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# FY 2020 Annual Transit Performance Report

October 1, 2020



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Until the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency and the corresponding high percent of teleworking, transit ridership was 5% higher in FY 2020 compared to the same period in FY 2019. Over the entire year for FY 2020, there was a 24% reduction in ridership when comparing to FY 2019 period.

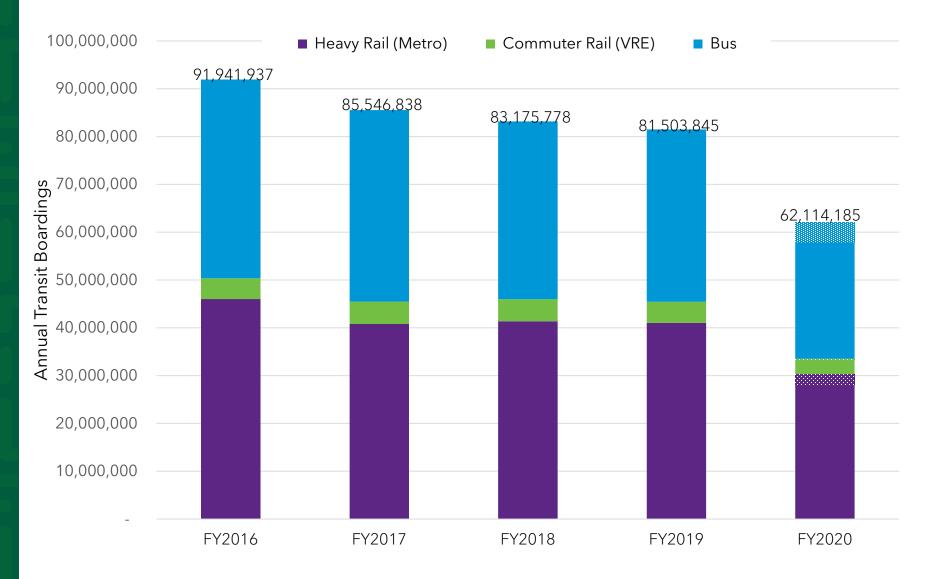




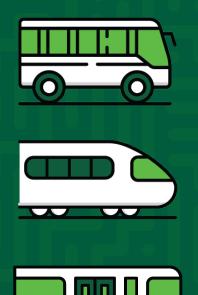


## Figure 1: Northern Virginia Annual Transit Boardings (All Modes), FY 2016 - FY 2020



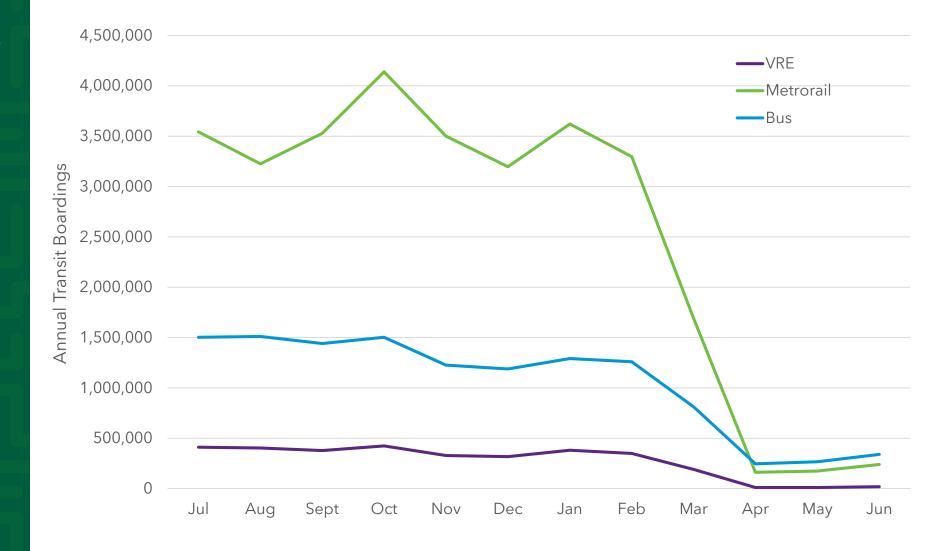


Transit ridership in FY 2020 was following a similar monthly variation as observed in previous years, until the COVID-19 public health emergency. Starting in March, transit ridership dropped dramatically. By the summer, ridership started to increase slightly.



## Figure 1a: Northern Virginia Annual Transit Boardings, FY 2020 Snapshot





The impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency resulted in a drop in ridership and for most systems a decrease in service operated. Only CUE continued to operate similar levels of service during this period. As ridership is returning, systems have been increasing levels of service.

DASH did show an increase of service, prior to the impacts of COVID-19. During the period impacted by COVID-19, DASH reduced service similar to other jurisdictions.



### Figure 1b: Northern Virginia Revenue Miles, FY 2019 - FY 2020





Typically transit moves over a quarter million people on an average day in Northern Virginia. Although this year has been impacted greatly by the COVID-19 public health emergency, the amount of people moved daily by transit in FY 2020 is approximately equal to the daily traffic volume on I-395.

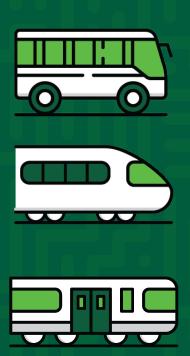
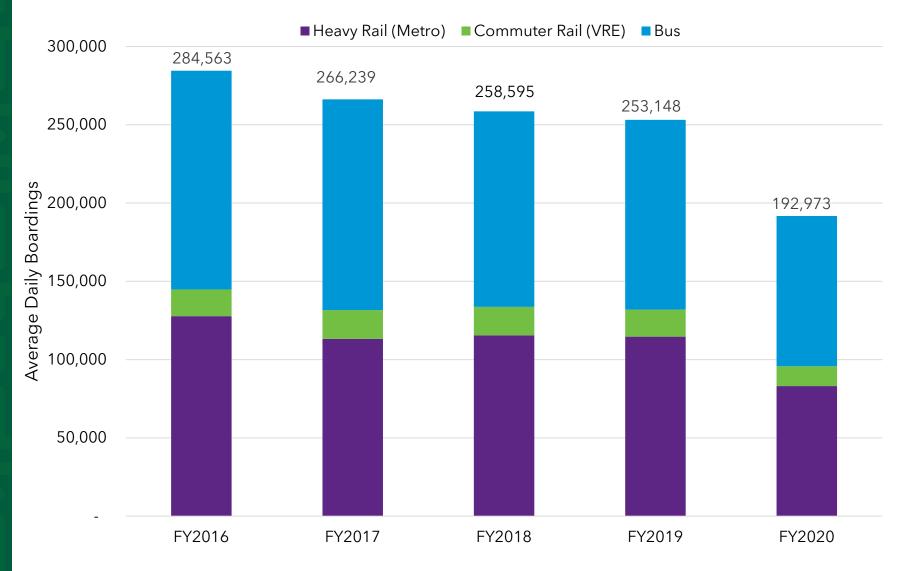


Figure 2: Northern Virginia Average Daily Transit Boardings (All Modes), FY 2016 - FY 2020





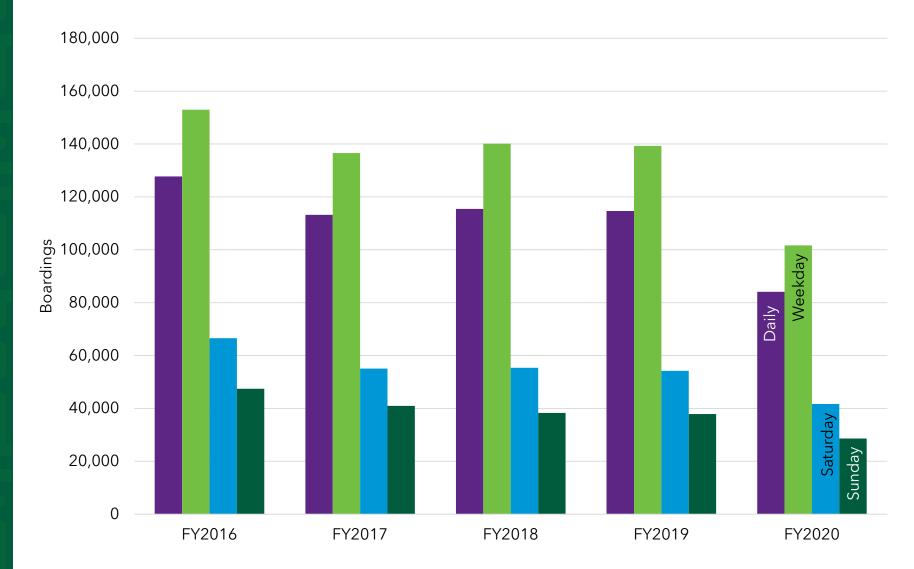


Weekday ridership is influenced greatly by commuter travel. The weekday average ridership is greater than twice the Saturday or Sunday average ridership. Prior to COVID-19, ridership showed a slight increase of 2%. Since COVID-19, weekday ridership has dropped close to 40%, likely due to the increase in telework, and weekend ridership has significantly decreased as well.



Figure 3: Northern Virginia Metrorail, Average Transit Boardings (Daily/Weekday/Saturday/Sunday), FY 2016 - FY 2020





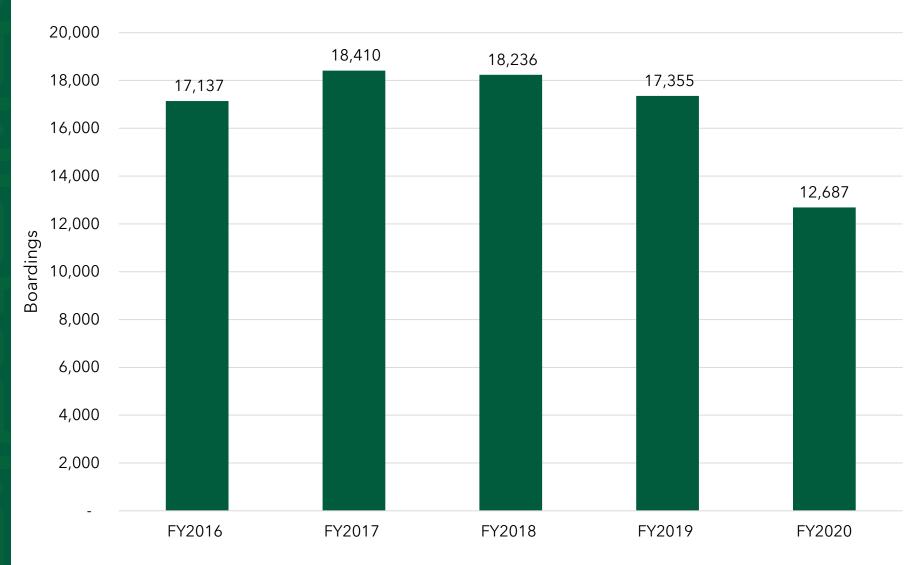


Prior to COVID-19, Virginia Railway Express experienced strong ridership and train utilization. The service - which operates on weekdays, primarily in the morning and evening commuter periods - carries close to 10% of the transit riders in Northern Virginia. Since COVID-19, VRE ridership decreased by over 90%.



#### Figure 4: Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Average Daily **Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020**



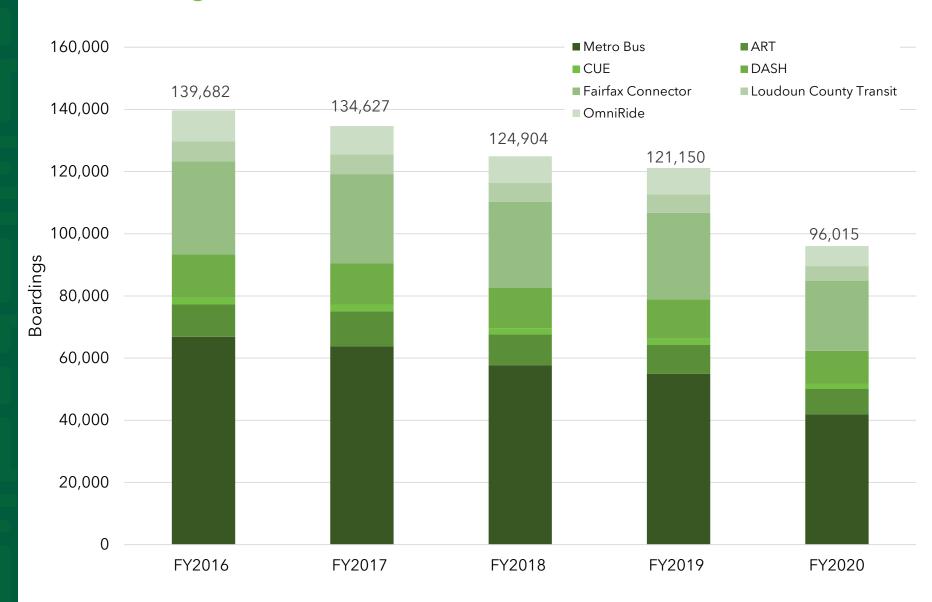




Metrobus carries the majority of bus riders in Northern Virginia. Service and ridership have declined since FY 2016, but recent trends show ridership stabilizing. Prior to COVID-19, ridership in FY 2020 was holding steady at FY 2019 levels. Since COVID-19, overall Metrobus has experienced a 24% decrease in FY 2020 ridership in Virginia, when compared to FY 2019.

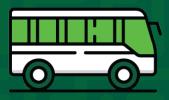
## Figure 5: Northern Virginia Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





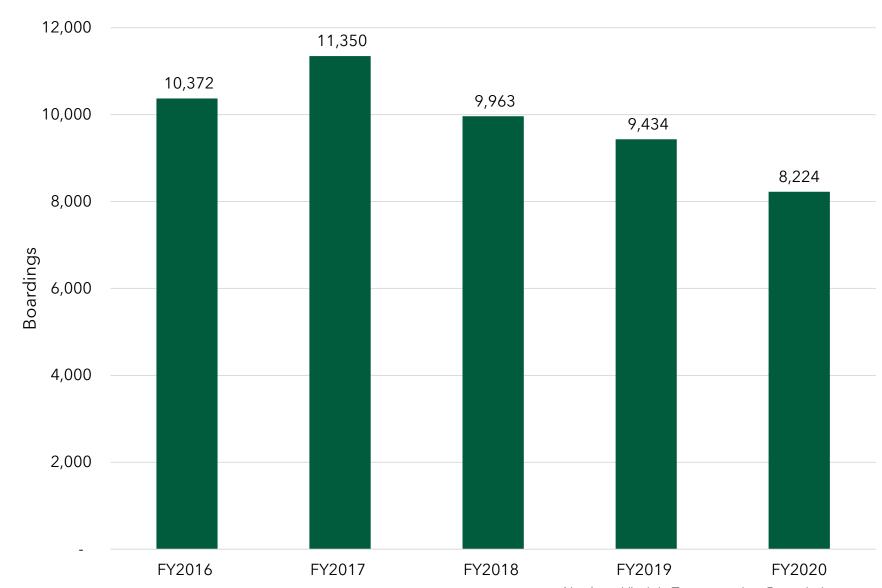


Unlike other bus systems in Northern Virginia, ART ridership peaked in FY 2017. Recent ridership levels started to show a return to higher levels. Prior to COVID-19, ART showed a greater than 10% increase in ridership. Since COVID-19 there has been over 50% drop in ridership.



## Figure 6: ART Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





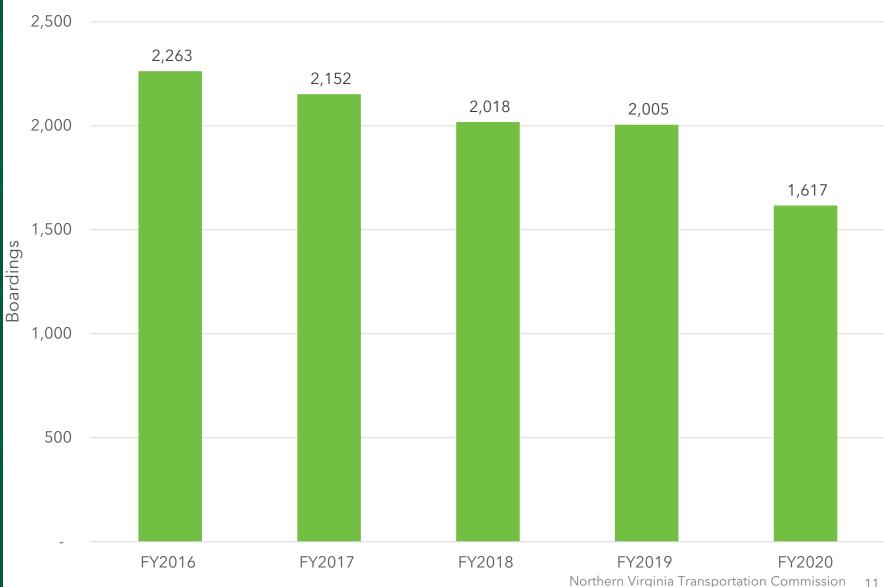


CUE ridership had been stabilizing since a high in 2015. Prior to COVID-19, CUE was holding steady with ridership similar to FY 2019. Since COVID-19, CUE saw a 60% decline in ridership. CUE has maintained the same level of service during this period in anticipation of ridership returning.



#### Figure 7: CUE Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





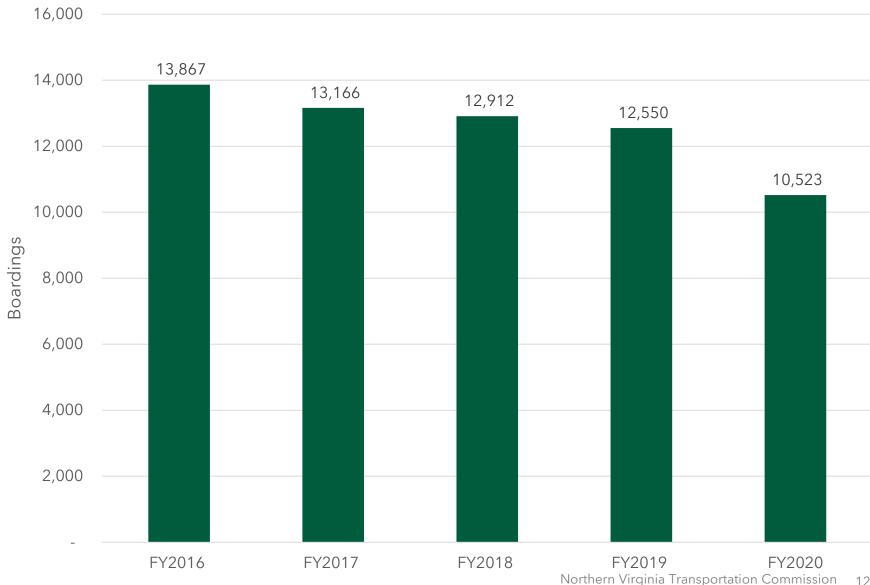


DASH has the third largest bus ridership in Northern Virginia. Prior to COVID-19, DASH showed over a 10% increase in ridership compared to the same period in FY 2019. Since COVID-19, FY 2020 showed an approximately 70% decline in ridership.



#### Figure 8: DASH Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





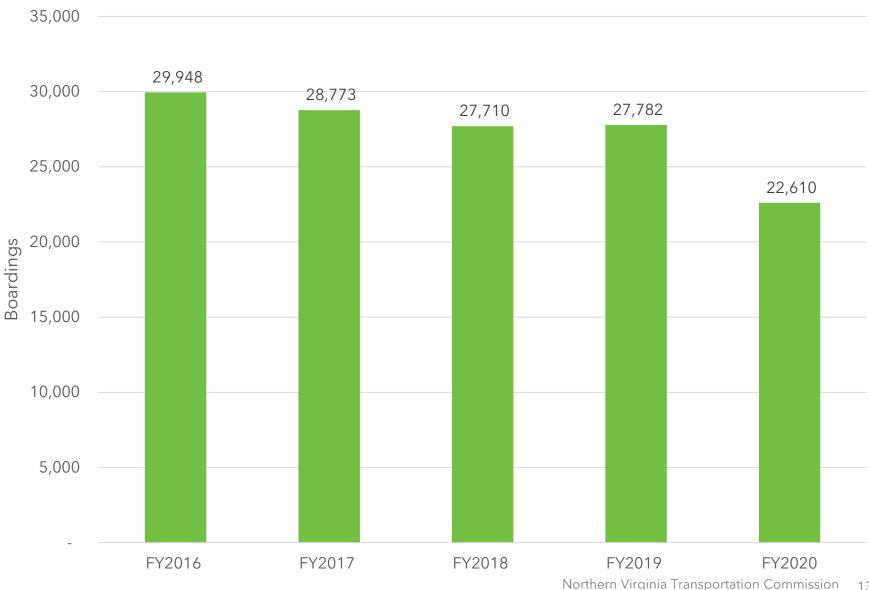


Fairfax Connector carries the second highest number of bus riders in Northern Virginia. Prior to COVID-19, Fairfax Connector showed stable ridership to the same period in FY 2019. Since COVID-19, Fairfax Connector showed the lowest percent reduction in ridership compared to other systems.



#### Figure 9: Fairfax Connector Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





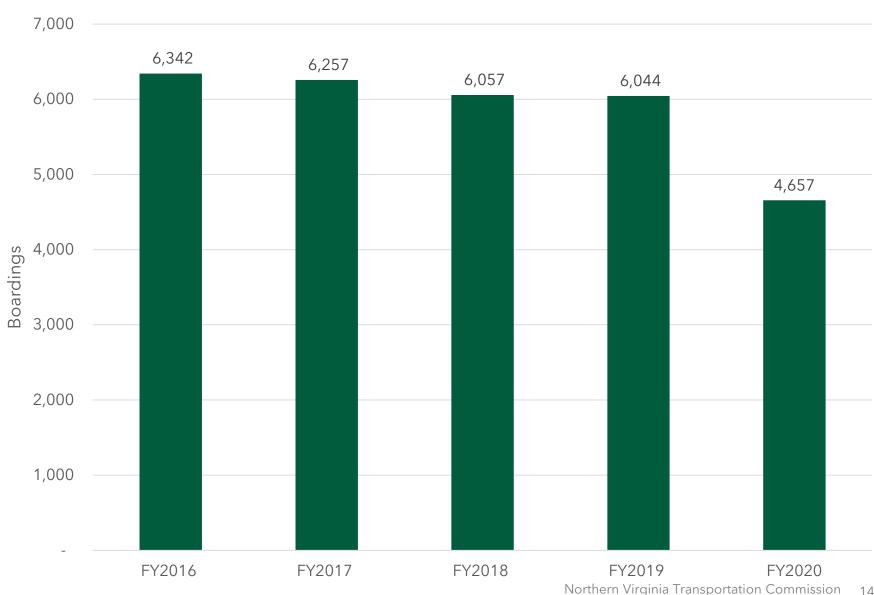


Loudoun County Transit had experienced consistent ridership levels with only modest variation over the past five years. Prior to COVID-19, Loudoun County Transit showed an approximately 10% increase in ridership for FY 2020. Since COVID-19, Loudoun County Transit has had one of the highest drops in ridership, likely a function of increased telework and similar to other commuter-based services.



#### **Figure 10: Loudoun County Transit Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020**







Metrobus carries the majority of bus riders in Northern Virginia. Service and ridership have declined since FY 2016, but recent trends show ridership stabilizing. Prior to COVID-19, ridership in FY 2020 was holding steady at FY 2019 levels. Since COVID-19, overall Metrobus has experienced a 24% decrease in FY 2020 ridership in Virginia, when compared to FY 2019.



#### Figure 11: Northern Virginia Metrobus Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





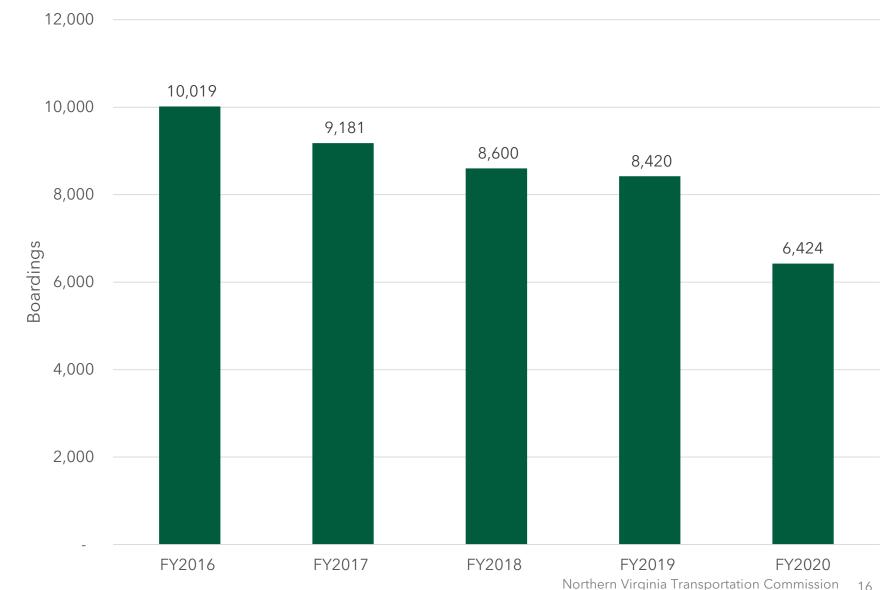


In the past OmniRide showed a decline in riders, much of that is due to local service versus long haul commuter bus service. Prior to COVID-19, ridership showed an increase of 4% for FY 2020. Since COVID-19, OmniRide showed one of the highest decreases in ridership, likely a function of increased telework similar to other commuter-based services.



#### Figure 12: OmniRide Average Daily Bus Boardings, FY 2016 - FY 2020





## Figure 13: Northern Virginia Metrorail Average Transit Boardings by Station, FY 2019 - FY 2020



	FY 2019			FY 2020		
Station	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Stations in Alexandria						
Blue/Yellow Line Stations						
Braddock Road	3,826	1,401	899	2,201	823	517
Van Dorn Street	2,265	777	456	1,199	469	256
Eisenhower Avenue	1,585	612	368	876	395	220
King Street	5,679	2,700	1,915	3,094	1,728	1,121
Total Alexandria:	13,355	5,490	3,638	7,370	3,415	2,114
Stations in Arlington						
Orange/Silver Line Stations						
East Falls Church	3,813	1,594	1,004	2,775	1,283	785
Ballston	9,232	3,276	1,957	7,506	2,910	1,742
Virginia Square	3,793	1,279	784	2,836	1,052	641
Clarendon	4,478	2,051	1,283	3,365	1,706	1,069
Courthouse	6,349	2,283	1,396	4,828	1,960	1,202
Rosslyn	13,059	4,487	3,597	10,025	3,743	3,044
Blue/Yellow Line Stations						
Arlington Cemetery	1,086	1,699	1,407	624	1,130	787
Pentagon	13,785	1,230	989	10,766	1,074	925
Pentagon City	12,133	7,069	4,572	9,161	5,563	3,580
Crystal City	10,847	3,634	2,605	8,327	3,056	2,080
National Airport	5,715	3,865	4,944	4,379	3,105	3,732
Total Arlington:	84,290	32,468	24,537	64,592	26,583	19,587

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission

#### Figure 14: Northern Virginia Metrorail Average Transit Boardings by Station, **FY 2019 - FY 2020 (continued)**



	FY 2019			FY 2020		
Station	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday	Weekday	Saturday	Sunday
Stations in Fairfax County						
Orange Line Stations						
Vienna	8,686	3,393	1,918	6,329	2,374	1,294
Dunn Loring	3,720	1,316	760	2,795	947	521
West Falls Church	2,463	773	435	1,902	678	393
Blue/Yellow Line Stations						
Huntington (Yellow)	5,832	1,872	1,188	3,318	1,169	739
Franconia-Springfield (Blue)	5,172	2,237	1,269	3,199	1,423	824
Silver Line Stations						
Wiehle Reston East	7,650	3,100	2,009	5,670	2,171	1,371
Spring Hill	1,139	547	348	868	520	329
Greensboro	1,415	372	211	1,205	347	202
Tysons Corner	3,507	2,154	1,296	2,602	1,655	1,034
McLean	2,081	478	265	1,794	389	209
Total Fairfax County:	41,664	16,243	9,700	29,681	11,673	6,916



#### **Definition of Metrics**









#### **Average Weekday Boardings:**

The sum of the times a person enters a transit vehicle or station during a non-holiday weekday throughout the year divided by the number of non-holiday weekdays during the year.

#### **Average Saturday or Sunday Boardings:**

The sum of the times a person enters a transit vehicle or station during a Saturday or Sunday service level day throughout the year divided by the number of Saturday or Sunday service level days during the year.

#### **Average Daily Boardings:**

The sum of the times a person enters a transit vehicle or station during the year divided by a weighted average of service days during that year.

The mathematical equation used for this analysis was:

Average Daily Boardings = (number of weekdays) x (annual weekday boardings)

- + (number of Saturdays) x (annual Saturday boardings) x 0.5
- + (number of Sundays & holidays) x (annual Sunday & holiday boardings) x 0.3
- 0.5 represent the difference in weekday to Saturday service levels
- 0.3 represents the difference in weekday to Sunday and Holiday service levels