

2008
Regional Bus Survey
Preliminary Results

Presentation to the
Regional Bus Subcommittee

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Expanded On-Board Survey Ridership Totals

System	Weekday Riders (Preliminary Factors)
ART	5,400
TheBus	15,300
CUE	3,600
DASH	14,700
TransIT	2,800
PRTC	12,400
Ride-On	98,000
Metrobus	454,900
Total	607,000

Bus Riders Jurisdiction of Residence

System	Percent Distribution			
	DC	Suburban Md	N. Virginia	Outside Region
ART	5%	4%	90%	1%
TheBus	11%	88%	1%	---
CUE	5%	5%	88%	2%
DASH	3%	3%	94%	1%
TransIT	---	97%	---	3%
PRTC	---	1%	98%	1%
Ride-On	5%	93%	1%	1%
Metrobus	49%	33%	16%	1%
All	38%	43%	18%	1%

Jurisdiction of Residence Findings

- Except for Metrobus, most systems primarily served residents of a particular geographic sub-area of the region
- More than 10% of TheBus riders are DC residents

Access Mode to Bus

	Walk	Metrorail	Bus	Auto D	Auto P	Bike	Other
ART	76%	15%	7%	1%	---	---	1%
TheBus	49%	21%	10%	15%	3%	---	2%
CUE	65%	26%	6%	1%	1%	---	1%
DASH	71%	14%	10%	1%	2%	---	1%
TransIT	70%	1%	25%	1%	1%	---	1%
PRTC	49%	7%	12%	22%	8%	---	2%
Ride-On	54%	19%	20%	2%	3%	---	1%
Metrobus	59%	17%	18%	2%	2%	---	1%
All	58%	17%	18%	3%	2%	---	1%

Mode of Access Findings

- Except for PTRC and TheBus, more than half the riders access their bus by walking to it
- The PTRC and TheBus systems have large percentages of riders who park-and-ride, at 22% and 15% respectively
- PTRC was the system with the greatest percentage of auto passenger drop-offs at bus stops, commuter lots and other bus pick-up points (8%)
- TransIT and PTRC have the lowest percentage of rail-to-bus transfers (1% & 7%); CUE had the highest percentage of riders who transferred from rail to bus (26%)

Purpose of Trip

	Go to Work	Job-Related	Personal Business	Shopping or Meal	To School	Soc/Rec	Other
ART	62%	3%	13%	6%	15%	1%	---
TheBus	54%	4%	28%	6%	5%	3%	---
CUE	57%	2%	14%	3%	17%	5%	2%
DASH	63%	4%	14%	8%	6%	5%	1%
TransIT	56%	10%	18%	11%	4%	2%	---
PRTC	68%	3%	13%	9%	4%	3%	---
Ride-On	52%	4%	19%	9%	9%	6%	1%
Metrobus	55%	5%	20%	7%	7%	5%	---
All	55%	5%	20%	7%	8%	5%	1%

Trip Purpose Findings

- Commuting to work accounts for one-half to two-thirds of the trips on each bus system
- TheBus was the system with the greatest percentage of its riders traveling for personal business reasons (28%)
- TransIT was the system with the greatest percentage of its riders making shopping trips or going to a restaurant (11%)
- A significant percentage of CUE and ART riders were traveling to school (17% for CUE and 15% for ART)

How Fare was Paid

	Cash	Smart Trip	Weekly Pass	Rail Transfer	Bus Transfer	Senior Discount	Other
ART	45%	36%	8%	2%	2%	1%	7%
TheBus	63%	8%	3%	3%	6%	6%	11%
CUE	39%	31%	2%	2%	3%	---	24%
DASH	43%	37%	2%	2%	4%	---	12%
TransIT	71%	---	---	3%	4%	5%	18%
PRTC	34%	57%	---	---	---	1%	8%
Ride-On	34%	26%	15%	2%	2%	5%	16%
Metrobus	34%	42%	11%	2%	3%	3%	5%
All	35%	38%	11%	2%	3%	4%	7%

Fare Payment Findings

- SmarTrip was the predominant payment method used by PRTC (57%) and Metrobus (42%)
- Cash was the primary mode of fare payment for TransIT (71%) and TheBus (63%) riders
- A significant percentage of Ride-On (15%) and Metrobus (11%) riders paid their fare using a weekly pass
- Approximately 5% of TheBus, TransIT and Ride-On riders paid a discounted senior citizen/disabled rider fare.

Number of Transfers

System	Total Number of Bus and Rail Transfers			
	No Transfers	One Transfer	Two Transfers	Three or More Transfers
ART	38%	45%	13%	4%
TheBus	31%	47%	16%	6%
CUE	38%	47%	12%	3%
DASH	40%	44%	13%	3%
TransIT	34%	52%	9%	5%
PRTC	58%	29%	7%	6%
Ride-On	31%	48%	16%	6%
Metrobus	33%	45%	17%	5%
All	33%	45%	17%	5%

Findings on Number of Transfers

- Between 60% and 70% of the riders on each system reported making one or more transfers to reach their destination
- Only about 40% of PRTC riders reported transferring to another transit vehicle to complete their trip

Receive Transit Benefit from Employer?

System	Yes	No
ART	32%	68%
TheBus	13%	87%
CUE	23%	77%
DASH	35%	65%
TransIT	5%	95%
PRTC	42%	58%
Ride-On	21%	79%
Metrobus	24%	76%
All	24%	76%

Findings on Transit Benefits

- Overall 24% of the surveyed bus riders reported receiving a transit benefit from their employer
- Approximately 42% of PRTC riders, 35% of DASH riders and 32% of ART riders said that they received a transit benefit
- Only 5% of TransIT riders and 13% of TheBus riders said they received a transit benefit from their employer

Number of Household Vehicles

System	Number of HH Vehicles			
	No Vehicles	One Vehicle	Two Vehicles	Three or More Vehicles
ART	43%	42%	13%	3%
TheBus	49%	26%	21%	4%
CUE	45%	31%	19%	5%
DASH	37%	43%	17%	3%
TransIT	52%	31%	10%	7%
PRTC	26%	30%	28%	17%
Ride-On	43%	31%	19%	6%
Metrobus	53%	30%	13%	4%
Total	50%	31%	14%	5%

Findings on Household Vehicle Availability

- Approximately 50% of the riders on the Metrobus, TransIT and TheBus systems are from households without autos or other vehicles
- PRTC Riders were twice as likely to live in households with 2 or more vehicles than bus riders on other systems and three times more likely to live households with 3 or more vehicles in than riders on other systems

Was a Vehicle Available for This Trip?

System	Yes	No
ART	42%	58%
TheBus	27%	73%
CUE	33%	67%
DASH	40%	60%
TransIT	24%	76%
PRTC	54%	46%
Ride-On	30%	70%
Metrobus	28%	72%
All	29%	71%

Findings on “Choice” Bus Riders

- The PRTC ART and DASH systems had the greatest percentages of “choice” riders
- Choice riders are riders who had a vehicle available to them to make the trip they were making, but “chose” to make the trip by bus instead

Race/Ethnicity of Riders

	Asian	Black/ African- American	Hispanic	Native American	White	Mutli- Racial	No Response
ART	4%	34%	27%	---	28%	1%	6%
TheBus	2%	70%	10%	---	10%	1%	7%
CUE	31%	18%	14%	---	31%	2%	3%
DASH	7%	35%	15%	1%	33%	1%	9%
TransIT	2%	42%	21%	---	31%	4%	1%
PRTC	4%	36%	14%	1%	38%	1%	6%
Ride-On	9%	45%	16%	---	23%	2%	6%
Metrobus	4%	59%	10%	1%	19%	2%	6%
Total	5%	56%	11%	1%	20%	2%	6%

Race/Ethnicity Findings

- The majority of riders on TheBus and Metrobus systems identified their race/ethnicity as Black/African American
- By far, CUE had the greatest percentage of riders identifying themselves as Asian (31%)
- The ART and TransIT had high percentages of their riders identifying themselves as Hispanic, 27% on ART and 21% on TransIT
- TheBus had the lowest percentage of riders identifying themselves as white (10%)

Household Income

	<10K	10-20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-100K	100K+	No Response
ART	22%	10%	15%	10%	15%	14%	14%
TheBus	16%	8%	24%	11%	17%	7%	17%
CUE	20%	9%	19%	15%	10%	12%	15%
DASH	16%	8%	20%	13%	16%	14%	13%
TransIT	31%	9%	32%	11%	5%	3%	8%
PRTC	14%	6%	13%	9%	18%	28%	12%
Ride-On	18%	10%	20%	15%	13%	9%	15%
Metrobus	19%	11%	23%	14%	12%	9%	12%
Total	19%	10%	22%	14%	13%	9%	13%

Household Income Findings

- Overall, 19% of the bus system riders surveyed reported annual household income of less than \$10,000 and more than half of all riders reported household incomes of less than \$40,000
- Almost one-third of TransIT riders reported household incomes of less than \$10,000
- About one-quarter of PRTC riders reported household incomes in excess of \$100,000

Questions on Survey Results and Findings?