



**Regional
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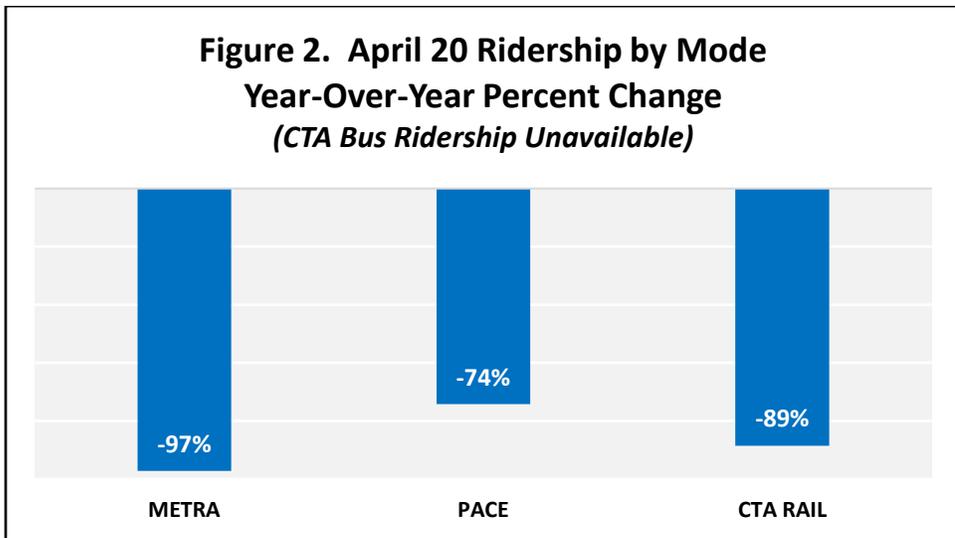
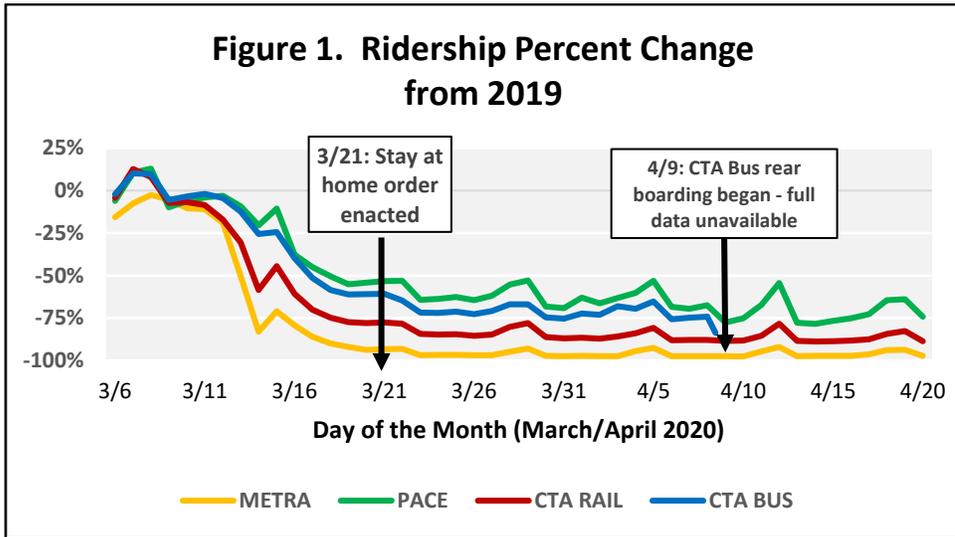
RTA Regional COVID-19 Weekly Update **April 24, 2020**

As the State and nation continue responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, public transit remains an essential service responsible for transporting healthcare employees, emergency responders and retail workers to jobs throughout the region. During this time, the RTA and Service Boards remain committed to keeping elected officials and stakeholders up to date with any COVID-19 related issues regarding: (1) health and safety preventative measures (2) regional ridership impacts (3) transit service changes and (4) regional financial impacts. On April 6, 2020, the RTA distributed a memo providing an overview of the initial COVID-19 transit regional response efforts and informed elected officials and stakeholders that the RTA would be providing a weekly update as new data becomes available and new issues arise.

Regional Ridership Impact Update

As a result of most non-essential employees in Illinois working from home and schools closing, RTA regional transit has had significant ridership decreases since the announcement of the State's stay at home order. The RTA is tracking preliminary reported ridership data from CTA, Metra, and Pace to evaluate the extent that ridership has changed from a comparable period in 2019. Figure 1 illustrates the significant drop-off March 9-15, followed by sustained low levels of ridership throughout the remainder of the reporting period for each Service Board. CTA Bus is shown through April 9, when a rear boarding policy was implemented, as full ridership counts are temporarily unavailable. Figure 2 shows the year-over-year change in reported ridership by mode (excluding CTA bus) for the latest day of ridership data available, Monday, April 20, 2020.





Recent Transit Service Changes

While each Service Board continues to provide consistent and reliable service during this evolving pandemic, there have been temporary modifications to service on some lines. The following is a list of service modifications announced since the last report.

Metra

Metra has announced a Southwest Service adjustment of afternoon departure times for trains [836, 838, 833](#). Additionally, Metra has announced that the [Rock Island late-night](#) train has been temporarily canceled due to low ridership and that the [Electric District](#) has added one late-night inbound train.

Pace

Pace has recently announced that the [Bridgeview Transit Center](#) is temporarily closed.

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