

On-Time Performance

December 2023



**Table 10: Annual System Causes of Train Delays
2018 to 2023**

Cause Category	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022		2018-2022 Avg		2023	
	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%
Freight Interference - Total	1,514	14.8%	1,070	9.8%	555	11.8%	1,024	15.4%	891	11.2%	1,011	12.5%	805	8.2%
Freight Interference - Peak	556	5.4%	366	3.4%	208	4.4%	406	6.1%	361	4.5%	379	4.7%	281	2.9%
Primary	299	2.9%	232	2.1%	175	3.7%	324	4.9%	291	3.7%	264	3.3%	212	2.2%
Secondary	257	2.5%	134	1.2%	33	0.7%	82	1.2%	70	0.9%	115	1.4%	69	0.7%
Freight Interference - Off-Peak	958	9.4%	704	6.5%	347	7.4%	618	9.3%	530	6.6%	631	7.8%	524	5.3%
Primary	696	6.8%	485	4.5%	281	6.0%	490	7.4%	423	5.3%	475	5.9%	416	4.2%
Secondary	262	2.6%	219	2.0%	66	1.4%	128	1.9%	107	1.3%	156	1.9%	108	1.1%
Signal/Switch Failure - Total	1,565	15.3%	1,598	14.7%	612	13.0%	885	13.3%	1,278	16.0%	1,188	14.7%	1,260	12.8%
Signal/Switch Failure - Metra/PSA	1,228	12.0%	1,207	11.1%	472	10.0%	719	10.8%	1,095	13.7%	944	11.7%	999	10.2%
Primary	857	8.4%	825	7.6%	363	7.7%	569	8.6%	813	10.2%	685	8.5%	702	7.1%
Secondary	371	3.6%	382	3.5%	109	2.3%	150	2.3%	282	3.5%	259	3.2%	297	3.0%
Signal/Switch Failure - Foreign	337	3.3%	391	3.6%	140	3.0%	166	2.5%	183	2.3%	243	3.0%	261	2.7%
Primary	214	2.1%	273	2.5%	124	2.6%	147	2.2%	129	1.6%	177	2.2%	226	2.3%
Secondary	123	1.2%	118	1.1%	16	0.3%	19	0.3%	54	0.7%	66	0.8%	35	0.4%
Mechanical Failure - Total	1,403	13.7%	1,252	11.5%	426	9.1%	531	8.0%	797	10.0%	882	10.9%	917	9.3%
Mechanical Failure - Metra/PSA	1,363	13.3%	1,217	11.2%	405	8.6%	527	7.9%	785	9.8%	859	10.6%	887	9.0%
Non-Locomotive Equipment Issue - Metra/PSA	388	3.8%	357	3.3%	147	3.1%	153	2.3%	212	2.7%	251	3.1%	243	2.5%
Primary	178	1.7%	166	1.5%	86	1.8%	100	1.5%	137	1.7%	133	1.6%	145	1.5%
Secondary	210	2.1%	191	1.8%	61	1.3%	53	0.8%	75	0.9%	118	1.5%	98	1.0%
Locomotive Issue - Metra/PSA	975	9.5%	860	7.9%	258	5.5%	374	5.6%	573	7.2%	608	7.5%	644	6.5%
Primary	295	2.9%	285	2.6%	122	2.6%	176	2.7%	256	3.2%	227	2.8%	254	2.6%
Secondary	680	6.6%	575	5.3%	136	2.9%	198	3.0%	317	4.0%	381	4.7%	390	4.0%
Mechanical Failure - Foreign	40	0.4%	35	0.3%	21	0.4%	4	0.1%	12	0.2%	22	0.3%	30	0.3%
Passenger Train Interference - Total	222	2.2%	150	1.4%	39	0.8%	105	1.6%	119	1.5%	127	1.6%	409	4.2%
Passenger Train Interference - Metra/PSA	78	0.8%	41	0.4%	27	0.6%	75	1.1%	81	1.0%	60	0.7%	277	2.8%
Passenger Train Interference - Foreign	144	1.4%	109	1.0%	12	0.3%	30	0.5%	38	0.5%	67	0.8%	132	1.3%
Accident - Total	407	4.0%	591	5.4%	229	4.9%	343	5.2%	679	8.5%	450	5.6%	680	6.9%
Accident - Metra/PSA	371	3.6%	391	3.6%	198	4.2%	284	4.3%	597	7.5%	368	4.6%	458	4.7%
Accident - Foreign	36	0.4%	200	1.8%	31	0.7%	59	0.9%	82	1.0%	82	1.0%	222	2.3%
Track Work - Total	775	7.6%	851	7.8%	416	8.8%	567	8.6%	655	8.2%	653	8.1%	1,062	10.8%
Track Work - Metra/PSA	770	7.5%	834	7.7%	390	8.3%	536	8.1%	610	7.7%	628	7.8%	970	9.9%
Track Work - Foreign	5	0.0%	17	0.2%	26	0.6%	31	0.5%	45	0.6%	25	0.3%	92	0.9%
Human Error - Total	904	8.8%	1,068	9.8%	481	10.2%	596	9.0%	637	8.0%	737	9.1%	847	8.6%
Human Error - Metra/PSA	635	6.2%	684	6.3%	396	8.4%	407	6.1%	396	5.0%	504	6.2%	494	5.0%
Human Error - Foreign	269	2.6%	384	3.5%	85	1.8%	189	2.9%	241	3.0%	234	2.9%	353	3.6%
PTC Related - Total	289	2.8%	665	6.1%	400	8.5%	499	7.5%	580	7.3%	487	6.0%	604	6.1%
PTC Related - Metra/PSA	289	2.8%	643	5.9%	349	7.4%	411	6.2%	491	6.2%	437	5.4%	498	5.1%
PTC Related - Foreign	-	0.0%	22	0.2%	51	1.1%	88	1.3%	89	1.1%	50	0.6%	106	1.1%
Weather - Total	1,054	10.3%	1,676	15.4%	541	11.5%	842	12.7%	775	9.7%	978	12.1%	860	8.7%
Weather - Metra/PSA	1,050	10.3%	1,670	15.3%	538	11.4%	797	12.0%	772	9.7%	965	11.9%	853	8.7%
Weather - Foreign	4	0.0%	6	0.1%	3	0.1%	45	0.7%	3	0.0%	12	0.2%	7	0.1%
Passenger Related - Total	1,307	12.8%	1,122	10.3%	344	7.3%	564	8.5%	648	8.1%	797	9.9%	1,077	11.0%
Obstruction/Debris - Total	699	6.8%	791	7.3%	569	12.1%	556	8.4%	715	9.0%	666	8.2%	1,128	11.5%
Catenary Failure - Total	77	0.8%	20	0.2%	47	1.0%	50	0.8%	81	1.0%	55	0.7%	64	0.7%
Other - Total	25	0.2%	37	0.3%	46	1.0%	68	1.0%	115	1.4%	58	0.7%	120	1.2%
Total Trains Delayed	10,241	100.0%	10,891	100.0%	4,705	100.0%	6,630	100.0%	7,970	100.0%	8,087	100.0%	9,833	100.0%
Total Metra/PSA Delays	7,892	77.1%	8,652	79.4%	3,781	80.4%	4,994	75.3%	6,386	80.1%	6,341	78.4%	7,823	79.6%
Total Foreign Carrier Delays	2,349	22.9%	2,239	20.6%	924	19.6%	1,636	24.7%	1,584	19.9%	1,746	21.6%	2,010	20.4%

Data for current month is final (01/17/2024) version of TOPS

'Metra/PSA' refers to delays that may be directly or indirectly attributed to Metra or Metra Purchase of Service Agreement partners (BNSF and UP) in commuter rail operation.

'Foreign' refers to delays that may be directly or indirectly attributed to other carriers, including freight carriers, Amtrak, and NICTD, that affect Metra trains. 'Foreign' also includes delays attributable to BNSF and Union Pacific freight operations.

Effective January 2020, Metra has updated the delay cause categories in this table; totals by cause category for prior years may not match what was previously reported.