

# **Capital Metro Monthly Ridership Report**

**October 2016  
(Fiscal Year 2017)**



**METRO**

# Ridership Summary

This is a summary of Capital Metro system-wide ridership statistics for the month of October 2016 by mode of service.

## Total Boardings by Mode

Mode	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct 15 to Oct 16	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	YTD Change
Total Fixed Route	2,073,473	2,092,544	0.9%	2,073,473	2,092,544	0.9%
Total Special Events	177,551	133,303	-24.9%	177,551	133,303	-24.9%
Total MetroAccess	58,642	56,257	-4.1%	58,642	56,257	-4.1%
Total UT Shuttle	525,084	374,132	-28.7%	525,084	374,132	-28.7%
Total Rideshare	32,186	39,747	23.5%	32,186	39,747	23.5%
Total MetroRail	76,718	82,822	8.0%	76,718	82,822	8.0%
Total MetroRapid	279,044	290,011	3.9%	279,044	290,011	3.9%
<b>Total System</b>	<b>3,222,698</b>	<b>3,068,816</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>	<b>3,222,698</b>	<b>3,068,816</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>

## Average Daily Boardings by Mode

October 2016

Mode	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday		
	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct 15 to Oct 16	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct 15 to Oct 16	Oct-15	Oct-16	Oct 15 to Oct 16
Total Fixed Route <sup>1</sup>	77,015	77,934	1.2%	44,902	49,784	10.9%	32,463	35,813	10.3%
Total Special Events	1,283	516	-59.8%	18,600	14,956	-19.6%	9,565	5,928	-38.0%
Total MetroAccess	2,271	2,238	-1.5%	767	956	24.6%	717	859	19.8%
Total UT Shuttle <sup>1</sup>	23,632	17,595	-25.5%	1,296	883	-31.9%	1,296	958	-26.0%
Total Rideshare	1,038	1,282	23.5%	1,038	1,282	23.5%	1,038	1,282	23.5%
Total MetroRail <sup>1</sup>	2,912	3,226	10.8%	1,755	2,065	17.7%	373	618	65.7%
Total MetroRapid <sup>1</sup>	10,209	10,588	3.7%	6,825	8,068	18.2%	3,338	3,727	11.7%

<sup>1</sup> Two Sundays in October ran a Saturday schedule due to Austin City Limits Music Festival

***All tables reflect ridership data as of November 17, 2016.***

The table below shows the factors that have potential impacts on ridership in the current month. Other peer agencies have shown that this type of information is useful to explain ridership changes.

### Factors Affecting Ridership this Month

Factor	Service Level	October 2015	October 2016	Impact
<b>Calendar Mix (FR, Rail, Rapid)</b>	Weekday	22	21	<b>-1</b>
	Saturday	7	7	<b>0</b>
	Sunday	2	3	<b>1</b>
<b>Calendar Mix (UT Shuttle Full Service)</b>	Weekday	22	21	<b>-1</b>
	Sunday	4	5	<b>1</b>
<b>Weather Impact</b>	Weekday	3	1	<b>-2</b>
	Saturday	2	0	<b>-2</b>
	Sunday	1	0	<b>-1</b>
<b>Special Events (Rail-Pecan St/ACL; Rapid-ACL)</b>	Fixed Route	0	0	<b>0</b>
	MetroRail	9	9	<b>0</b>
	MetroRapid	7	7	<b>0</b>
<b>Fuel Prices*</b>	All	2.09	2.12	<b>1%</b>

\* Average monthly Gulf Coast All Grades Reformulated (<http://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>)

**Red** indicates potential negative impact on ridership

**Green** indicates potential positive impact on ridership

### Ridership Overview

*October 2016*

System-wide ridership was down 4.8% compared to October 2015. Average weekday showed a decrease of 4.2%. Service levels on UT Shuttle continue to be reduced due to budget challenges of the university and, when combined with shifting land use patterns, continue to have a significant effect on ridership. Excluding UT Shuttle effects, ridership would essentially have been breakeven (down 0.1%). Other Texas transit agencies are

experiencing similar ridership declines over the past year or more, including DART, VIA and The-T (Fort Worth). Houston Metro has seen positive ridership numbers with a recently redesigned system. Capital Metro is moving forward on Connections 2025 in the comprehensive review of the system including other factors that may be contributing to ridership changes. Connections 2025 is in the final phase prior to board adoption.

### **Fixed Route**

Total month Fixed Route ridership was up 0.9% from October 2015. Average weekday was up 1.2%. There was one less weekday this year compared to last.

### **MetroAccess**

MetroAccess showed a decrease for October 2016 and was down 4.1% compared to last year. MetroAccess is making an effort to manage this high cost service through eligibility evaluations, travel training, and pathway assessment.

### **UT Shuttle**

For October 2016, UT Shuttle showed a 28.7% decrease from last October. Service levels on UT Shuttle continue to be reduced due to budget limitations with our funding partner. Another contributing factor is that in April 2016, UT Shuttle routes began rolling out new buses equipped with fareboxes requiring non-UT ID holders to begin paying a local fare on this service.

### **RideShare**

The shining star continues to be the vRide program. Ridership was up 23.5% from last October. The program is successfully attracting new groups with a fare structure more attractive to "regional" riders. There are now over 220 vehicles in the RideShare program.

### **MetroRail**

MetroRail ridership was up 8% from October 2015. Austin City Limits goers are getting familiar with this service being available all 6 days of the festival. Average weekday ridership was up 10.8% from the same period.

### **MetroRapid**

For the month of October MetroRapid was up 3.9% from 2015. Additional service was also provided for Austin City Limits. Average weekday was up 3.7%.