

Metro Ridership Snapshot

August 2020



Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

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Note: Bus ridership data shown in this report for August 2020 is based on raw data from Automatic Passenger Counters installed on both front and rear doors. The data is partially processed and is preliminary. Bus ridership data shown on the Online Ridership Data Portal on WMATA's website is based on the farebox system, which is very low during rear-door boarding and waived fares.

More ridership data related to COVID-19 is available on www.wmata.com/covidstats

Note: all percentage changes in this document represent year-over-year changes in farebox-based ridership, compared to the same time, location, and day type last year. For more details, see [How to Use and Interpret Metro Ridership Data](#)

Overall Ridership in August

- **Severe impacts from COVID-19**

- Ridership rising steadily since spring

- **Rail**

- 88% lower than last year
- Stations closed due to Platform project
- Rail service increased on August 16 to approximately 90% of pre-COVID levels

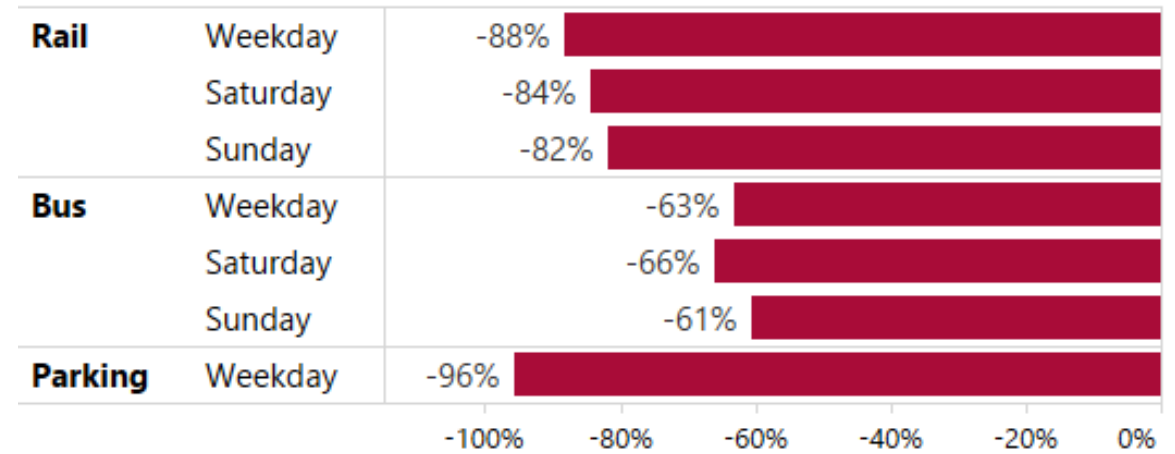
- **Bus**

- Bus service increased on August 23 to approximately 75% of pre-COVID levels
- Fares waived, rear-door boarding
- Very low farebox interactions; operator-logged boardings only
- *Note: This report shows preliminary bus APC data; online portal shows farebox data*

- **Parking**

- Paid parking reinstated mid-August

August 2020 Change in Ridership



vs. August 2019

August 2020 Averages	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Rail	71,000	39,000	31,000
Bus	131,000	78,000	67,000
Parking	2,000		



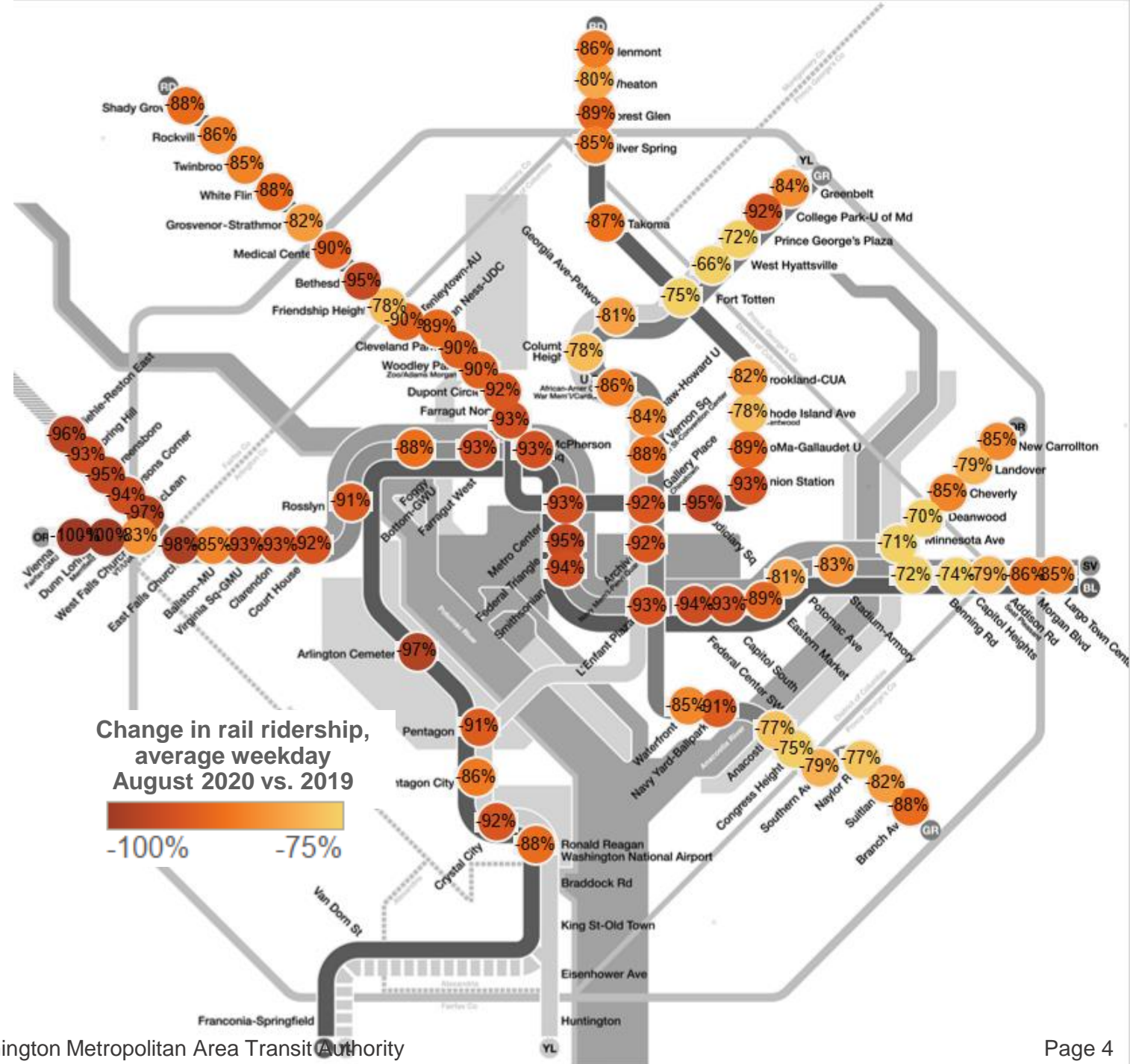
Metrorail Ridership

- Ridership significantly lower than last year due to COVID-19

- Ridership retention correlated to pre-COVID levels of low-income ridership

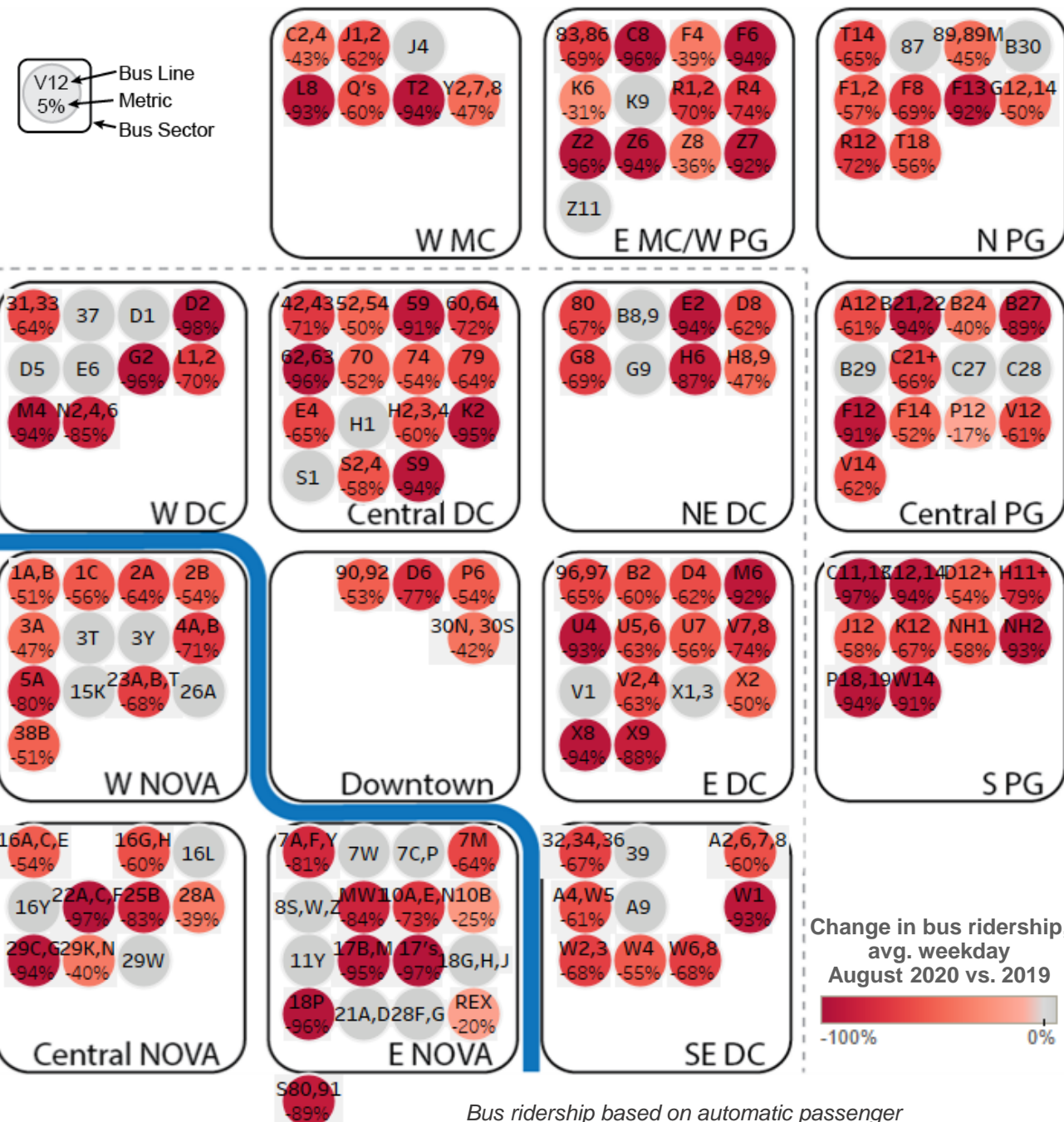
- **Notes:**

- Ridership change south of National Airport not shown due to service suspension in August 2019
- Rail service west of Ballston reinstated August 16, except at Vienna and Dunn Loring.
- Rail service restored to around 90% of pre-COVID levels on August 16th. Some reductions in frequencies, and hours of operation.



Metrobus Ridership

- **Weekday ridership 63% lower than 2019 levels**
- **Difficult to see trends due to significant changes at the end of the month**
- **Reduced service due to COVID-19:**
 - On August 23, bus service increased from 43% of normal to around 75% of pre-COVID levels for Managed Re-Entry service. Some (not all) lines resumed operating.
 - After August 23, some reduced hours of operation
 - No fares charged; rear-door boarding continued. Farebox data consists of operator-recorded ridership only.



Bus ridership based on automatic passenger counters, partially processed data (preliminary)



Metro Parking Utilization

- Paid parking resumed on August 17
- Parking down 95% for the month

