

Capital Metro Monthly Ridership Report

**February 2017
(Fiscal Year 2017)**



METRO

Ridership Summary

This is a summary of Capital Metro system-wide ridership statistics for the month of February 2017 by mode of service.

Total Boardings by Mode

Mode	Feb-16	Feb-17	Feb 16 to Feb 17	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	YTD Change
Total Fixed Route	1,841,473	1,744,155	-5.3%	9,248,033	9,226,740	-0.2%
Total Special Events	99	1,170	1081.8%	184,475	141,360	-23.4%
Total MetroAccess	56,086	53,014	-5.5%	277,298	271,809	-2.0%
Total UT Shuttle	413,087	301,633	-27.0%	1,710,534	1,296,375	-24.2%
Total Rideshare	35,449	35,079	-1.0%	165,944	182,281	9.8%
Total MetroRail	64,465	63,876	-0.9%	304,796	322,232	5.7%
Total MetroRapid	227,254	280,187	23.3%	1,129,053	1,236,843	9.5%
Total System	2,637,913	2,479,114	-6.0%	13,020,133	12,677,639	-2.6%

Average Daily Boardings by Mode

Mode	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday		
	Feb-16	Feb-17	Feb 16 to Feb 17	Feb-16	Feb-17	Feb 16 to Feb 17	Feb-16	Feb-17	Feb 16 to Feb 17
Total Fixed Route	72,658	71,792	-1.2%	46,804	45,637	-2.5%	32,110	31,440	-2.1%
Total Special Events	1	32	2081.3%	12	105	-	5	27	414.3%
Total MetroAccess	2,292	3,324	45.0%	1,052	1,555	47.9%	936	1,344	43.6%
Total UT Shuttle	19,483	14,934	-23.3%	-	-	-	986	737	-25.3%
Total Rideshare	1,222	1,253	2.5%	1,222	1,253	2.5%	1,222	1,253	2.5%
Total MetroRail	2,798	2,975	6.3%	1,428	1,092	-23.5%	-	-	-
Total MetroRapid	9,336	11,839	26.8%	4,756	6,460	35.8%	3,043	4,389	44.2%

All tables reflect ridership data as of March 21, 2017.

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	February 2016	February 2017	Impact
Calendar Mix (FR, Rail, Rapid)	Weekday	21	20	-1
	Saturday	4	4	0
	Sunday	4	4	0
Calendar Mix (UT Shuttle Full Service)	Weekday	21	20	-1
	Sunday	4	4	0
Weather Impact	Weekday	1	2	1
	Saturday	0	1	1
	Sunday	1	1	0
Special Events (Women's March)	Fixed Route	0	0	0
	MetroRail	0	0	0
	MetroRapid	0	0	0
Fuel Prices*	All	1.64	2.16	31%

* 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

February 2017

System-wide ridership was down 6.0% compared to February 2016. Average weekday showed a decrease of 1.5%. There was one less weekday this February compared to last having a direct impact. There were also 4 days of rain compared to 2 in February 2016. Several UT Shuttle routes continue to be on detour which was not the case last February. Excluding UT Shuttle effects, ridership would have been down 2.1%.

Through January 2017, other Texas transit agencies are still experiencing similar ridership declines, including DART and VIA. Houston Metro is now seeing declines since they are past the one year mark with their redesigned system. Connections 2025 plan was adopted by the board and will be moving into implementation phase with much more public input expected.

Fixed Route

Total month Fixed Route ridership was down 5.3% from February 2016. Average weekday was down 1.2%. Having the one less day comprised about 2.5% of the 5.3% decline.

MetroAccess

MetroAccess showed a decrease for February 2017 and was down 5.5% 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 February 2017, UT Shuttle showed a 27% decrease from last February. Service levels remain relatively unchanged from fall semester. Other contributing factors are (1) in April 2016, UT Shuttle routes introduced new buses equipped with fareboxes requiring non-UT ID holders to begin paying a local fare on this service; (2) UT ID holders also now required to swipe their card; (3) Major detour on several UT routes continues.

RideShare

The vRide program saw its first decline in many months. Ridership was down 1.0% from last February.

MetroRail

MetroRail ridership was down 1% from February 2016, however average weekday ridership was up 6.4% from the same period. The one less weekday was the contributing factor.

MetroRapid

For the month of February MetroRapid saw a major increase of 23.3% from February 2016. Average weekday was also up 26.8%. This is directly related to the fare reduction, eliminating the Premium fare.