

# Metro Ridership Snapshot



**January 2026**

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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Note: Percentage changes in this document represent year-over-year changes in ridership, compared to the same time, location, and day type **one year ago** unless noted as 'pre-pandemic' which then represents a comparison to the same month from March 2019 - February 2020. For more details, see [How to Use and Interpret Metro Ridership Data](#).

Metro Bus ridership shown here is from Metro's automatic passenger counters (APCs), in both current and baseline months. Metro Rail ridership show here is total (tap and no-tap) ridership recorded through faregates. Metro Access Network ridership refers to the combined ridership from Metro-operated paratransit service as well as from the Abilities-Ride program which launched in September 2020. Parking transactions are from the farebox system.

# Overall Ridership in January

## Total Ridership

- Compared to January 2025, total monthly ridership stayed the same overall, increased 5% on weekdays, and decreased 7% on Saturdays and 17% on Sundays.

## Rail

- Compared to January 2025, ridership increased by 7% overall, 13% on weekdays, and decreased 2% on Saturdays and 17% on Sundays.

## Bus

- Ridership decreased 8% overall, 4% on weekdays, 13% on Saturdays, and 20% on Sundays compared to January 2025.

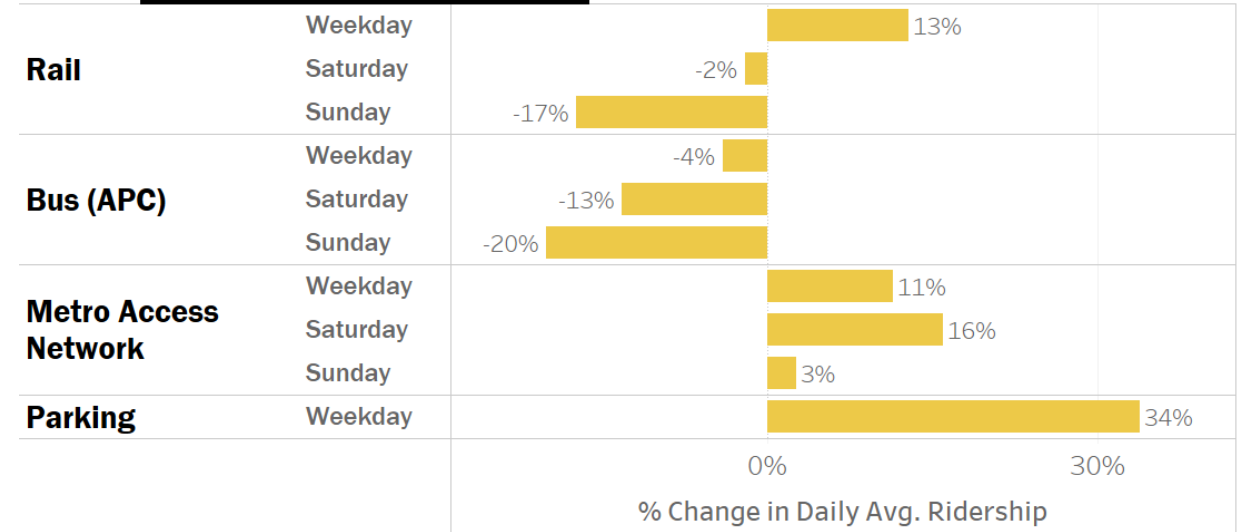
## Metro Access

- Compared to January 2025, ridership increased by 9% overall, 11% on weekdays, 16% on Saturdays, and 3% on Sundays.

## Parking

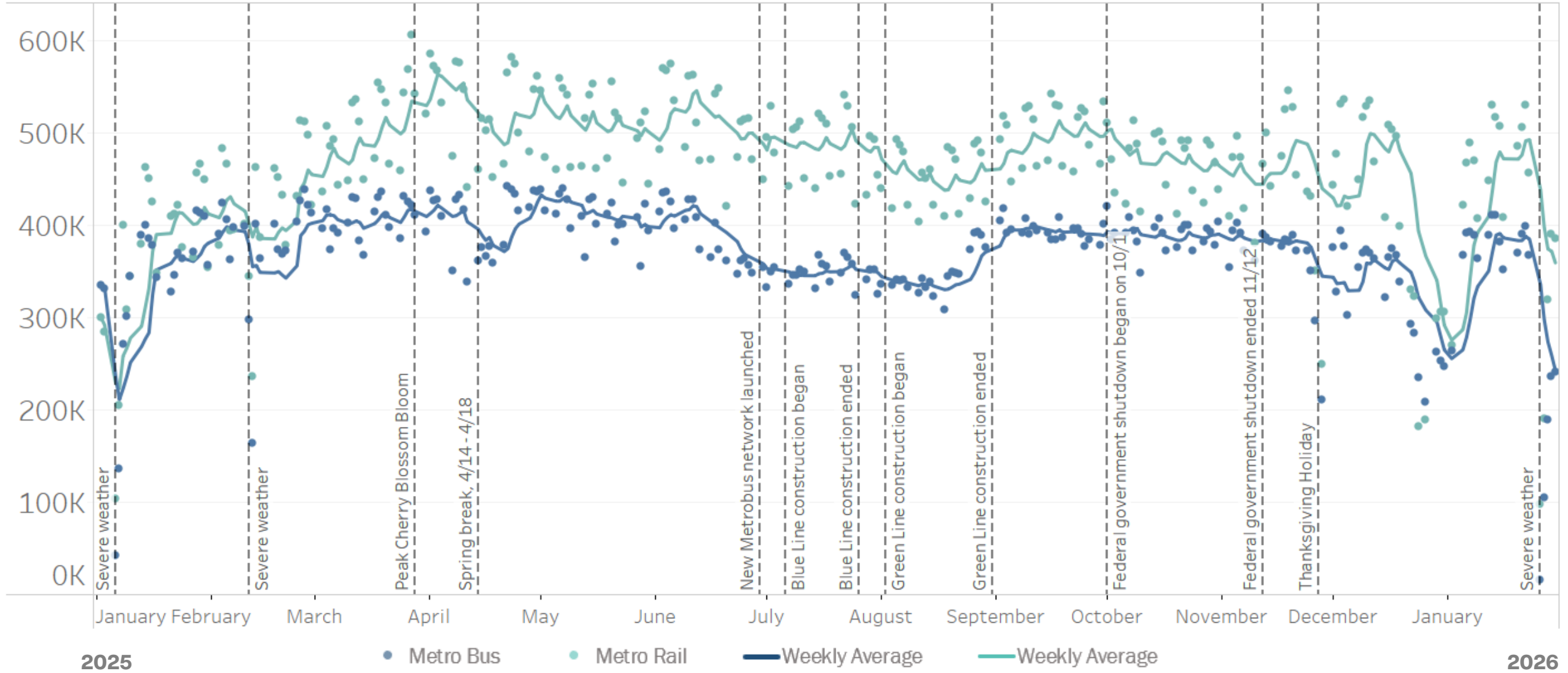
- Paid parking transactions have increased by 34% compared to January 2025.

### vs. January 2025



January 2026 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Total Ridership
<b>Rail</b>	415,100	225,800	151,100	10,035,000
<b>Bus (APC)</b>	321,500	191,200	139,800	7,946,000
<b>Metro Access Network</b>	8,900	4,500	3,400	480,000
<b>Parking</b>	23,800			214,000

# Ridership Trends Over the Past Year



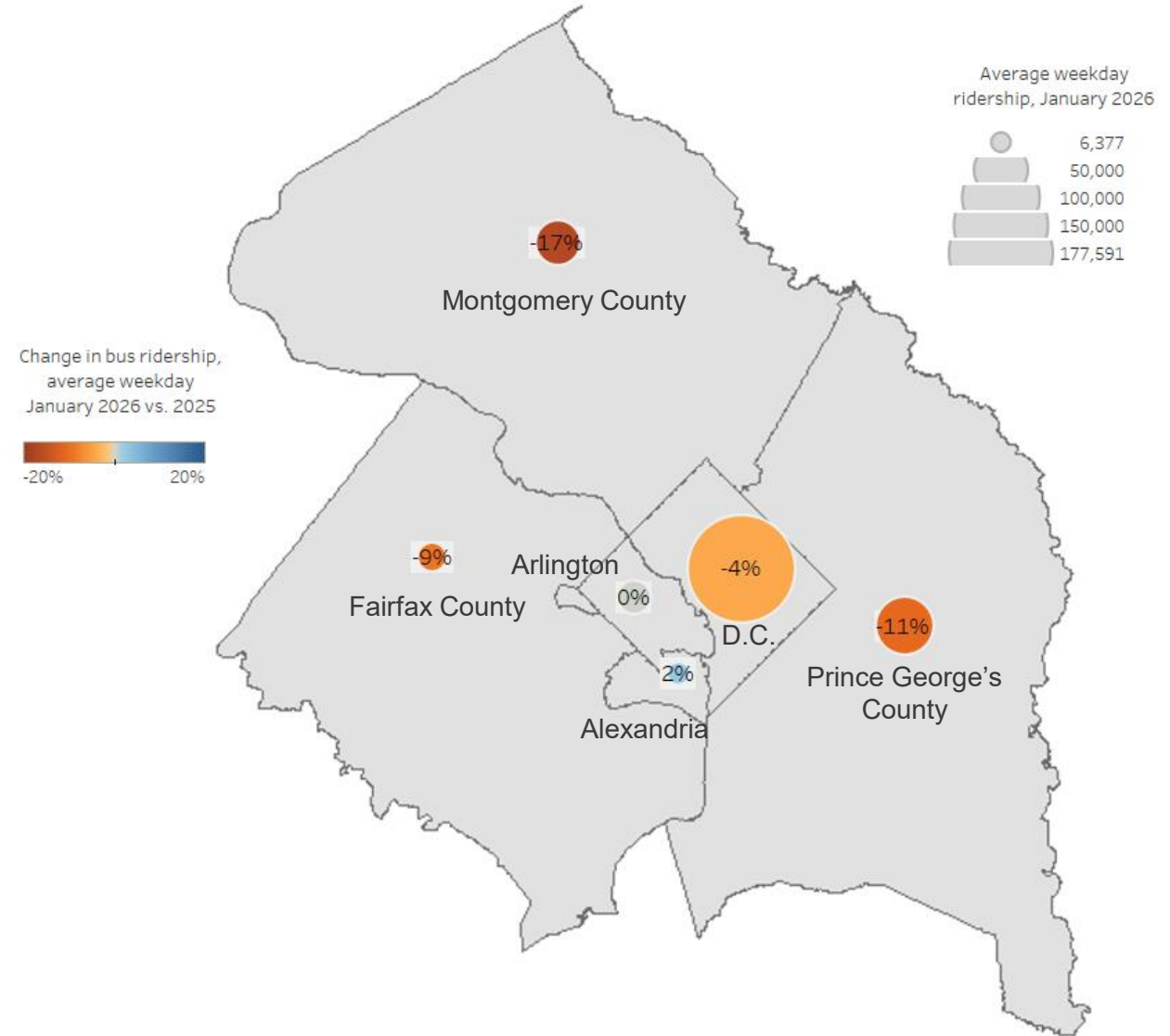


# Metro Bus Ridership

- In January 2026, average daily Metro Bus ridership was 321,500 rides on weekdays, 191,000 on Saturdays, and 140,000 on Sundays.
- In January 2026, ridership decreased 8% overall, 4% on weekdays, 13% on Saturdays, and 20% on Sundays compared to January 2025.
- About 3% of customer time was crowded on average with most crowding occurring on weekdays.

## Notes:

- Due to severe winter weather conditions, Metro Bus service was suspended on 1/25 and resumed operations with extremely limited service on 1/26 until conditions improved on 1/29.
- In 2025, winter weather disrupted bus service 1/6-1/8.
- There were approximately 19,000 total shuttle rides made in January 2026, serving customers on:
  - Green Line service between Greenbelt and Fort Totten stations from 1/10 – 1/11.
  - Red Line customers going to and from Silver Spring station from 1/17-1/18.
- The [Better Bus Network Redesign \(BBNR\)](#) launched on 6/29/2025, a comprehensive overhaul of the entire Metro Bus network. Because all routes were changed, the graphic on the right now shows year-over-year change in ridership by jurisdiction.

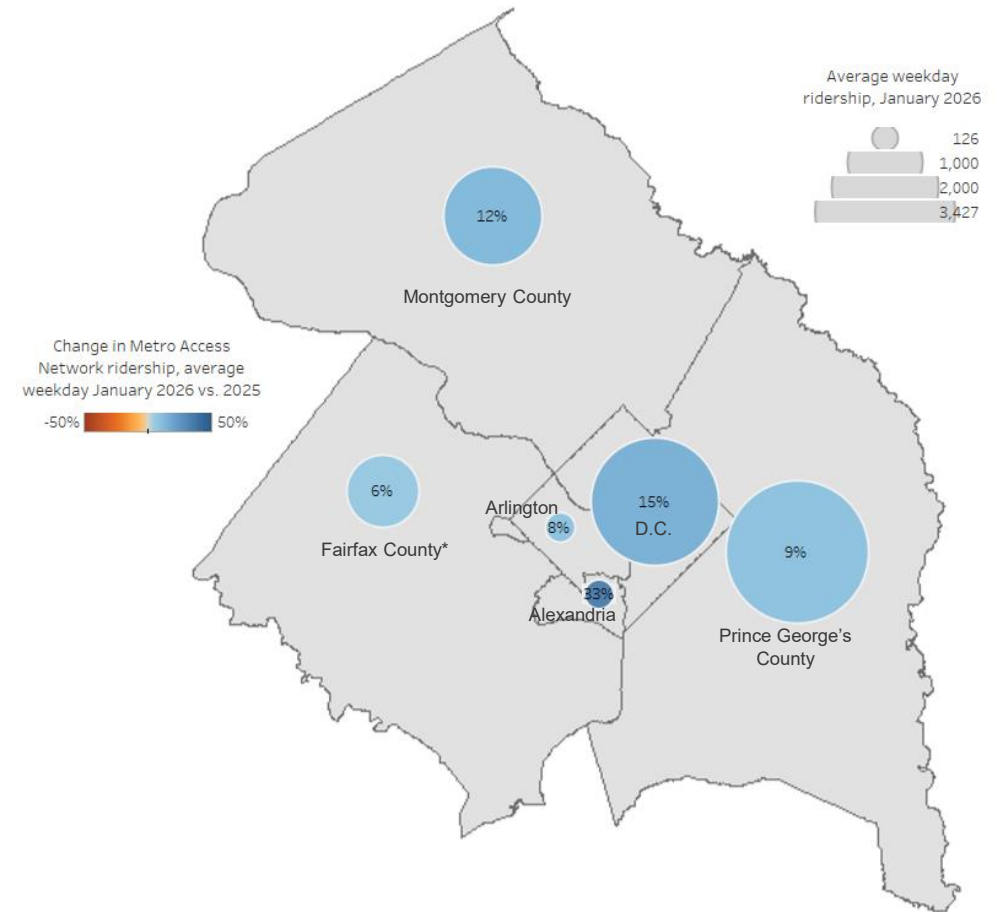


# Metro Access Network Ridership

- In January 2026, the Metro Access network provided on average 8,900 rides on weekdays, 4,500 on Saturdays, and 3,400 on Sundays.
  - Metro Access paratransit service provided on average 2,700 rides on weekdays, 1,100 rides on Saturdays, and 800 rides on Sundays.
  - Abilities Ride provider received requests for an average of 6,200 rides per weekday, 3,400 rides per Saturday, and 2,500 rides per Sunday.
- Metro Access network ridership is up 9% overall, 11% on weekdays, 16% on Saturdays, and 3% on Sundays compared to January 2025.
  - Metro Access paratransit service ridership is down 7% on weekdays, 12% on Saturdays, and 18% on Sundays.
  - Abilities Ride ridership is up 22% on weekdays, 29% on Saturdays, and 12% on Sundays.

## Notes:

- Due to severe winter weather, Metro Access served only medically essential trips from 1/25-1/26, and door-to-door service was not always possible to deliver in the following days.
- The Metro Access network comprises rides made via our paratransit service, Metro Access, as well as rides requested through the Abilities Ride program which is a curb-to-curb transportation option for Metro Access-enrolled customers who opt in and is operated by local taxi companies and transportation network companies.
- Metro Access-eligible customers' rail and bus rides are counted in overall rail and bus ridership.



January 2026 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>Metro Access</b>	2,700	1,100	800
<b>Abilities Ride</b>	6,200	3,400	2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,900</b>	<b>4,500</b>	<b>3,400</b>

\*Fairfax City and Falls Church are counted here as a part of Fairfax County

