

Metro Ridership Snapshot

December 2024



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 five 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 October 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. As of January 2024, year-over-year and pre-pandemic comparisons on rail are made with total ridership. Prior to January 2024, these comparisons were made using tap-only ridership. Parking utilization is from the farebox system.



Overall Ridership in December

Total Ridership

- Compared to December 2023, ridership increased by 9% overall, 7% on weekdays, 4% on Saturdays, and 16% on Sundays.

Rail

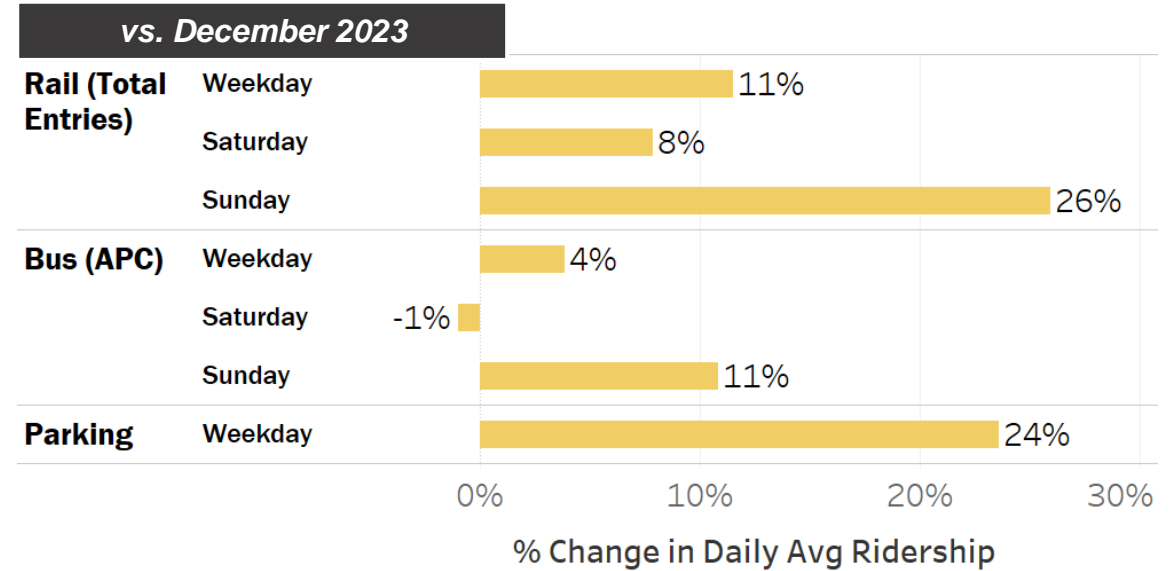
- Compared to December 2023, ridership increased by 14% overall, 11% on weekdays, 8% on Saturdays, and 26% on Sundays.

Bus

- Ridership has increased 5% overall, 4% on weekdays, 11% on Sundays, and decreased 1% on Saturdays compared to December 2023.

Parking

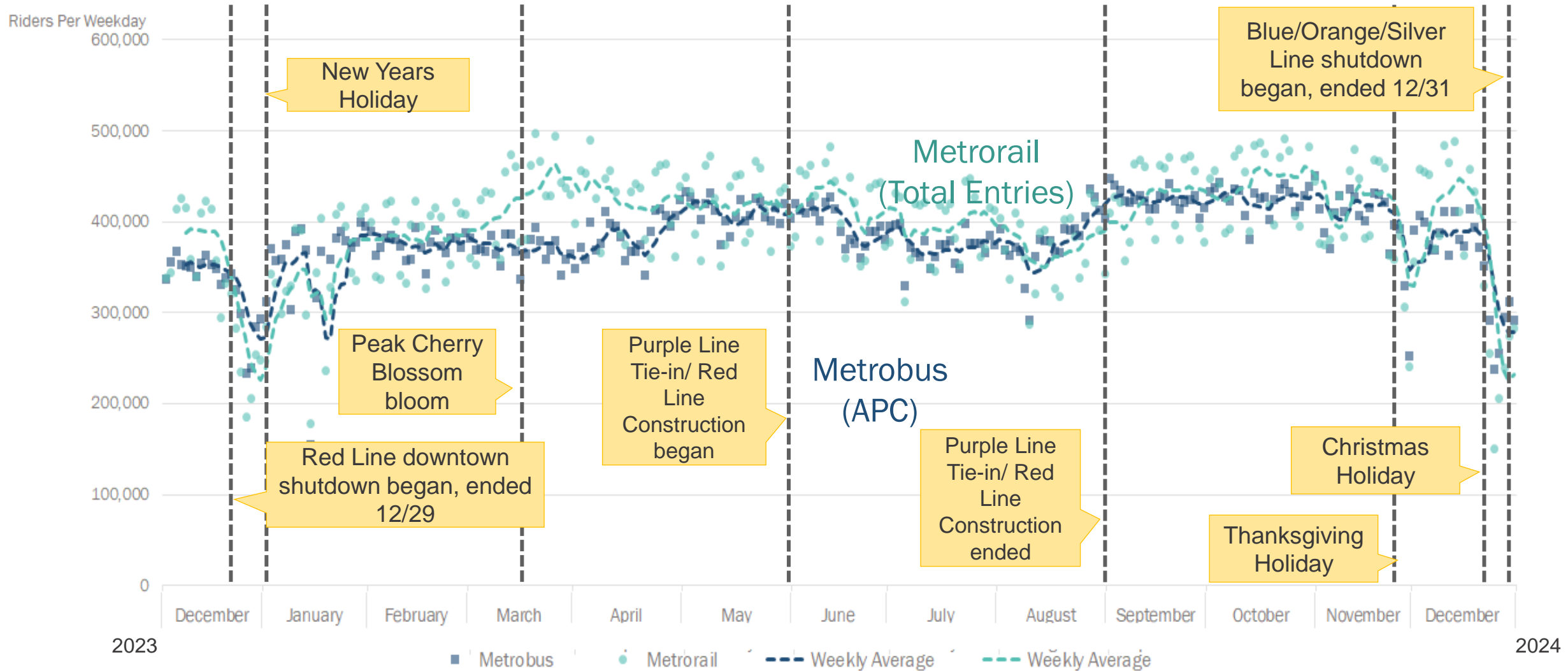
- Usage has increased by 24% compared to December 2023.



December 2024 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Total Ridership
Rail (Tap Entries)	352,000	239,000	178,000	9,300,000
Rail (Total Entries)	369,000	250,000	188,000	9,746,000
Bus (APC)	360,000	224,000	179,000	9,469,000
Parking	19,000			396,000
MetroAccess	2,900	1,400	1,200	74,000

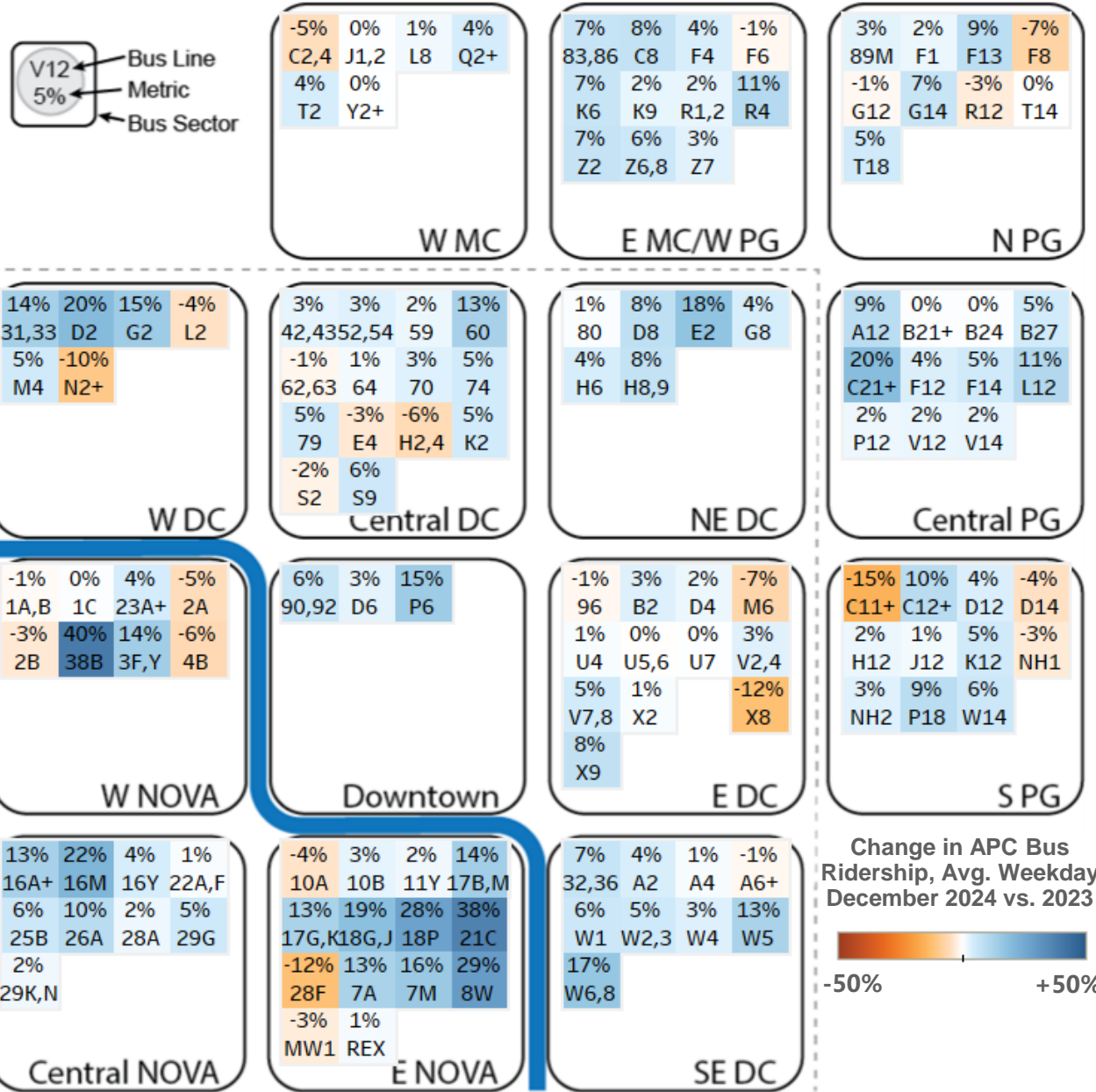


Ridership Trends Over the Past Year



Metrobus Ridership

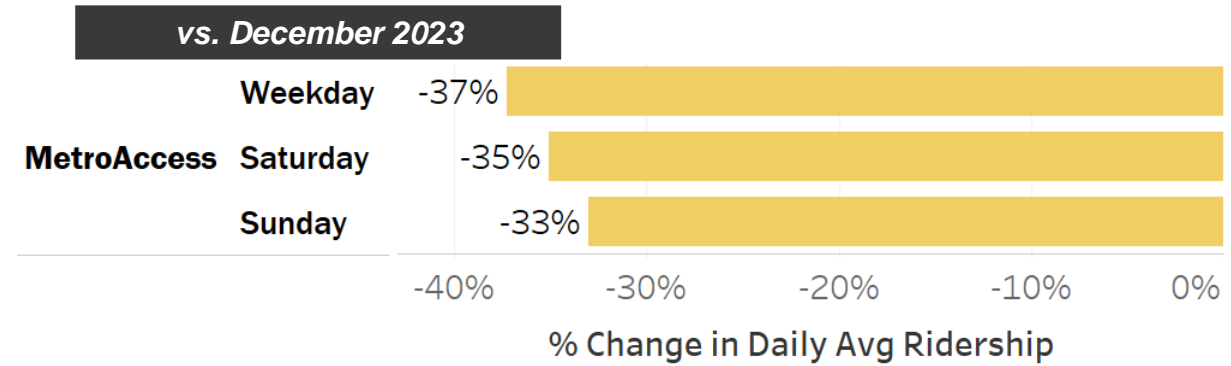
- Metrobus ridership has increased 5% overall, 4% on weekdays, 11% on Sundays, and decreased 1% on Saturdays, compared to December 2023.
- About 3% of stop events were above crowding thresholds with more crowding on weekdays.
- There were approximately 194,000 total shuttle rides made in December 2024, serving customers on:
 - Blue, Orange, Silver Line service between Potomac Avenue, Stadium-Armory, Benning Road, Minnesota Ave., Deanwood, and Capitol Heights for 12/7-12/8.
 - Blue, Orange, Silver Line service between Farragut West and the lower level (Blue, Orange, Silver service) at Metro Center for 12/20-12/26.
 - Blue, Orange, Silver Line service extended between Farragut West and the lower level of L'Enfant Plaza (Blue, Orange, Silver service) for 12/27-12/30.



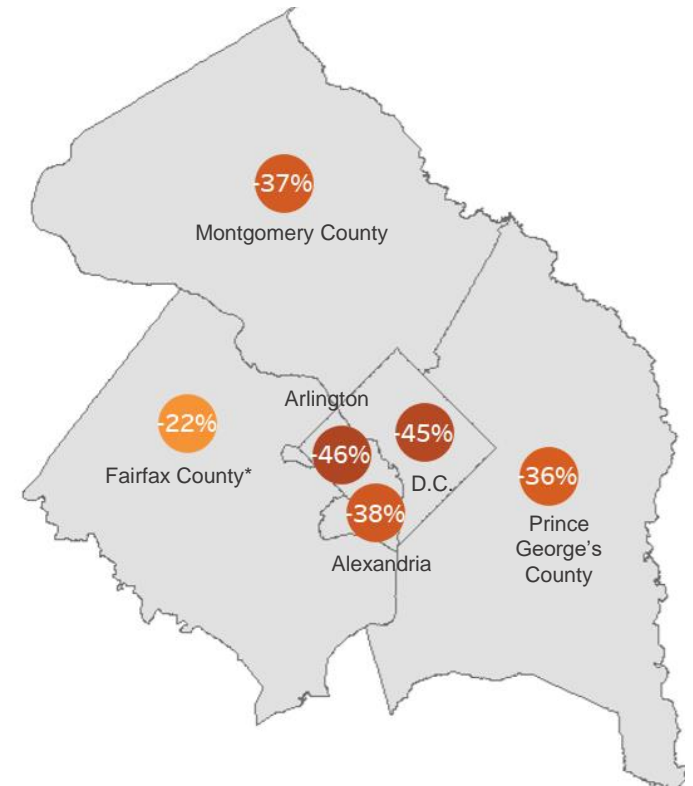
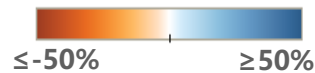
For more nuanced bus line information, additional data can be found on the [WMATA Ridership Data Portal](#). Bus ridership based on Automatic Passenger Counter data.

MetroAccess Ridership

- In December 2024, MetroAccess provided on average 2,900 paratransit rides on weekdays, 1,400 on Saturdays, and 1,200 on Sundays.
- Ridership is down 37% on weekdays, 35% on Saturdays, and 33% on Sundays compared to December 2023.
- Notes:
 - This slide shows only rides made via our paratransit service. Trips provided through our Abilities-Ride program are not reflected in these numbers. Metro Access-eligible customers' rail and bus rides are counted in overall rail and bus ridership.



Change in MetroAccess Ridership, Avg. Weekday December 2024 vs. 2023



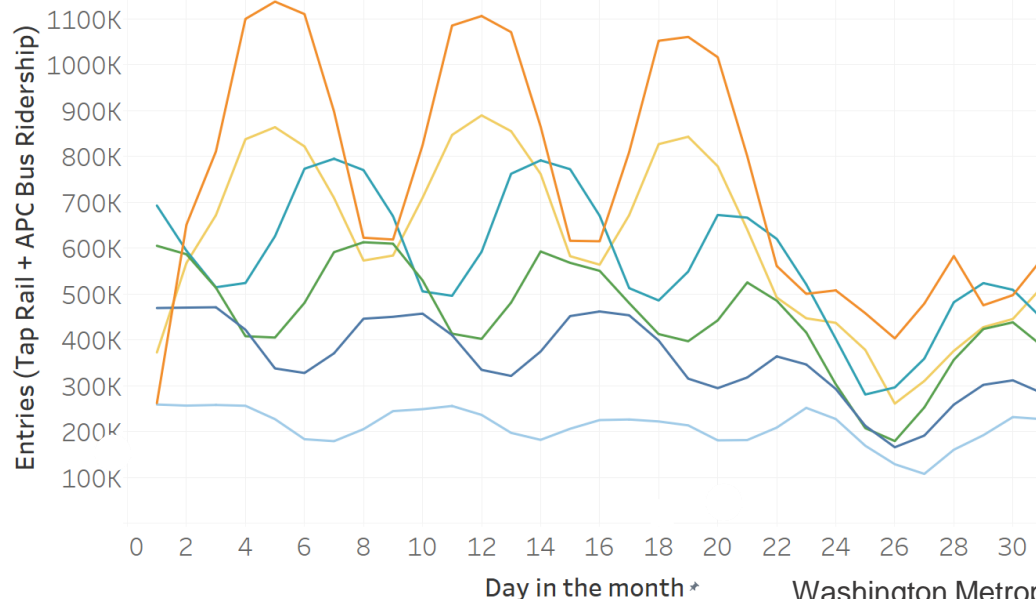
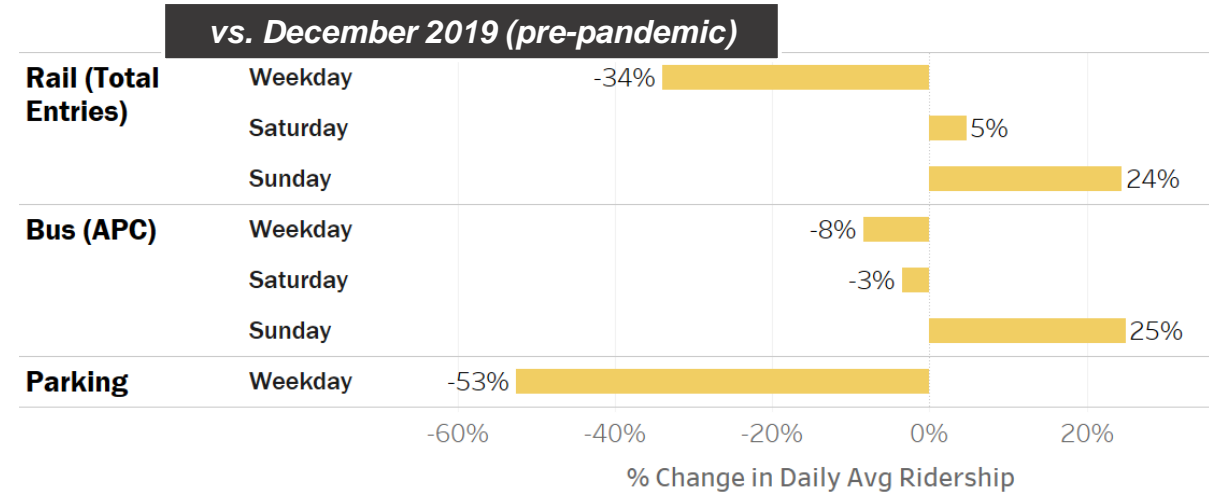
*Fairfax City and Falls Church are counted here as a part of Fairfax County



Pre-Pandemic Ridership Comparison

Current vs. pre-pandemic levels (December 2024 vs. December 2019):

- **Total** ridership was at 82% of pre-pandemic ridership overall, 76% of pre-pandemic levels on weekdays, 1% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Saturdays, and 24% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Sundays.
- **Rail** ridership was at 72% of pre-pandemic ridership overall, 66% of pre-pandemic levels on weekdays, 5% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Saturdays, and 24% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Sundays.
- **Bus** ridership was 95% of pre-pandemic ridership overall, at 92% of pre-pandemic levels on weekdays, 97% of pre-pandemic levels on Saturdays, and 25% *above* pre-pandemic levels on Sundays.
- **Parking** usage was at about 47% of pre-pandemic levels.



December 2019 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Total Ridership
Rail (Total Entries)	559,000	239,000	151,000	13,508,000
Bus (APC)	392,000	232,000	144,000	10,001,000
Parking	39,000			828,000
MetroAccess	7,000	2,800	2,600	173,000

