

# **RIDERSHIP TRENDS**

**October 2016**



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**Prepared by the Division of Strategic Capital Planning  
December 2016**

**Table of Contents**

Executive Summary..... 1

Ridership ..... 3

    Estimated Passenger Trips by Line ..... 3

    Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair ..... 4

    Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type ..... 4

    Passenger Loads ..... 5

    Free Trips ..... 5

    Accessible Trips ..... 6

    Bicycle Trips ..... 6

Ridership Influences..... 7

    Employment ..... 7

    Gas Prices ..... 8

    Road Construction ..... 8

    Service Changes ..... 9

    Special Events and Promotions ..... 9

Passenger Revenue and Ticket Sales..... 10

    Passenger Revenue ..... 10

    Ticket Sales ..... 12

        Link-Up and PlusBus Sales ..... 17

        Reduced Fare Sales..... 18

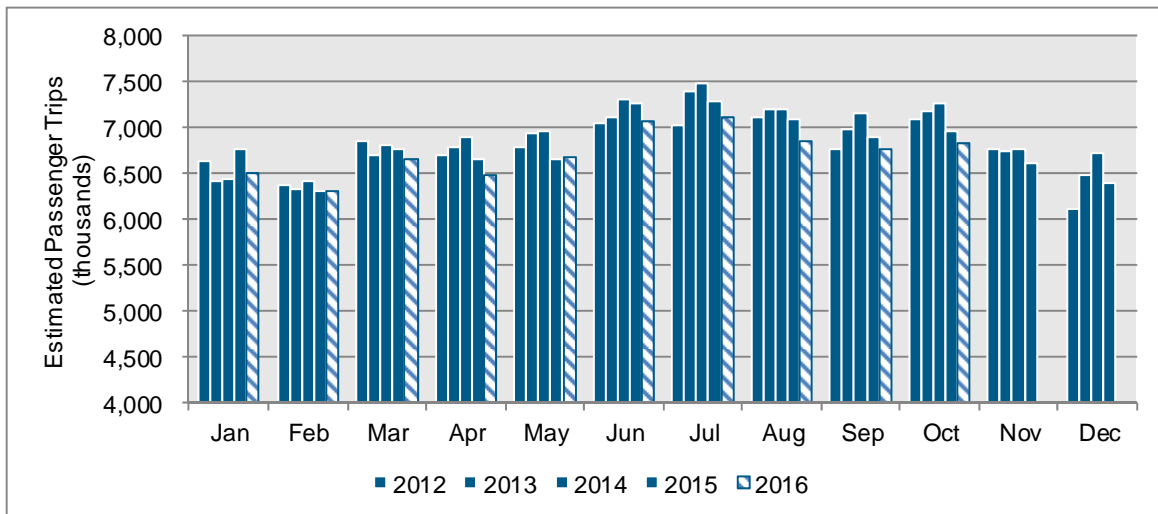
**Executive Summary**

Estimated passenger trips decreased by 1.7% in October 2016 compared to October 2015. October 2016 had one less weekday, the same number of Saturdays, and one additional Sunday/holiday compared to October 2015. Year-to-date, 2016 has had one less weekday, the same number of Saturdays, and two additional Sunday/holidays compared to 2015.

**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	6,766	0.1%	-1.9%
Oct	7,091	7,187	7,260	6,949	6,832	-3.7%	-1.7%
Nov	6,773	6,750	6,760	6,606	-	-	-
Dec	6,113	6,489	6,724	6,385	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	20,960	21,368	21,596	20,945	20,464	-2.4%	-2.3%
Last 12 Months	81,777	81,915	83,125	82,124	80,296	-1.8%	-2.2%
Year-to-date	68,384	69,029	69,886	68,640	67,306	-1.6%	-1.9%

**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**

	<b>2016 Budget</b> (thousands)	<b>2016 Actual</b> (thousands)	<b>Variance</b>
Jan	6,739	6,513	-3.4%
Feb	6,241	6,310	1.1%
Mar	6,709	6,666	-0.6%
<b>1st Quarter</b>	<b>19,690</b>	<b>19,489</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
Apr	6,603	6,497	-1.6%
May	6,596	6,681	1.3%
Jun	7,195	7,066	-1.8%
<b>2nd Quarter</b>	<b>20,394</b>	<b>20,244</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>
Jul	7,221	7,110	-1.5%
Aug	6,945	6,866	-1.1%
Sep	7,055	6,766	-4.1%
<b>3rd Quarter</b>	<b>21,221</b>	<b>20,742</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>
Oct	7,169	6,832	-4.7%
Nov	6,675	-	-
Dec	6,640	-	-
<b>4th Quarter</b>	<b>20,483</b>	<b>6,832</b>	<b>-</b>
Year-to-date	68,474	67,306	-1.7%

## 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 October, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Estimated passenger trips decreased 2.3 percent in the last three months compared to the previous year, and decreased 2.2 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**

	October			Last 3 Months			Last 12 Months		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	1,391,497	1,396,062	0.3%	4,219,680	4,155,022	-1.5%	16,476,251	16,259,033	-1.3%
MED	802,282	740,011	-7.8%	2,310,501	2,186,047	-5.4%	9,137,677	8,697,688	-4.8%
HC	57,969	62,781	8.3%	171,762	184,868	7.6%	734,247	706,615	-3.8%
MD-N	595,705	587,473	-1.4%	1,810,104	1,765,197	-2.5%	7,163,103	6,913,916	-3.5%
MD-W	574,529	557,566	-3.0%	1,752,408	1,680,499	-4.1%	6,816,491	6,624,480	-2.8%
NCS	151,390	144,489	-4.6%	452,044	438,360	-3.0%	1,765,206	1,729,925	-2.0%
RID	697,559	686,183	-1.6%	2,111,135	2,045,200	-3.1%	8,357,045	8,105,545	-3.0%
SWS	223,018	213,917	-4.1%	658,012	636,951	-3.2%	2,614,832	2,550,239	-2.5%
UP-N	793,883	780,706	-1.7%	2,399,601	2,367,366	-1.3%	9,276,529	9,213,041	-0.7%
UP-NW	955,190	948,021	-0.8%	2,906,825	2,868,668	-1.3%	11,390,726	11,161,069	-2.0%
UP-W	706,169	714,612	1.2%	2,153,024	2,135,703	-0.8%	8,392,099	8,334,784	-0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,949,189</b>	<b>6,831,818</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>20,945,092</b>	<b>20,463,877</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>82,124,204</b>	<b>80,296,332</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>

## Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair

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

**Table 4: Estimated Passenger Trips by Fare Zone Pair**

	October (thousands)			Last 3 Months (thousands)			Last 12 Months (thousands)		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
A-A	23	23	0.0%	65	67	3.3%	261	268	2.7%
A-B	512	509	-0.5%	1,477	1,481	0.3%	5,848	5,812	-0.6%
A-C	920	912	-0.9%	2,710	2,712	0.1%	10,645	10,710	0.6%
A-D	1,133	1,130	-0.3%	3,345	3,355	0.3%	13,248	13,144	-0.8%
A-E	1,441	1,420	-1.4%	4,283	4,243	-0.9%	16,893	16,621	-1.6%
A-F	861	867	0.7%	2,553	2,585	1.2%	10,053	10,076	0.2%
A-G	517	515	-0.5%	1,538	1,542	0.2%	6,081	6,029	-0.9%
A-H	437	431	-1.3%	1,312	1,300	-0.9%	5,169	5,098	-1.4%
A-I	147	146	-0.9%	437	440	0.8%	1,744	1,714	-1.7%
A-J	27	26	-0.6%	81	81	0.0%	326	318	-2.4%
A-K	30	29	-4.8%	91	86	-4.9%	361	347	-3.9%
A-M	10	8	-23.5%	30	25	-15.7%	119	108	-9.2%
Intermediate	228	228	0.2%	661	670	1.4%	2,604	2,576	-1.1%
No Zone Pair	665	590	-11.2%	2,363	1,875	-20.6%	8,773	7,475	-14.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,949</b>	<b>6,832</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>20,945</b>	<b>20,464</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>82,124</b>	<b>80,297</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>

## Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type

Table 5 shows estimated passenger trips by ticket type for October, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Passenger trip totals are adjusted for group sales, marketing sales, and refunds.

**Table 5: Estimated Passenger Trips by Ticket Type**

	October (thousands)				Last 3 Months (thousands)				Last 12 Months (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Monthly	4,358	4,175	-4.2%	61.1%	12,716	12,183	-4.2%	59.5%	51,434	48,975	-4.8%	61.0%
Ten-Ride	1,472	1,530	3.9%	22.4%	4,365	4,644	6.4%	22.7%	16,068	17,449	8.6%	21.7%
One-Way	786	768	-2.3%	11.2%	2,560	2,519	-1.6%	12.3%	9,888	9,446	-4.5%	11.8%
Weekend	238	281	18.1%	4.1%	928	878	-5.4%	4.3%	3,475	3,391	-2.4%	4.2%
Special Event & Ravinia	-	1	0.0%	0.0%	139	12	-91.0%	0.1%	321	99	-69.2%	0.1%
Benefit Access (free)	95	84	-12.2%	1.2%	274	257	-6.4%	1.3%	1,067	1,003	-6.0%	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,949</b>	<b>6,832</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>		<b>20,945</b>	<b>20,464</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>		<b>82,124</b>	<b>80,297</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	

## Passenger Loads

Table 6 shows the average daily passenger loads by service period for October, the last three months, and the last 12 months, derived from conductor counts. Average peak-peak direction passenger loads decreased by 1.5 percent in October compared to the previous year, and total weekday passenger loads decreased by 2.6 percent in the same period.

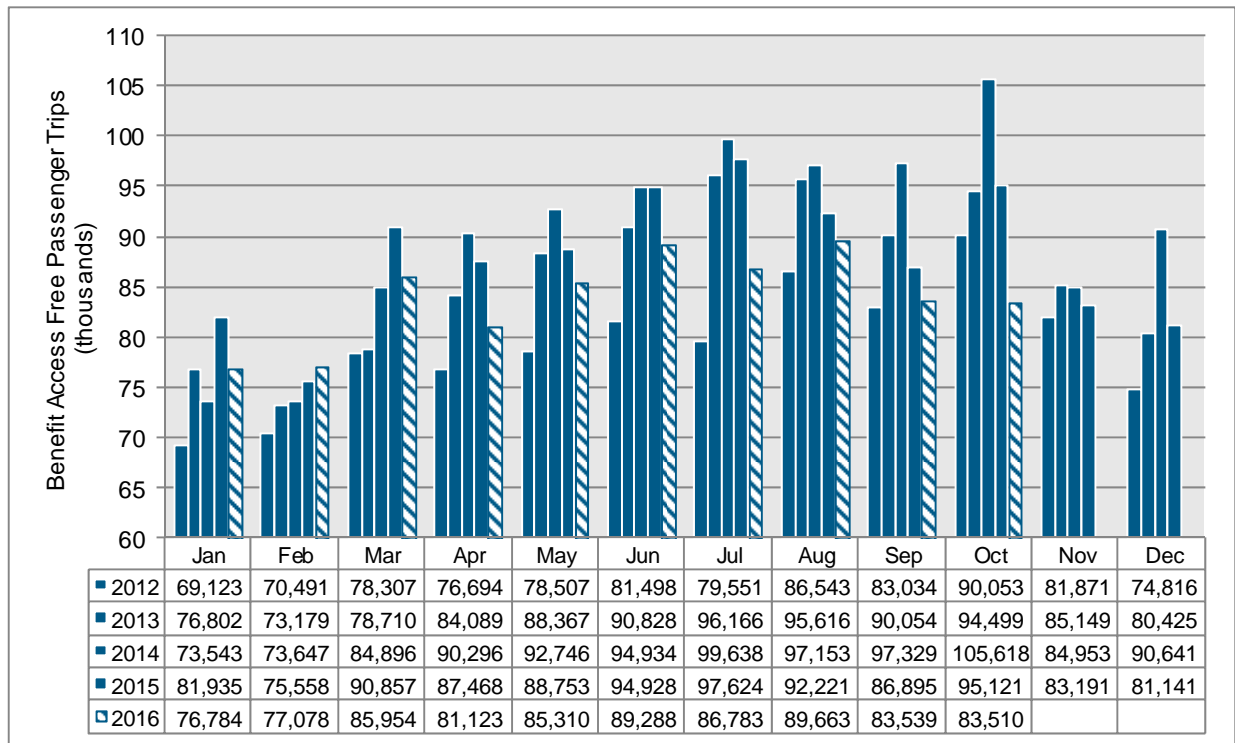
**Table 6: Average Daily Passenger Loads**

	October (thousands)			Last 3 Months (thousands)			Last 12 Months (thousands)		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
Peak - Peak Direction	227	224	-1.5%	226	224	-0.6%	222	223	0.6%
Peak - Reverse Direction	22	20	-7.1%	21	20	-5.2%	21	20	-3.8%
Midday	32	31	-2.5%	33	32	-3.0%	33	32	-2.4%
Evening	18	16	-11.8%	19	17	-9.5%	18	17	-5.5%
Weekday	299	291	-2.6%	299	293	-1.8%	294	292	-0.4%
Saturday	62	64	3.1%	71	68	-4.1%	68	65	-4.1%
Sunday	39	42	6.7%	45	43	-3.9%	43	41	-2.9%

## 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.

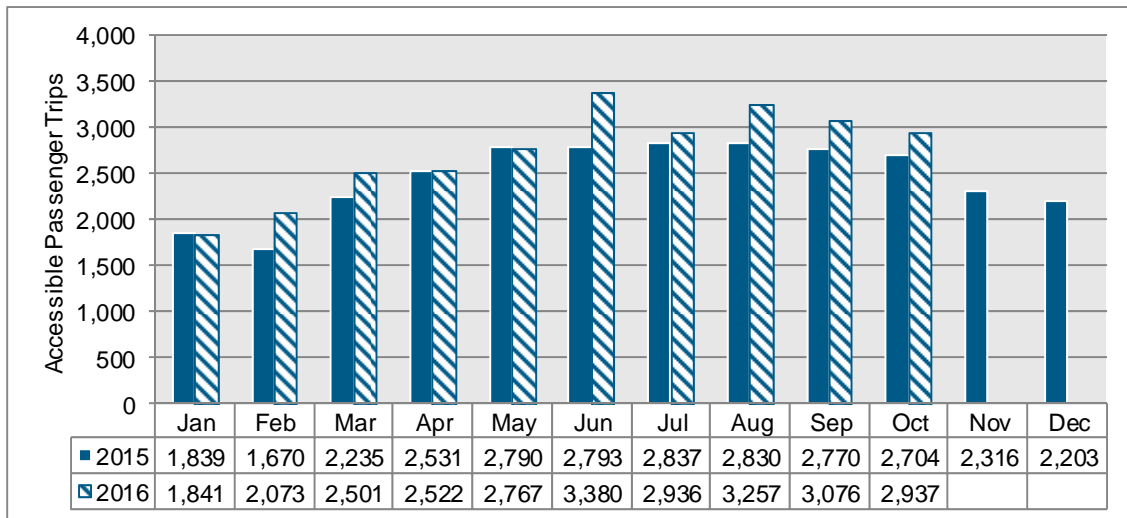
**Figure 2: Benefit Access Free Passenger Trips**



### 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.

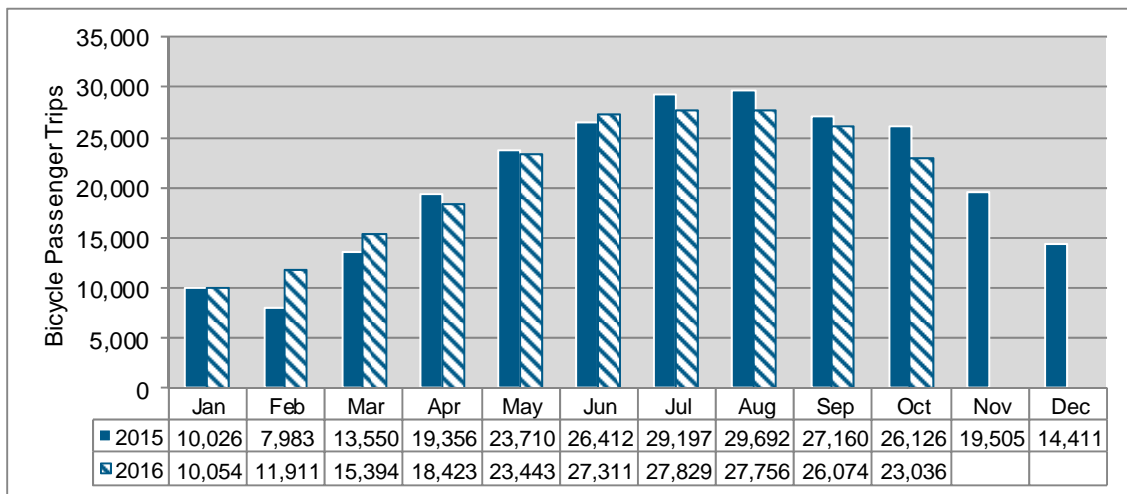
**Figure 3: Accessible Trips**



### Bicycle Trips

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

**Figure 4: Bicycle Trips**





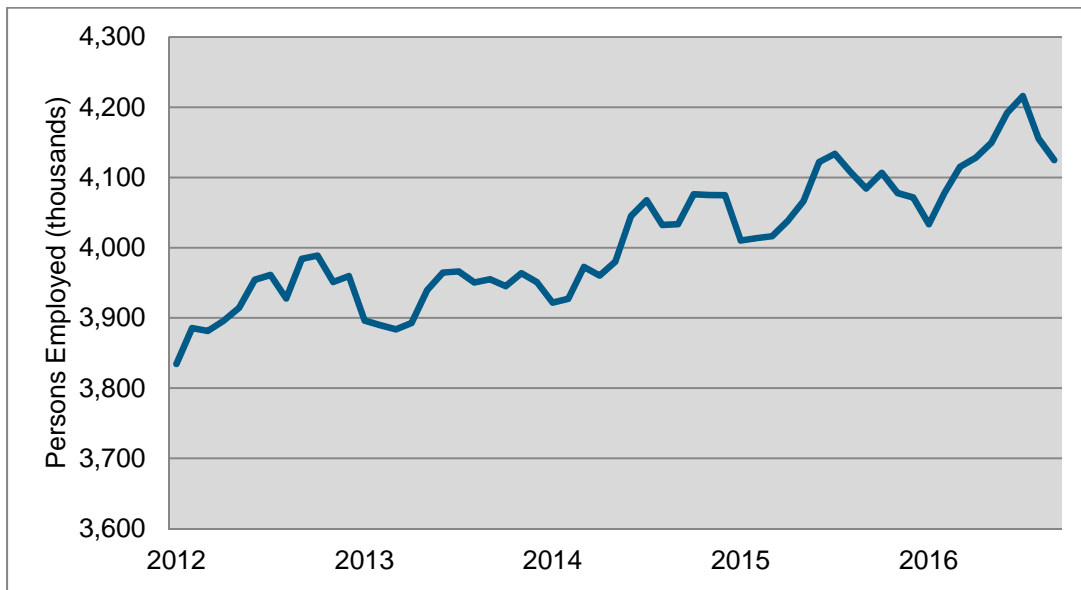
**Ridership Influences**

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 in October 2016 decreased 0.1 percent compared to October 2015.

**Figure 5: Persons Employed in the Chicago Region**



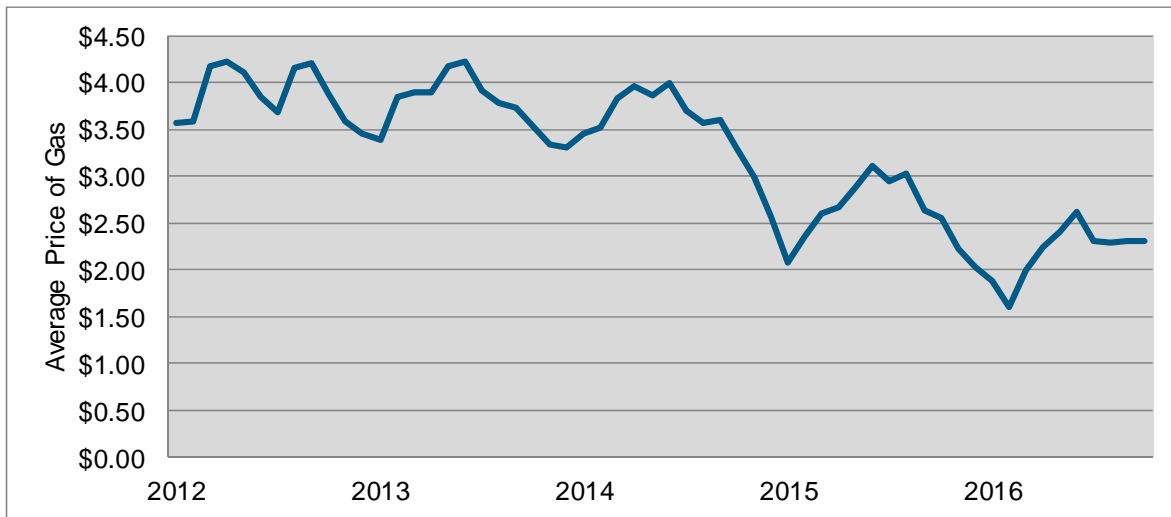
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2012	3,834	3,886	3,881	3,896	3,915	3,954	3,961	3,928	3,984	3,989	3,951	3,960	3,928
2013	3,896	3,890	3,884	3,893	3,940	3,964	3,966	3,951	3,955	3,945	3,964	3,951	3,933
2014	3,922	3,927	3,972	3,960	3,980	4,045	4,068	4,032	4,033	4,076	4,075	4,075	4,014
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	4,125	4,104	-	-	4,130
Change	0.6%	1.6%	2.5%	2.2%	2.1%	1.7%	2.0%	1.2%	1.0%	-0.1%	-	-	1.4%

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 \$2.31 in October 2016, \$0.25 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	\$ 2.31	\$ 2.31	-	-	\$ 2.20
Change	-\$0.19	-\$0.75	-\$0.60	-\$0.43	-\$0.48	-\$0.51	-\$0.65	-\$0.75	-\$0.33	-\$0.25	-	-	-\$0.40

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Road Construction

No new roadway construction projects of regional significance began in October. 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, opened in September 2016. The center consolidated CTA bus connections for Metra passengers at Union Station.

## **Service Changes**

No service changes occurred in October 2016.

## **Special Events and Promotions**

Special events often bring large crowds into Chicago during off-peak hours. Additional service was added to the BNSF, MED, MD-N, UP-NW, and UP-W lines for the Chicago Marathon (October 9). The MED line also ran additional service on October 2 and October 16 for Bears games at Soldier Field.

**Passenger Revenue and Ticket Sales**

**Passenger Revenue**

Table 7 shows passenger revenue by line for October, 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**

	October (thousands)			Last 3 Months (thousands)			Last 12 Months (thousands)		
	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	\$ 5,979	\$ 6,135	2.6%	\$ 18,131	\$ 18,368	1.3%	\$ 68,865	\$ 71,099	3.2%
MED	\$ 3,034	\$ 2,883	-5.0%	\$ 8,822	\$ 8,603	-2.5%	\$ 33,905	\$ 33,956	0.2%
HC	\$ 261	\$ 292	11.7%	\$ 776	\$ 860	10.9%	\$ 3,222	\$ 3,250	0.9%
MD-N	\$ 2,576	\$ 2,603	1.0%	\$ 7,815	\$ 7,883	0.9%	\$ 30,097	\$ 30,470	1.2%
MD-W	\$ 2,498	\$ 2,477	-0.9%	\$ 7,606	\$ 7,521	-1.1%	\$ 28,734	\$ 29,266	1.9%
NCS	\$ 749	\$ 736	-1.7%	\$ 2,255	\$ 2,248	-0.3%	\$ 8,587	\$ 8,782	2.3%
RID	\$ 2,816	\$ 2,844	1.0%	\$ 8,533	\$ 8,522	-0.1%	\$ 32,857	\$ 33,368	1.6%
SWS	\$ 895	\$ 882	-1.4%	\$ 2,645	\$ 2,638	-0.3%	\$ 10,152	\$ 10,422	2.7%
UP-N	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,034	1.1%	\$ 9,118	\$ 9,286	1.8%	\$ 34,438	\$ 35,615	3.4%
UP-NW	\$ 4,227	\$ 4,291	1.5%	\$ 12,875	\$ 13,112	1.8%	\$ 49,054	\$ 50,452	2.9%
UP-W	\$ 3,001	\$ 3,110	3.6%	\$ 9,161	\$ 9,384	2.4%	\$ 34,656	\$ 36,199	4.5%
Total	\$ 29,035	\$ 29,287	0.9%	\$ 87,738	\$ 88,425	0.8%	\$334,567	\$342,880	2.5%

Table 8 shows passenger revenue by ticket type for October, 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**

	October (thousands)				Last 3 Months (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Monthly	\$ 16,643	\$ 16,179	-2.8%	55.2%	\$ 48,613	\$ 47,245	-2.8%	53.4%
Ten-Ride	\$ 7,287	\$ 7,827	7.4%	26.7%	\$ 21,691	\$ 23,841	9.9%	27.0%
One-Way	\$ 4,372	\$ 4,406	0.8%	15.0%	\$ 14,346	\$ 14,604	1.8%	16.5%
Weekend	\$ 763	\$ 901	18.1%	3.1%	\$ 2,971	\$ 2,811	-5.4%	3.2%
Special Event & Ravinia	\$ 0	\$ 2	0.0%	0.0%	\$ 301	\$ 44	-85.5%	0.0%
Total	\$ 29,035	\$ 29,287	0.9%		\$ 87,738	\$ 88,425	0.8%	

	Last 12 Months (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share
Monthly	\$190,694	\$189,077	-0.8%	55.1%
Ten-Ride	\$ 79,422	\$ 88,911	11.9%	25.9%
One-Way	\$ 53,603	\$ 54,182	1.1%	15.8%
Weekend	\$ 10,762	\$ 10,851	0.8%	3.2%
Special Event & Ravinia	\$ 771	\$ 321	-58.4%	0.1%
Total	\$334,567	\$342,880	2.5%	

Table 9 shows passenger revenue by ticket type and sales channel for October 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**

October	Monthly (thousands)				Ten-Ride (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	\$ 5,414	\$ 5,152	-4.8%	31.8%	\$ 670	\$ 704	5.1%	9.0%
Conductor	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	\$ 879	\$ 437	-50.3%	2.7%	\$ 176	\$ 78	-55.5%	1.0%
Mail	\$ 744	\$ 557	-25.2%	3.4%	\$ 0	\$ 0	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$ 8,326	\$ 5,460	-34.4%	33.7%	\$ 4,891	\$ 2,905	-40.6%	37.1%
Vending Machine	\$ 1,268	\$ 757	-40.3%	4.7%	\$ 1,544	\$ 735	-52.4%	9.4%
Ventra Mobile App	\$ 12	\$ 3,817	0.0%	23.6%	\$ 5	\$ 3,404	0.0%	43.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,643</b>	<b>\$16,179</b>	<b>-2.8%</b>		<b>\$ 7,287</b>	<b>\$ 7,827</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	

	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	\$ 1,761	\$ 1,235	-29.9%	28.0%	\$ 571	\$ 540	-5.3%	59.8%
Internet	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%	\$ -	\$ -	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	\$ 2,186	\$ 1,574	-28.0%	35.7%	\$ 148	\$ 120	-19.2%	13.3%
Vending Machine	\$ 423	\$ 279	-34.0%	6.3%	\$ 44	\$ 43	-1.1%	4.8%
Ventra Mobile App	\$ 1	\$ 1,318	0.0%	29.9%	\$ 0	\$ 199	0.0%	22.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,372</b>	<b>\$ 4,406</b>	<b>0.8%</b>		<b>\$ 763</b>	<b>\$ 903</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	

	Total (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	\$ 6,084	\$ 5,856	-3.7%	20.0%
Conductor	\$ 2,332	\$ 1,775	-23.9%	6.1%
Internet	\$ 1,056	\$ 516	-51.1%	1.8%
Mail	\$ 745	\$ 557	-25.2%	1.9%
Ticket Agent	\$ 15,551	\$10,058	-35.3%	34.3%
Vending Machine	\$ 3,279	\$ 1,814	-44.7%	6.2%
Ventra Mobile App	\$ 18	\$ 8,738	0.0%	29.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 29,035</b>	<b>\$29,287</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	

## Ticket Sales

Table 10 shows ticket sales by ticket type for October, the last three months, and the last 12 months. Monthly ticket sales decreased by 4.2 percent in October compared to the previous year, while ten-ride ticket sales increased by 3.9 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.

**Table 10: Ticket Sales by Ticket Type**

	October (thousands)				Last 3 Months (thousands)				Last 12 Months (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Monthly	101	97	-4.2%	8.6%	296	283	-4.2%	7.8%	1,196	1,139	-4.8%	8.3%
Ten-Ride	147	153	3.9%	13.5%	437	464	6.4%	12.8%	1,607	1,745	8.6%	12.7%
One-Way	786	768	-2.3%	67.9%	2,560	2,519	-1.6%	69.5%	9,888	9,446	-4.5%	68.9%
Weekend	95	113	18.1%	10.0%	371	351	-5.4%	9.7%	1,390	1,356	-2.4%	9.9%
Special Event & Ravinia	-	221	0.0%	0.0%	32	6	-82.4%	0.2%	122	23	-81.0%	0.2%
Total	1,130	1,131	0.1%		3,695	3,624	-1.9%		14,204	13,709	-3.5%	

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**

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	21,830	21,409	-1.9%
MED	10,657	9,797	-8.1%
HC	1,081	1,121	3.7%
MD-N	7,981	7,558	-5.3%
MD-W	8,549	8,073	-5.6%
NCS	2,378	2,284	-4.0%
RID	11,404	10,882	-4.6%
SWS	3,915	3,661	-6.5%
UP-N	9,701	9,129	-5.9%
UP-NW	13,759	13,233	-3.8%
UP-W	10,090	9,957	-1.3%
Total	101,345	97,104	-4.2%

**Table 12: Ten-Ride Ticket Sales by Line**

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	29,123	30,402	4.4%
MED	15,969	15,549	-2.6%
HC	928	1,167	25.8%
MD-N	14,850	15,423	3.9%
MD-W	9,895	10,135	2.4%
NCS	3,026	3,138	3.7%
RID	12,280	12,913	5.2%
SWS	3,797	3,918	3.2%
UP-N	22,379	23,361	4.4%
UP-NW	19,875	20,836	4.8%
UP-W	15,118	16,152	6.8%
Total	147,240	152,994	3.9%

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

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	79,345	90,931	14.6%
MED	83,390	88,955	6.7%
HC	1,211	2,407	98.8%
MD-N	37,066	46,777	26.2%
MD-W	41,004	47,209	15.1%
NCS	5,320	7,915	48.8%
RID	41,654	47,522	14.1%
SWS	7,954	11,006	38.4%
UP-N	44,322	62,590	41.2%
UP-NW	64,804	74,334	14.7%
UP-W	48,294	57,173	18.4%
Total	454,364	536,819	18.1%

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

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	33,719	23,644	-29.9%
MED	44,365	33,292	-25.0%
HC	1,071	464	-56.7%
MD-N	34,365	22,193	-35.4%
MD-W	33,069	23,580	-28.7%
NCS	10,749	6,417	-40.3%
RID	22,026	16,846	-23.5%
SWS	7,499	4,755	-36.6%
UP-N	64,074	43,286	-32.4%
UP-NW	48,125	33,897	-29.6%
UP-W	32,559	22,573	-30.7%
Total	331,621	230,947	-30.4%

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

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	5,661	9,694	71.2%
MED	4,403	6,273	42.5%
HC		11	-
MD-N	2,681	4,934	84.0%
MD-W	1,989	3,892	95.7%
NCS		51	-
RID	922	2,233	142.2%
SWS	32	86	168.8%
UP-N	2,533	4,922	94.3%
UP-NW	3,210	7,526	134.5%
UP-W	2,608	5,692	118.3%
Total	24,039	45,314	88.5%

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

October	2015	2016	Change
BNSF	11,226	9,749	-13.2%
MED	3,036	2,662	-12.3%
HC			
MD-N	8,499	8,894	4.6%
MD-W	7,817	7,569	-3.2%
NCS			
RID	4,753	5,136	8.1%
SWS	290	266	-8.3%
UP-N	9,816	8,988	-8.4%
UP-NW	14,272	13,829	-3.1%
UP-W	11,606	10,194	-12.2%
Total	71,315	67,287	-5.6%

Table 17 shows ticket sales by ticket type, sales channel, and tender type for October 2015 and 2016. Table 18 shows ticket sales by ticket type, sales channel, and tender type for January-October 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 (October)**

October	Monthly (thousands)				Ten-Ride (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	32	30	-6.3%	31.2%	13	13	0.9%	8.3%
Conductor	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	5	3	-50.9%	2.7%	3	1	-57.6%	0.9%
Mail	5	3	-25.4%	3.5%	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	51	33	-35.1%	34.3%	100	59	-41.2%	38.4%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	12	6	-53.3%	-	17	11	-36.1%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	39	28	-29.5%	-	83	48	-42.2%	-
Vending Machine	8	5	-41.1%	4.8%	31	14	-54.2%	9.3%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-	0.0%	-	0	0	-10.5%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	8	5	-41.1%	-	31	14	-54.5%	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	23	0.0%	23.6%	0	66	0.0%	43.0%
<i>Credit Card</i>	0	21	0.0%	-	0	62	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	1	0.0%	-	0	1	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	0	0.0%	-	0	2	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-4.2%</b>		<b>147</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	
	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	332	231	-30.4%	30.1%	71	67	-5.4%	59.8%
Internet	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	378	264	-30.0%	34.4%	19	15	-19.2%	13.3%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	222	157	-29.3%	-	10	8	-12.4%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	156	107	-31.1%	-	9	7	-26.5%	-
Vending Machine	77	48	-36.9%	6.3%	5	5	-1.1%	4.8%
<i>Cash</i>	10	11	10.8%	-	0	1	82.0%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	67	37	-44.0%	-	5	5	-7.0%	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	224	0.0%	29.2%	0	25	0.0%	22.1%
<i>Credit Card</i>	0	194	0.0%	-	0	22	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	3	0.0%	-	0	0	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	28	0.0%	-	0	2	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>		<b>95</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>18.3%</b>	



**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	327	308	-5.8%	32.3%	117	116	-0.6%	7.9%
Conductor	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Internet	51	33	-36.0%	3.4%	31	16	-49.3%	1.1%
Mail	49	37	-24.4%	3.9%	0	0	-16.2%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	497	344	-30.8%	36.0%	952	654	-31.3%	44.6%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	124	69	-44.8%	-	169	118	-30.4%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	373	275	-26.2%	-	784	537	-31.5%	-
Vending Machine	70	50	-28.5%	5.2%	278	164	-40.9%	11.2%
<i>Cash</i>	-	-	0.0%	-	4	3	-14.6%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	70	50	-28.5%	-	274	161	-41.3%	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	183	0.0%	19.1%	0	517	0.0%	35.2%
<i>Credit Card</i>	0	166	0.0%	-	0	492	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	14	0.0%	-	0	9	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	3	0.0%	-	0	17	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>		<b>1,379</b>	<b>1,467</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	
	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	3,357	2,471	-26.4%	31.2%	871	723	-17.0%	63.0%
Internet	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Mail	-	-	0.0%	0.0%	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Ticket Agent	3,976	3,133	-21.2%	39.5%	316	204	-35.4%	17.8%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	2,390	1,871	-21.7%	-	183	112	-38.7%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,586	1,261	-20.5%	-	132	92	-30.8%	-
Vending Machine	858	626	-27.1%	7.9%	64	53	-16.8%	4.7%
<i>Cash</i>	221	209	-5.3%	-	10	12	15.4%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	637	416	-34.6%	-	54	41	-23.0%	-
Ventra Mobile App	1	1,702	0.0%	21.5%	0	166	0.0%	14.5%
<i>Credit Card</i>	0	1,471	0.0%	-	0	147	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	21	0.0%	-	0	3	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	210	0.0%	-	0	17	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,191</b>	<b>7,932</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>		<b>1,251</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>	

Table 19 shows total ticket sales by sales channel and tender type for October 2015 and 2016. Table 20 shows total ticket sales by sales channel and tender type for January-October 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 (October)**

October	Total (thousands)			
	2015	2016	Change	Share
Commuter Benefit	45	43	-4.3%	3.8%
Conductor	403	298	-25.9%	26.4%
Internet	9	4	-53.5%	0.4%
Mail	5	3	-25.4%	0.3%
Ticket Agent	547	371	-32.2%	32.8%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	260	182	-30.2%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	287	189.50	-33.9%	-
Vending Machine	121	73	-40.0%	6.4%
<i>Cash</i>	11	12	12.8%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	111	61	-45.0%	-
Ventra Mobile App	0	338	0.0%	29.9%
<i>Credit Card</i>	0	300	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	5	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	33	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,130</b>	<b>1,131</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	

**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	444	424	-4.5%	3.7%
Conductor	4,228	3,194	-24.5%	27.8%
Internet	83	49	-41.0%	0.4%
Mail	49	37	-24.4%	0.3%
Ticket Agent	5,741	4,334	-24.5%	37.7%
<i>Cash &amp; Other</i>	2,866	2,170	-24.3%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	2,875	2,165	-24.7%	-
Vending Machine	1,270	893	-29.7%	7.8%
<i>Cash</i>	236	225	-4.5%	-
<i>Credit Card</i>	1,034	668	-35.4%	-
Ventra Mobile App	1	2,568	0.0%	22.3%
<i>Credit Card</i>	1	2,276	0.0%	-
<i>Mixed &amp; Other</i>	0	47	0.0%	-
<i>Ventra</i>	0	246	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,815</b>	<b>11,500</b>	<b>-2.7%</b>	

*Link-Up and PlusBus Sales*

Sales of CTA Link-Up passes declined by 7.8 percent in October compared to the previous year, and sales of Pace PlusBus passes declined by 5.7 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	3,338	1,279	-6.8%	-3.7%	15.8%	13.6%
Oct	3,622	1,350	3,340	1,273	-7.8%	-5.7%	15.8%	13.7%
Nov	3,573	1,327	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dec	3,446	1,219	-	-	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	10,766	3,976	9,860	3,753	-8.4%	-5.6%	-	-
Last 12 Months	46,243	16,563	41,618	15,377	-10.0%	-7.2%	-	-
Year-to-date	38,101	13,713	34,599	12,831	-9.2%	-6.4%	-	-

*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	3,389	13,287	42,399	29,616
October	3,438	13,325	40,336	36,099	3,439	13,521	47,203	31,237
November	3,320	12,238	37,391	32,810	-	-	-	-
December	2,820	11,917	54,298	37,473	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	9,602	38,646	143,305	111,337	9,631	39,749	157,339	99,164
Last 12 Months	37,954	141,273	587,615	469,974	38,232	150,856	626,001	413,502
Year-to-date	31,597	119,956	494,356	389,974	32,092	126,701	534,312	343,219

	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	1.4%	6.0%	17.9%	-12.0%
October	0.0%	1.5%	17.0%	-13.5%
November	-	-	-	-
December	-	-	-	-
Last 3 Months	0.3%	2.9%	9.8%	-10.9%
Last 12 Months	0.7%	6.8%	6.5%	-12.0%
Year-to-date	1.6%	5.6%	8.1%	-12.0%