prices rose by \$0.25, ten-ride ticket prices rose by \$1.75, and monthly ticket prices rose by \$2.50. Reduced fare ten-ride ticket prices rose by \$0.75, and reduced fare monthly ticket prices rose by \$1.25.

**February 2015 Fare Increase** – Effective February 1, 2015, Metra fares rose by an average of 10.8%. Part of the fare (and policy) changes was to restore the price of ten-ride tickets to nine times the price of one-way tickets, reversing a change made in February 2013. Despite the restoration of the discount, most ten-ride tickets increased in price. For the February 2015-January 2016 period monthly ticket sales fell by 5.9% and ten-ride ticket sales rose by 14.0% compared to the same period in 2014-2015.

The shift from monthly tickets to ten-ride tickets was gradual and continued throughout 2015. As such, 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.

**Ventra Mobile App** – The Ventra Mobile App launched on November 18, 2015. The table below summarizes ticket sales through the app for March 2016.

	March	
	Tickets	Revenue
Monthly	16,924	\$2,830,309.00
Ten-Ride	43,190	\$2,253,958.75
One-Way	127,371	\$753,349.00
Weekend	10,181	\$81,448.00

**Credit/Debit Card Sales** – Tickets can be purchased via credit card on the internet through Metra’s website, at station windows, and by using ticket vending machines at select locations. The table below shows credit card sales by ticket type for 2015 and 2016. Note that this table does not include tickets sold through the Ventra Mobile App.

Credit/Debit Card Sales -- Number of Tickets Sold

2015		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
<b>Ticket Type</b>														
<b>Internet Sales</b>														
	Monthly	5,344	5,137	5,054	5,046	5,047	5,132	5,013	5,050	5,252	5,279	5,180	4,652	15,535
	Ten-Ride	3,848	2,728	2,885	2,787	2,825	3,317	3,291	3,143	3,220	3,425	2,900	2,039	9,461
<b>Station Sales</b>														
	Monthly	37,510	37,126	38,541	38,146	35,517	37,309	36,740	34,414	38,646	39,213	36,512	25,988	113,177
	Ten-Ride	81,799	62,151	75,408	74,547	73,476	84,976	83,655	82,836	81,556	83,207	76,533	63,254	219,358
	One-Way	127,173	107,887	143,171	142,180	151,752	185,687	219,960	198,853	153,963	155,500	132,762	148,024	378,231
	Weekend & Special Event	6,408	5,698	10,632	7,391	12,524	22,501	21,733	26,246	10,327	8,965	7,256	10,460	22,738
<b>Ticket Vending Machines</b>														
	Monthly	7,566	5,057	6,075	7,184	7,346	6,983	7,508	7,333	6,830	7,864	7,513	5,312	18,698
	Ten-Ride	22,427	21,716	26,742	26,746	25,030	29,755	30,869	30,570	28,944	30,954	27,527	21,362	70,885
	One-Way	49,407	43,827	55,397	58,526	59,381	71,637	88,963	79,130	63,679	66,690	56,275	56,306	148,631
	Weekend	3,608	3,576	4,324	4,381	6,027	5,928	7,808	7,395	5,544	5,127	5,612	4,750	11,508
<b>Total</b>		<b>345,090</b>	<b>294,903</b>	<b>368,229</b>	<b>366,934</b>	<b>378,925</b>	<b>453,225</b>	<b>505,540</b>	<b>474,970</b>	<b>397,961</b>	<b>406,224</b>	<b>358,070</b>	<b>342,147</b>	<b>1,008,222</b>
2016		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
<b>Ticket Type</b>														
<b>Internet Sales</b>														
	Monthly	4,356	4,004	3,654										12,014
	Ten-Ride	2,361	1,781	1,609										5,751
<b>Station Sales</b>														
	Monthly	27,522	26,427	28,627										82,576
	Ten-Ride	66,109	51,467	54,211										171,787
	One-Way	95,774	93,589	129,237										318,600
	Weekend & Special Event	7,040	5,119	9,008										21,167
<b>Ticket Vending Machines</b>														
	Monthly	5,151	5,015	5,323										15,489
	Ten-Ride	21,034	16,610	16,699										54,343
	One-Way	37,599	35,112	41,729										114,440
	Weekend	3,617	3,568	3,681										10,866
<b>Total</b>		<b>270,563</b>	<b>242,692</b>	<b>293,778</b>										<b>807,033</b>

The table on the following page shows the number of tickets sold through Credit Card Ticket Vending Machines at each of the five downtown stations beginning January 2015. Note that monthly ticket sales are reported based on the month the ticket was valid, not the date the ticket was purchased (e.g. a March monthly ticket purchased on February 22 is reported as a March sale).

**Total Number of Tickets Sold at Credit Card TVMs in Downtown Stations**

		2015												
Station	Ticket Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
<b>LaSalle Street Station</b>	Monthly	508	33	454	472	492	465	558	505	523	579	531	471	995
	Ten-Ride	674	747	1,467	1,200	1,134	1,420	1,369	1,417	1,406	1,343	1,349	1,147	2,888
	One-Way	1,864	1,845	3,136	2,899	3,337	3,801	4,129	3,435	3,249	3,313	3,093	2,949	6,845
	Weekend	142	168	282	298	304	352	317	237	268	267	371	252	592
<b>Millennium Station</b>	Monthly	308	217	374	354	372	325	335	279	300	397	350	337	899
	Ten-Ride	1,556	1,665	1,806	2,150	1,585	1,639	1,735	1,528	1,949	2,176	1,930	1,297	5,027
	One-Way	5,891	5,780	7,295	7,383	6,387	8,302	10,466	8,851	7,184	7,909	6,808	6,321	18,966
	Weekend	169	115	194	231	260	209	211	238	219	251	240	140	478
<b>Ogilvie Center</b>	Monthly	2,195	1,033	1,576	2,156	2,238	2,101	2,288	2,312	1,653	2,253	2,032	1,437	4,804
	Ten-Ride	6,099	7,055	8,479	8,549	7,871	10,063	10,012	10,522	8,698	10,210	9,260	7,031	21,633
	One-Way	5,635	5,415	6,589	7,702	7,567	10,509	12,245	12,729	8,677	9,057	7,792	7,539	17,639
	Weekend	233	191	304	421	595	704	763	846	578	510	583	373	728
<b>Union Station</b>	Monthly	3,200	2,672	2,877	3,273	3,273	3,081	3,303	3,186	3,312	3,531	3,443	2,165	8,749
	Ten-Ride	10,902	9,265	11,321	11,463	10,790	12,358	13,369	12,861	12,868	12,767	11,077	8,715	31,488
	One-Way	19,319	16,190	19,844	20,627	23,318	27,204	29,983	28,192	23,864	22,136	19,724	20,929	55,353
	Weekend	1,267	1,089	1,109	1,308	2,011	1,572	2,014	1,757	1,522	1,401	1,691	1,125	3,465
<b>Van Buren Street Station</b>	Monthly	99	62	134	24	96	53	100	92	109	101	98	130	295
	Ten-Ride	265	248	382	317	345	424	486	431	400	483	423	318	895
	One-Way	1,420	1,280	1,695	1,435	1,482	1,648	2,596	2,125	1,980	2,352	1,823	1,587	4,395
	Weekend	29	44	38	36	63	29	62	52	21	56	53	33	111
<b>Total</b>		61,775	55,114	69,356	72,298	73,520	86,259	96,341	91,595	78,780	81,092	72,671	64,296	186,245
		2016												
Station	Ticket Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
<b>LaSalle Street Station</b>	Monthly	375	360	426										1,161
	Ten-Ride	1,014	619	822										2,455
	One-Way	2,144	1,184	1,964										5,292
	Weekend	221	124	242										587
<b>Millennium Station</b>	Monthly	255	337	344										936
	Ten-Ride	1,454	1,237	1,180										3,871
	One-Way	5,146	4,856	5,198										15,200
	Weekend	196	155	156										507
<b>Ogilvie Center</b>	Monthly	1,365	1,294	1,472										4,131
	Ten-Ride	7,100	5,247	5,311										17,658
	One-Way	4,795	4,306	5,398										14,499
	Weekend	280	214	349										843
<b>Union Station</b>	Monthly	2,159	2,152	2,194										6,505
	Ten-Ride	8,247	6,585	6,598										21,430
	One-Way	12,778	10,818	13,572										37,168
	Weekend	788	755	934										2,477
<b>Van Buren Street Station</b>	Monthly	55	88	94										237
	Ten-Ride	289	355	307										951
	One-Way	1,172	1,226	1,344										3,742
	Weekend	49	41	43										133
<b>Total</b>		49,882	41,953	47,948										139,783

**Link-Up and PlusBus** - Metra participates in joint ticket programs with CTA and Pace. Monthly Metra pass holders can purchase a Link-Up pass for connecting travel on CTA and Pace buses. The Link-Up pass is accepted on peak-period CTA services and most Pace services. Monthly Metra pass holders can also purchase a PlusBus pass in conjunction with their monthly ticket good for unlimited travel on most Pace buses. The table below presents Link-Up and PlusBus sales for March 2016. Note that Link-Up and PlusBus sales through the Ventra Mobile App are not included.

### Link-Up and PlusBus Sales

March

	Link-Up			PlusBus		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	938	739	-199	1,060	941	-119
Other CUS Lines	877	677	-200	81	51	-30
Electric	738	563	-175	58	40	-18
Rock Island	513	464	-49	23	24	1
Union Pacific	1,016	824	-192	220	167	-53
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,082</b>	<b>3,267</b>	<b>-815</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,223</b>	<b>-219</b>

January-March

	Link-Up			PlusBus		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	2,824	2,300	-524	3,174	2,787	-387
Other CUS Lines	2,687	2,100	-587	274	184	-90
Electric	2,264	1,725	-539	169	110	-59
Rock Island	1,570	1,397	-173	86	73	-13
Union Pacific	3,088	2,522	-566	673	517	-156
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,433</b>	<b>10,044</b>	<b>-2,389</b>	<b>4,376</b>	<b>3,671</b>	<b>-705</b>

**Table 7**  
**Ticket Sales by Type and Line\***  
**March 2015 vs. March 2016**

	2015	2016	Change	%Chng		2015	2016	Change	%Chng
<b>MONTHLY</b>					<b>STATION &amp; MOBILE ONE-WAY</b>				
BNSF	21,865	21,155	-710	-3.2%	BNSF	74,324	85,827	11,503	15.5%
Electric Lines	10,671	10,035	-636	-6.0%	Electric Lines	84,627	91,360	6,733	8.0%
Heritage	1,287	1,093	-194	-15.1%	Heritage	1,016	1,618	602	59.3%
Milw-N	8,119	7,622	-497	-6.1%	Milw-N	35,864	43,271	7,407	20.7%
Milw-W	8,373	8,163	-210	-2.5%	Milw-W	40,696	47,649	6,953	17.1%
North Central	2,378	2,315	-63	-2.6%	North Central	5,125	7,346	2,221	43.3%
Rock Island	11,462	11,173	-289	-2.5%	Rock Island	39,383	42,760	3,377	8.6%
SouthWest	3,929	3,780	-149	-3.8%	SouthWest	7,089	9,212	2,123	29.9%
UP-N	9,569	9,277	-292	-3.1%	UP-N	41,950	52,438	10,488	25.0%
UP-NW	13,644	13,090	-554	-4.1%	UP-NW	64,244	73,165	8,921	13.9%
UP-W	<u>10,074</u>	<u>9,910</u>	<u>-164</u>	<u>-1.6%</u>	UP-W	<u>45,419</u>	<u>54,561</u>	<u>9,142</u>	<u>20.1%</u>
SYSTEM	101,371	97,613	-3,758	-3.7%	SYSTEM	439,737	509,207	69,470	15.8%
<b>TEN-RIDE</b>					<b>CONDUCTOR ONE-WAY</b>				
BNSF	26,521	27,755	1,234	4.7%	BNSF	27,912	23,498	-4,414	-15.8%
Electric Lines	13,649	14,308	659	4.8%	Electric Lines	34,269	26,616	-7,653	-22.3%
Heritage	894	1,020	126	14.1%	Heritage	897	598	-299	-33.3%
Milw-N	13,000	14,009	1,009	7.8%	Milw-N	31,103	22,964	-8,139	-26.2%
Milw-W	9,116	9,548	432	4.7%	Milw-W	31,009	24,949	-6,060	-19.5%
North Central	2,646	2,961	315	11.9%	North Central	10,618	8,034	-2,584	-24.3%
Rock Island	11,760	11,641	-119	-1.0%	Rock Island	22,623	17,171	-5,452	-24.1%
SouthWest	3,678	3,811	133	3.6%	SouthWest	7,152	5,348	-1,804	-25.2%
UP-N	19,943	21,078	1,135	5.7%	UP-N	61,187	43,742	-17,445	-28.5%
UP-NW	17,802	19,192	1,390	7.8%	UP-NW	45,192	35,191	-10,001	-22.1%
UP-W	<u>13,898</u>	<u>14,391</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>3.5%</u>	UP-W	<u>32,623</u>	<u>25,431</u>	<u>-7,192</u>	<u>-22.0%</u>
SYSTEM	132,907	139,714	6,807	5.1%	SYSTEM	304,585	233,542	-71,043	-23.3%
<b>WEEKEND &amp; SPECIAL EVENT TICKET SALES</b>					<b>PERCENT SHARE BY TICKET TYPE</b>				
BNSF	17,559	17,572	13	0.1%	Monthly	9.3%	9.0%	-0.3%	
Electric Lines	7,255	7,122	-133	-1.8%	Ten-Ride	12.2%	12.9%	0.7%	
Heritage	0	4	4	--	Station & Mobile One-Way	40.5%	47.2%	6.6%	
Milw-N	13,632	11,673	-1,959	-14.4%	Conductor One-Way	28.1%	21.6%	-6.4%	
Milw-W	11,230	10,589	-641	-5.7%	<i>Total One-Way</i>	<i>68.6%</i>	<i>68.8%</i>	<i>0.2%</i>	
North Central	0	22	22	--	Weekend & Special Event	9.8%	9.2%	-0.6%	
Rock Island	7,280	6,718	-562	-7.7%					
SouthWest	475	374	-101	-21.3%					
UP-N	12,408	12,245	-163	-1.3%					
UP-NW	21,004	19,921	-1,083	-5.2%					
UP-W	<u>16,029</u>	<u>13,546</u>	<u>-2,483</u>	<u>-15.5%</u>					
SYSTEM	106,872	99,786	-7,086	-6.6%					

\*Free trips are not included and not adjusted for ticket refunds.

Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor over the counter tickets are overstated in 2015, while the other lines traveling to CUS are understated.

**Table 8**  
**Systemwide Ridership and Revenue by Ticket Type**  
**March**

<i><b>PASSENGER TRIPS</b></i>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Share of Total</b>	
					<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Monthly	4,358,953	4,197,359	-161,594	-3.7%	65.1%	63.7%
10-Ride	1,329,070	1,397,140	68,070	5.1%	19.8%	21.2%
One-Way - Station & Mobile	439,737	509,207	69,470	15.8%	6.6%	7.7%
One-Way - Conductor	304,585	233,542	-71,043	-23.3%	4.5%	3.5%
Weekend & Special Event - Station & Mobile	76,835	90,700	13,865	18.0%	1.1%	1.4%
Weekend & Special Event - Conductor	190,345	158,765	-31,580	-16.6%	2.8%	2.4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,699,525</b>	<b>6,586,713</b>	<b>-112,812</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<i><b>PASSENGER REVENUE</b></i>						
Monthly	\$16,675,956	\$16,265,389	-\$410,567	-2.5%	59.0%	57.1%
10-Ride	6,610,115	7,173,190	563,075	8.5%	23.4%	25.2%
One-Way - Station & Mobile	2,518,919	3,014,235	495,316	19.7%	8.9%	10.6%
One-Way - Conductor	1,595,635	1,247,785	-347,849	-21.8%	5.6%	4.4%
Weekend & Special Event - Station & Mobile	245,872	290,240	44,368	18.0%	0.9%	1.0%
Weekend & Special Event - Conductor	608,491	508,163	-100,328	-16.5%	2.2%	1.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,254,988</b>	<b>\$28,499,003</b>	<b>\$244,015</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Note: Free trips, refunds, and group sales are not included.

**Table 9**  
**System Ticket Sales by Method of Purchase**  
**March**

<i><b>TICKET SALES</b></i>	<b>Monthly</b>			<b>Ten-Ride</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Station & Mobile (Credit)	44,616	46,782	4.9%	102,150	107,970	5.7%
Station (Cash/Check)	13,367	11,757	-12.0%	16,766	18,493	10.3%
Total Station	57,983	58,539	1.0%	118,916	126,463	6.3%
By Mail	5,042	3,930	-22.1%	11	3	-72.7%
By Internet	5,054	3,654	-27.7%	2,885	1,609	-44.2%
Commuter Benefits	33,292	31,490	-5.4%	11,095	11,639	4.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,371</b>	<b>97,613</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>132,907</b>	<b>139,714</b>	<b>5.1%</b>
<i><b>TICKET SALES</b></i>	<b>One-Way</b>			<b>Weekend &amp; Special Event</b>		
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Station & Mobile (Credit)	198,568	253,727	27.8%	14,956	19,552	30.7%
Station (Cash/Check)	241,169	255,480	5.9%	15,778	16,728	6.0%
Total Station	439,737	509,207	15.8%	30,734	36,280	18.0%
On-Train	304,585	233,542	-23.3%	76,138	63,506	-16.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>744,322</b>	<b>742,749</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>106,872</b>	<b>99,786</b>	<b>-6.6%</b>

Note: Free trips, refunds, and group sales are not included.

## V. PASSENGER REVENUES

The table below presents system passenger revenues for February, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Revenues increased by 1.0% in March 2016 when compared to March 2015.

March	System Passenger Revenues			Percent Change	
	(in 000s)			14 vs. 15	15 vs. 16
	2014	2015	2016		
March	\$25,432	\$28,169	\$28,460	10.8%	1.0%
January - March	\$73,536	\$79,701	\$82,447	8.4%	3.4%
Last 12 Months	\$309,955	\$319,214	\$341,373	3.0%	6.9%

Table 10 (p. 23) breaks out passenger revenues by rail line for the last two years. Figure 5 (p. 24) illustrates system average fare (i.e., revenue per passenger trip). Table 11 (p. 24) presents average fare and revenue levels by rail line.

**Table 10: Passenger Revenues by Rail Line\***

<b>March</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015 vs 2016 %Change</b>
BNSF	\$5,788,028	\$5,895,245	1.9%
Electric Lines	2,875,676	2,860,484	-0.5%
Heritage**	292,155	273,787	-6.3%
Milw-N	2,503,226	2,504,801	0.1%
Milw-W	2,417,498	2,460,261	1.8%
North Central	719,326	737,513	2.5%
Rock Island	2,802,459	2,790,408	-0.4%
SouthWest	881,515	885,963	0.5%
UP-N	2,857,958	2,891,937	1.2%
UP-NW	4,104,241	4,166,138	1.5%
UP-W	2,926,553	2,993,963	2.3%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>\$28,168,635</b>	<b>\$28,460,499</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>January - March</b>			
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2016 vs 2016 %Change</b>
BNSF	\$16,360,539	\$17,108,882	4.6%
Electric Lines	8,178,890	8,269,061	1.1%
Heritage**	898,380	788,057	-12.3%
Milw-N	7,173,366	7,282,914	1.5%
Milw-W	6,743,250	7,067,531	4.8%
North Central	2,059,155	2,150,914	4.5%
Rock Island	7,923,956	8,107,788	2.3%
SouthWest	2,503,704	2,607,393	4.1%
UP-N	8,120,044	8,452,053	4.1%
UP-NW	11,565,014	12,018,689	3.9%
UP-W	8,174,826	8,593,508	5.1%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>\$79,701,124</b>	<b>\$82,446,790</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>Last 12 Months</b>			
	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>2015-2016</b>	<b>14-15 vs 15-16 %Change</b>
BNSF	\$65,343,124	\$70,509,441	7.9%
Electric Lines	32,508,402	34,361,636	5.7%
Heritage**	3,116,521	3,118,041	0.0%
Milw-N	28,794,792	30,458,139	5.8%
Milw-W	27,437,411	29,397,301	7.1%
North Central	8,371,165	8,780,299	4.9%
Rock Island	31,390,649	33,434,538	6.5%
SouthWest	9,612,807	10,425,392	8.5%
UP-N	32,999,598	35,207,140	6.7%
UP-NW	47,027,451	50,031,559	6.4%
UP-W	32,612,562	35,649,308	9.3%
<b>SYSTEM</b>	<b>\$319,214,479</b>	<b>\$341,372,794</b>	<b>6.9%</b>

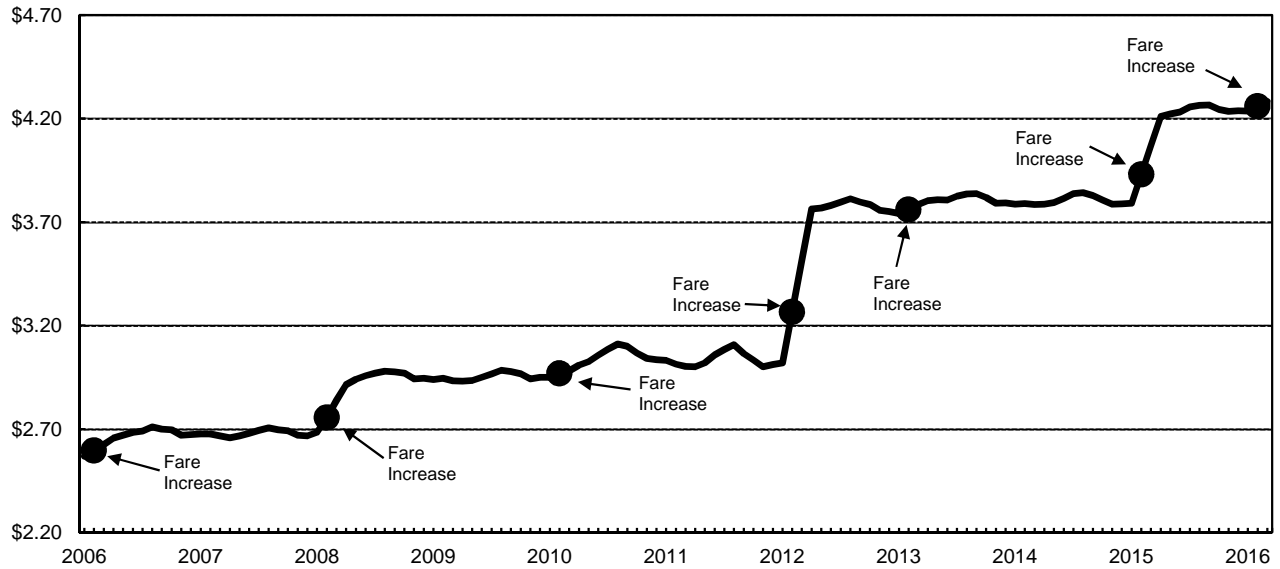
\*Excludes South Shore and reduced-fare reimbursement.

\*\*Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor revenues are overstated, while the other lines traveling to CUS are understated.



**Figure 5**

**Metra System Average Passenger Fare\***  
(rolling three-month average)



\*Does not include free trips

**Table 11**  
**Passenger Revenues & Average Fare by Rail Line\***  
January - March

Line	Passenger Revenue (in 000's)				% Change in Trips	Average Fare		
	2015	2016	Change	% Chng		2015	2016	% Chng
BNSF	\$16,361	\$17,109	\$748	4.6%	-0.5%	\$4.15	\$4.36	5.1%
Electric Lines	8,179	8,269	90	1.1%	-4.1%	\$3.78	\$3.98	5.5%
Heritage**	898	788	-110	-12.3%	-16.5%	\$4.36	\$4.58	5.0%
Milw-N	7,173	7,283	110	1.5%	-3.8%	\$4.19	\$4.42	5.5%
Milw-W	6,743	7,068	324	4.8%	-0.4%	\$4.25	\$4.47	5.2%
North Central	2,059	2,151	92	4.5%	-0.5%	\$4.83	\$5.06	4.9%
Rock Island	7,924	8,108	184	2.3%	-2.5%	\$3.93	\$4.12	4.9%
SouthWest	2,504	2,607	104	4.1%	-1.4%	\$3.86	\$4.08	5.7%
UP-N	8,120	8,452	332	4.1%	-0.3%	\$3.72	\$3.89	4.4%
UP-NW	11,565	12,019	454	3.9%	-1.5%	\$4.28	\$4.52	5.5%
UP-W	8,175	8,594	419	5.1%	-0.6%	\$4.10	\$4.33	5.7%
<b>System***</b>	<b>\$79,701</b>	<b>\$82,447</b>	<b>\$2,746</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>\$4.07</b>	<b>\$4.28</b>	<b>5.2%</b>

\*Excludes reduced-fare reimbursement.

\*\*Due to a reporting anomaly, Heritage Corridor revenues are overstated, while the other lines traveling to CUS are understated.

\*\*\*Does not include free trips