OVERVIEW

This report provides annual ridership summaries for CTA, Metra, and Pace. The data contained within this report was culled from CTA Open Data, the National Transit Database (NTD), and from submissions from each Service Board to the RTA, as noted. 2016 ridership for each agency is shown by day type, rail line, and by groupings of bus routes or service types.

Total RTA system ridership in 2016 was 612.2 million, down 3.2% compared to 2015. Each Service Board experienced ridership declines in 2016.

Additional ridership detail is available at RTA’s RTAMS website www.RTAMS.org and the Plans & Programs page of RTA’s website www.rtaChicago.org provides annual performance reports for the RTA Service Boards as well as companion peer performance reviews.
CTA

CTA system-wide ridership in 2016 totaled 497.7 million boardings. CTA bus experienced its fourth year of decreased ridership, down 5.6% from 2015, comprising 52% of CTA ridership. CTA rail had its first decline in three years, down 1.3%, comprising 48% of CTA ridership.

Ridership for each day type was down in 2016 compared to the prior year, with bus ridership seeing steeper decline rates than rail for each category. Weekday travel was down 5.4% for bus, while rail weekday travel was down 1.0%. Sunday/holiday trips saw the steepest decline at 6.9% for bus and 3.9% for rail. Over the past ten years, CTA ridership is down 0.4%; bus ridership has decreased 16.2% while rail has increased 25.4%.


Data source: CTA Open Data, Dataset #20
In 2016, CTA annual bus ridership was down 5.2% to a system-wide total of 257.9 million boardings. The majority of route groups saw declines in ridership.

Data source: CTA Open Data, Dataset #1
CTA RAIL

CTA rail station entries decreased 1.3% in 2016 to a total of 195.6 million. The Brown Line saw an increase, while each other line experienced a decrease. The Yellow Line, closed for nearly half of 2015, is excluded from the year to year comparison.

Data source: CTA Open Data, Dataset #2

CTA RAIL STATION ENTRIES BY LINE, 2016

Data source: CTA Open Data, Dataset #2

ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE IN CTA RAIL STATION ENTRIES BY LINE, 2016
Metra experienced its second year of decreased ridership, down 1.6% to a system-wide total of 80.3 million rides.

Over the past ten years, Metra system-wide ridership has decreased 3.6%, from 83.3 million. Weekday peak period travel was up 0.3% in 2016, while weekday off-peak and weekend service saw ridership declines.

*Data source: RTAMS*
The BNSF continues to be Metra’s most-used line; with 16.3 million trips, the BNSF provides over 20% of Metra’s total trips. The UP-West Line was the only line to see a ridership increase in 2016, up 0.1% compared to 2015.

Data source: RTAMS

ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE IN METRA RIDERSHIP BY LINE, 2016

Data source: RTAMS
**PACE BUS**

At 28.4 million, Pace fixed-route bus ridership was down 5.7% compared to 2015, its third year of decreased ridership. Weekend ridership saw significant increases in 2016; Sunday/holiday ridership increased 10.7% and Saturday ridership; increased 3.0%, while weekday boardings decreased 5.0%.

*Data source: National Transit Database*

**PACE BUS ANNUAL RIDERSHIP**

*Data source: RTAMS*

**ANNUAL CHANGE IN PACE BUS RIDERSHIP BY DAY, 2016**
PACE BUS

Express Service and Seasonal are new bus service categories introduced in 2016, so no year-over-year change is shown.

**Data source:** RTAMS

ANNUAL PACE BUS RIDERSHIP BY SERVICE TYPE, 2016
(MILLIONS)

ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE IN PACE BUS RIDERSHIP BY SERVICE TYPE, 2016
PACE, OTHER SERVICES

Other Pace services include: Taxi Access Program, ADA Paratransit, Vanpool, and Dial-a-Ride. Together, they add another 6.9 million trips to Pace’s total ridership. Taxi Access Program ridership grew in 2016, while each other service type experienced ridership losses.

Data source: RTAMS

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**ANNUAL PACE RIDERSHIP, OTHER SERVICES, 2016 (MILLIONS)**

- Taxi Access Program
- Dial-a-Ride
- Vanpool
- ADA Paratransit

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**ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE IN OTHER PACE SERVICE RIDERSHIP, 2016**

- Taxi Access Program
- ADA Paratransit
- Dial-a-Ride
- Vanpool