

Capital Metro Monthly Ridership Report

**August 2017
(Fiscal Year 2017)**



Ridership Summary

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

Total Boardings by Mode

Mode	Aug-16	Aug-17	Aug 16 to Aug 17	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	YTD Change
Total Fixed Route	1,921,703	1,787,102	-7.0%	20,328,188	20,083,015	-1.2%
Total Special Events	155	505	225.8%	206,525	154,804	-25.0%
Total MetroAccess	58,326	59,226	1.5%	616,922	616,637	0.0%
Total UT Shuttle	170,832	71,618	-58.1%	2,903,001	2,178,329	-25.0%
Total Rideshare	40,644	40,701	0.1%	393,116	423,243	7.7%
Total MetroRail	64,292	61,973	-3.6%	737,885	755,343	2.4%
Total MetroRapid	222,595	297,690	33.7%	2,457,182	3,034,543	23.5%
Total System	2,478,547	2,318,815	-6.4%	27,642,819	27,245,913	-1.4%

Average Daily Boardings by Mode

Mode	Weekday			Saturday			Sunday		
	Aug-16	Aug-17	Aug 16 to Aug 17	Aug-16	Aug-17	Aug 16 to Aug 17	Aug-16	Aug-17	Aug 16 to Aug 17
Total Fixed Route	69,898	66,112	-5.4%	45,725	37,882	-17.2%	32,784	28,752	-12.3%
Total Special Events	6	4	-23.8%	6	30	376.0%	-	64	-
Total MetroAccess	2,204	2,228	1.1%	1,030	1,004	-2.5%	881	839	-4.7%
Total UT Shuttle ¹	8,351	4,630	-44.6%	2,004	1,404	-29.9%	602	383	-36.4%
Total Rideshare	1,312	1,313	0.1%	1,312	1,313	0.1%	1,312	1,313	0.1%
Total MetroRail	2,628	2,549	-3.0%	960	838	-12.7%	-	-	-
Total MetroRapid	8,425	11,182	32.7%	4,248	5,515	29.8%	2,956	4,609	55.9%

¹ UT Shuttle Summer & Fall service schedule days

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

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

Factors Affecting Ridership this Month

Factor	Service Level	August 2016	August 2017	Impact
Calendar Mix (FR, Rail, Rapid)	Weekday	23	23	0
	Saturday	4	4	0
	Sunday	4	4	0
Calendar Mix (UT Shuttle Full Service)	Weekday	20	15	-5
	Sunday	3	2	-1
Weather Impact	Weekday	9	6	-3
	Saturday	2	1	-1
	Sunday	3	1	-2
Special Events	Fixed Route	0	0	0
	MetroRail	0	0	0
	MetroRapid	0	0	0
Fuel Prices*	All	2.06	2.25	10%

* 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

August 2017

System-wide ridership was down 6.4% compared to August 2016. Average weekday was also down 5.8%. There were the same number of weekdays this August compared to last, however Hurricane Harvey dampened ridership for three days. Fuel prices crept up toward the end of August. UT Shuttle operated 35% fewer service hours this August compared to last due to Fall schedule starting much later this year. Excluding UT Shuttle effects, ridership would have been down only 2.6%.

Connections 2025 plan was adopted by the board and is moving into implementation phase with public meetings set to begin later in September.

Fixed Route & MetroRapid

Total month Fixed Route ridership was down 7% from August 2016. Average weekday was down 5.4%. Since the fare reduction on Rapid, riders have been moving over to that service. Weather also played a role in the decline this month.

MetroRapid saw an increase of 33.7% from August 2016. Average weekday was up 32.7%. This increase is related to the fare reduction, eliminating the Premium fare with riders moving over from other services. Enhanced frequency was also added to MetroRapid at the August service change and the results should begin to show in September.

Looking at Fixed Route and MetroRapid bus services combined ridership was only down 2.8% from August 2016.

Round Rock

As a part of Fixed Route service, Capital Metro began providing service to the City of Round Rock. In the initial 9 days of service (August 21-31) there were 2,193 boardings on this new service.

Georgetown

There was an improvement to the City of Georgetown service in August. There were 613 boardings on the Georgetown paratransit service and 873 boardings on this new fixed route service.

MetroAccess

MetroAccess showed an increase for August 2017 and was up 1.5% compared to last year. MetroAccess continues making efforts to manage this high cost service through eligibility evaluations, travel training, and pathway assessment.

UT Shuttle

For August 2017, UT Shuttle showed a 58% decrease from last August. There were 6 fewer operating days this August compared to last. There were 35% fewer revenue hours operated as well. Capital Metro is evaluating UT Shuttle service and potential strategies for increasing ridership.

RideShare

The vRide program shows continued success with a 0.1% increase for August despite weather challenges.

MetroRail

MetroRail ridership was down 3.6% from August 2016, while average weekday ridership was down 3.0% from the same period. Saturday, August 26, 2017 was essentially a washout due to Hurricane Harvey and a downed powerline on the tracks.