

Metro Ridership Snapshot

August 2023



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 four years ago. For more details, see [How to Use and Interpret Metro Ridership Data](#).

Bus ridership shown here is from Metro’s automatic passenger counters (APCs), in both current and baseline months. Beginning September 2023, Metro shifted the method for processing APC data that is shown in this report. All historical data was reprocessed, and reports going back to July 2023 have been restated with the updated data. For Metrorail ridership, prior to January 2023, Metro reported only tap ridership, which understated the total number of riders. The completion of the installation of new faregates in January 2023 enabled Metro to report total (tap and non-tap) ridership. Both tap and total ridership is presented here, however year-over-year comparisons on rail are made with tap only ridership. Parking utilization is from the farebox system.



Overall Ridership in August

Rail

- Ridership increased 31% compared to August 2022 on weekdays and by 36-37% on weekends.

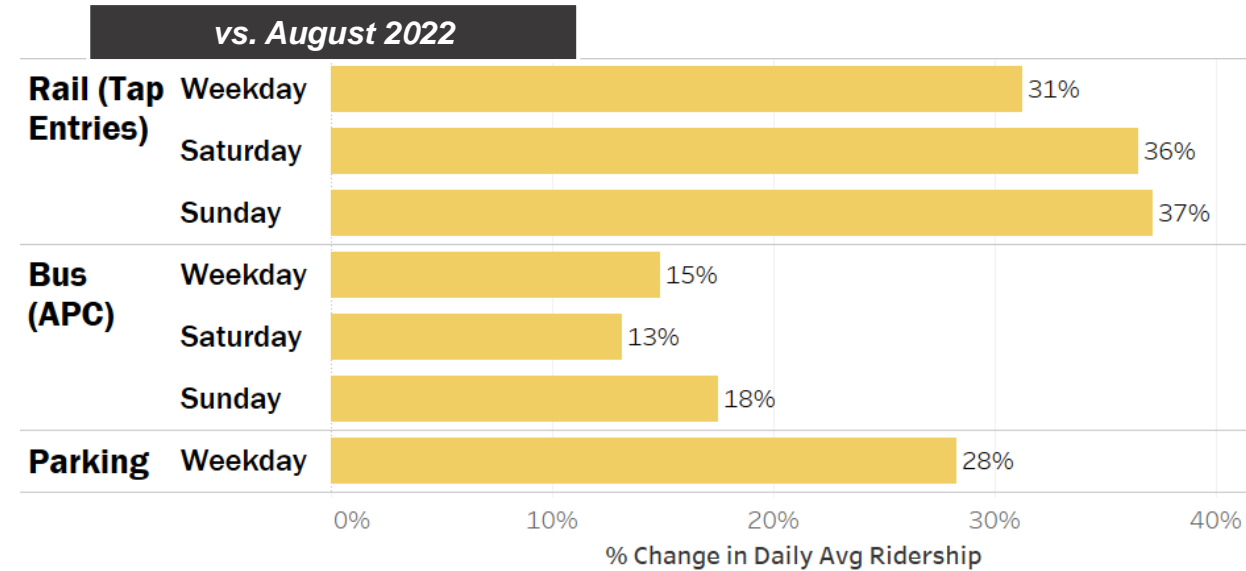
Bus

- Ridership has increased by 15% on weekdays and 13% on Saturdays compared to August 2022, with the highest increase on Sundays at 18%.

Parking

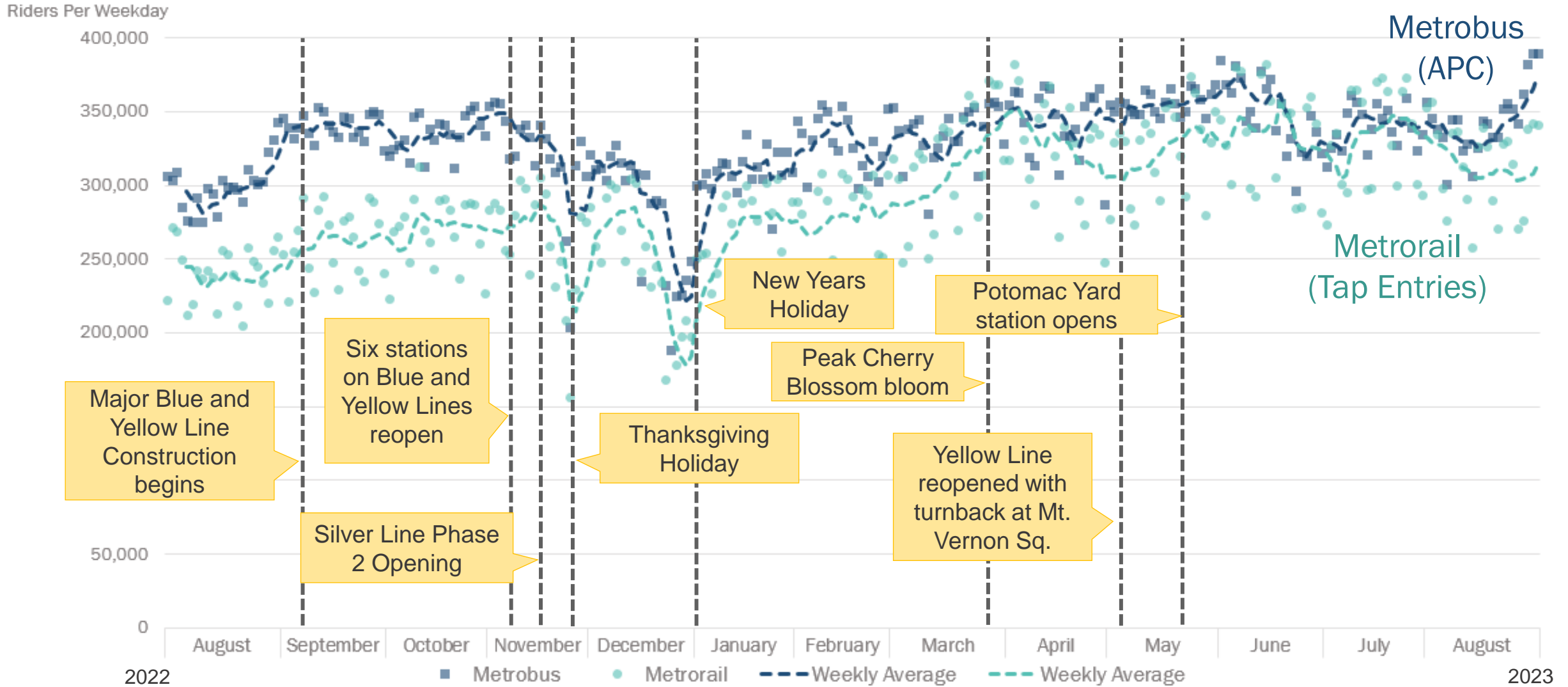
- Usage has increased by 28% compared to August 2022.

Rail ridership remained stable over the month; bus ridership grew steadily throughout the month. Both bus and rail saw the most year-over-year ridership growth on Sundays.



August 2023 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Rail (Tap Entries)	315,000	214,000	153,000
Rail (Total Entries)	353,000	245,000	180,000
Bus (APC)	345,000	236,000	193,000
Parking	16,000		
MetroAccess	4,800	2,300	1,900

Ridership Trends Over the Past Year



Silver Line Phase 2 Opening

Ridership

- Compared to July 2023, average weekday tap ridership in August 2023 is down 2% and average weekend ridership is down 3% in line with systemwide seasonal trends.

Parking

- In August 2023, the most popular stations for weekday parking among Silver Line Phase II stations were Wiehle and Ashburn, both at 20% utilization (utilization = average daily transactions / parking capacity)
 - Loudoun Gateway – 8% utilization
 - Herndon – 6% utilization

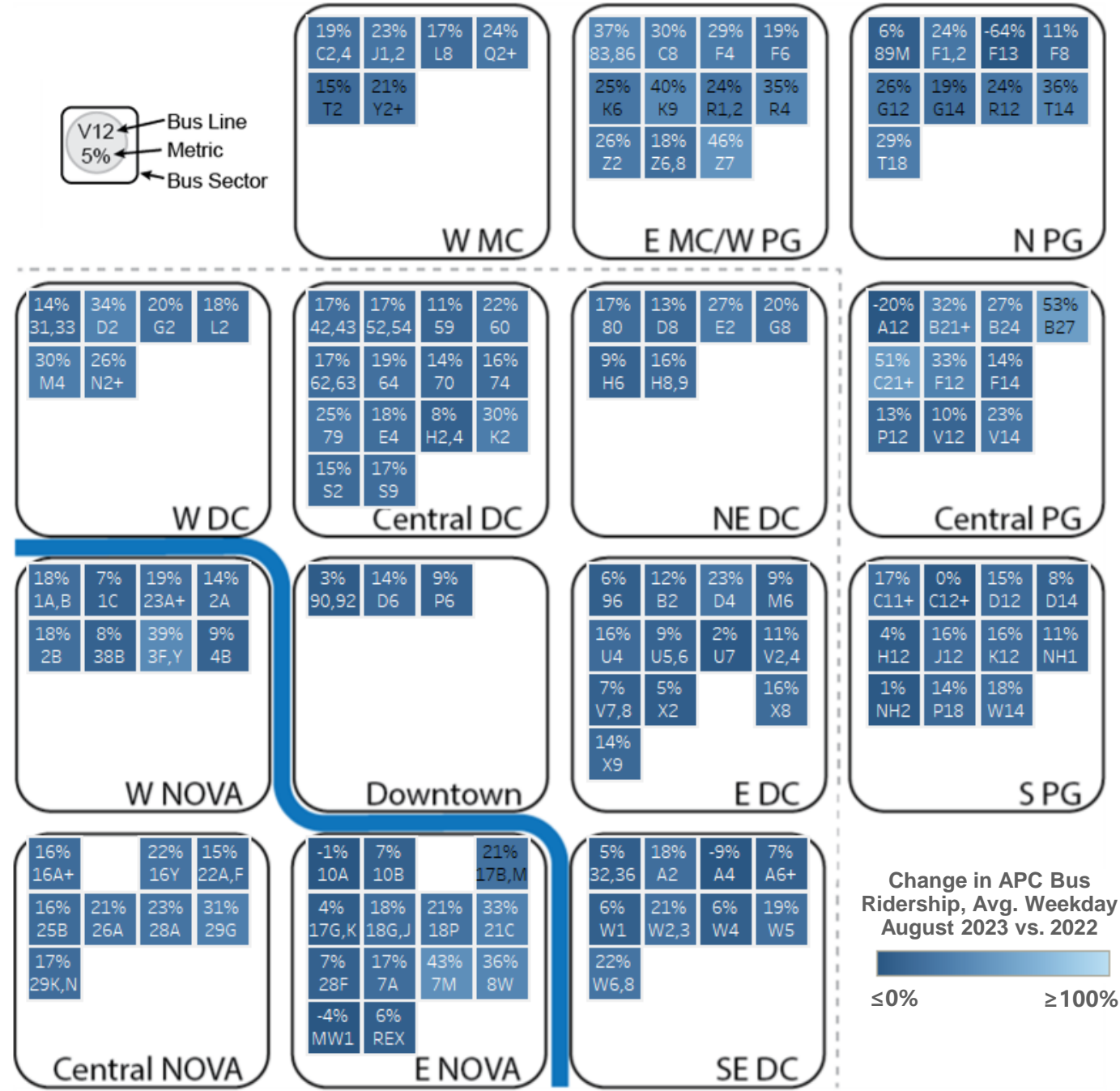
SVII Average Weekday Ridership (Tap Entries) August 2023



August 2023 SVII Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Rail (Tap Entries)	5,800	4,600	4,000
Parking	700		

Metrobus Ridership

- Ridership is up about 15% on weekdays, 13% on Saturdays, and 18% on Sundays compared to August 2022.
- About 3% of stop events were above crowding thresholds with more crowding on weekdays and Saturdays.
- There were approximately 259,000 total shuttle rides made in August 2023, with 8,300 average daily weekday rides. Shuttle rides are not counted in total bus ridership.
- Notes:
 - In August 2022, bus service levels were around 93% of pre-Covid levels on weekdays, 110-125% on weekends. Current bus service levels are 101% of pre-Covid levels on weekdays, 117-133% on weekends.



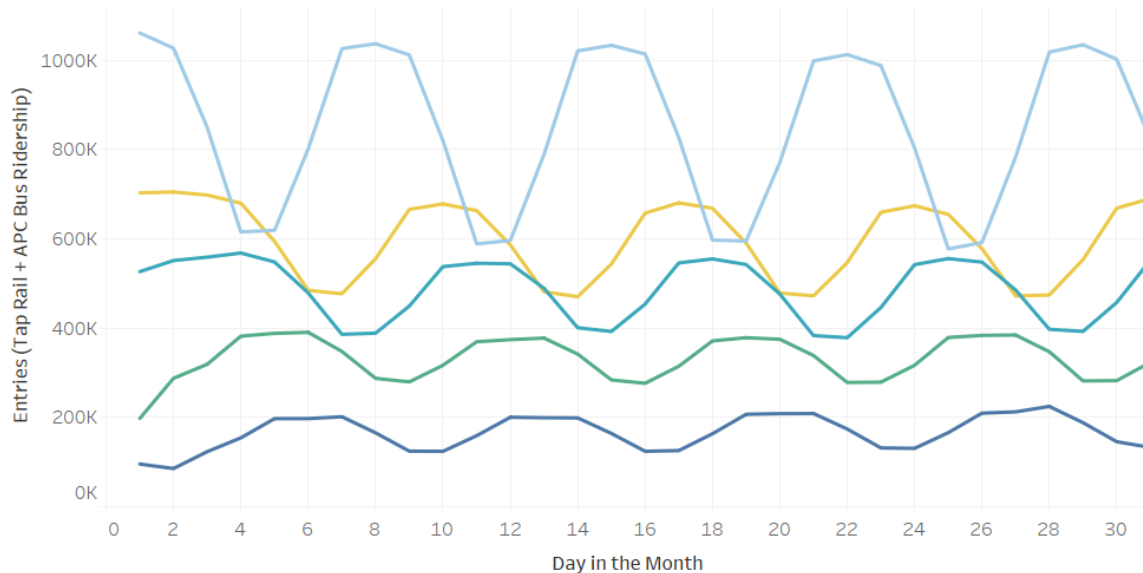
For more nuanced bus line information, additional data can be found on the [WMATA Ridership Data Portal](#). Bus ridership based on Automatic Passenger Counter data.

Pre-Pandemic Ridership Comparison

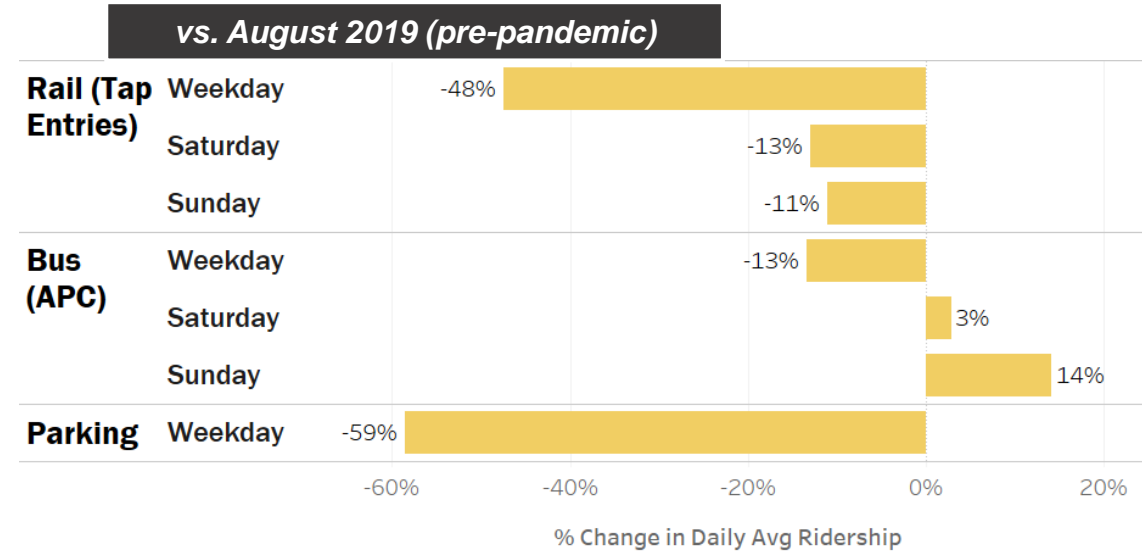
Current vs. pre-pandemic levels (August 2023 vs. August 2019):

- **Rail** tap ridership was at about 50% of pre-pandemic levels on weekdays, 87% of pre-pandemic levels on Saturdays, and 89% of pre-pandemic levels on Sundays.
- **Bus** ridership was at 87% of pre-pandemic levels on weekdays, 3% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Saturdays, and 14% above pre-pandemic levels on Sundays.
- **Parking** usage was at about 40% of pre-pandemic levels.

August Ridership over the Past Five Years



2-Day Rolling Average
 ■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023



August 2019 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Rail (Tap Entries)	601,000	246,000	172,000
Bus (APC)	398,000	230,000	169,000
Parking	38,000		
MetroAccess	8,100	2,800	2,500