



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commonwealth Transportation Board

THROUGH: Charles M. Badger
Acting Director

FROM: Corey Hill
Chief of Public Transportation

DATE: February 19, 2009

SUBJECT: Monthly Statewide Ridership Report

DRPT is pleased to present the monthly statewide ridership report, summarizing December 2008 transit, human service and passenger rail ridership data. This monthly report provides a snapshot of current performance and recent trends. DRPT continues to work with individual operators to refine data and ensure that all modes, including bus, rail and specialized service for the elderly and disabled, are accurately reported, and to ensure that this monthly report is comprehensive.

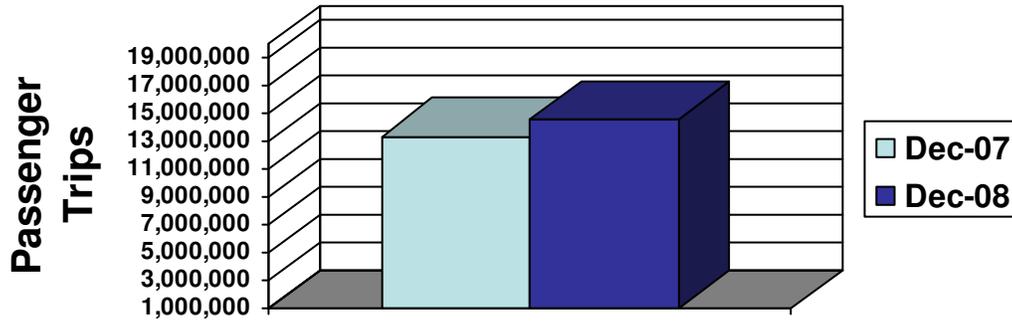
The following key facts are based on a year-over-year comparison of monthly results reported by operators for December 2007 and December 2008.

Key Facts

- The price of fuel per gallon dropped 44.2 percent to \$1.68 per gallon, in December 2008, as compared to the December 2007 price of \$3.01 per gallon.
- Virginia statewide ridership for the month of December 2008 increased by 9 percent, or 1,177,936 trips in December 2008 as compared to December 2007, based on reports from all 57 transit operators, 46 (of 49) human service operators, and the two passenger rail operators.
- December 2008 included one more weekday and two fewer weekend days than December 2007.
- Fiscal year 2009-to-date (July 2008-December 2008) Virginia statewide ridership increased by 7 percent, or 6,368,613 trips, over the same period in fiscal year 2008.
- All nine of Virginia's transportation districts recorded increases in passenger trips in December 2008 as compared to December 2007.
- The Northern Virginia District accounts for 73.44 percent of transit and human service ridership for December 2008. The Hampton Roads and Richmond Districts account for 10.68 percent and 6.2 percent, respectively.
- The Fredericksburg District achieved the highest increase in transit and human service ridership in December 2008 as compared to December 2007, at 43 percent, or 19,940 trips.
- The Northern Virginia District accounts for 75.35 percent of transit ridership for December 2008. The Hampton Roads District and Richmond District account for 10.88 and 6.32 percent, respectively.
- The Staunton District accounts for 24.86 percent, or the majority, of human service ridership in December 2008. The Hampton Roads District and Lynchburg District account for 15.06 and 13.04 percent, respectively.

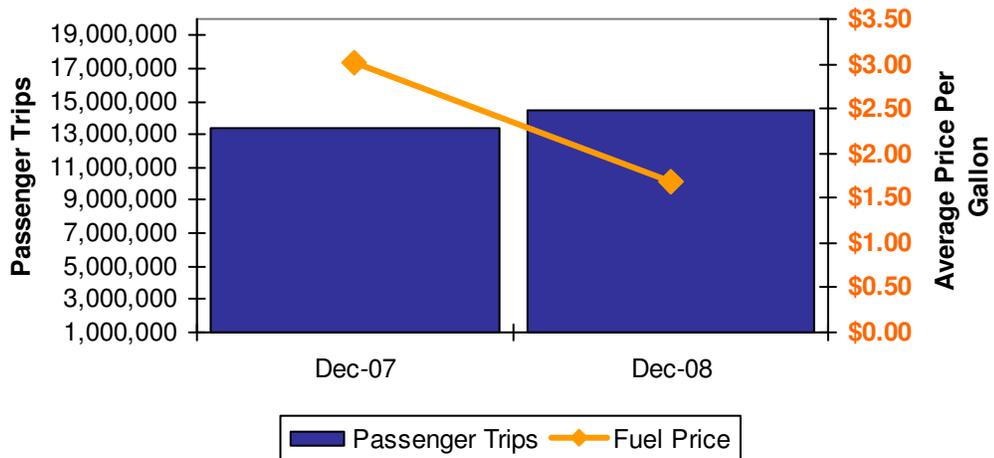
Statewide Ridership December 2007 and December 2008

9% Ridership Increase

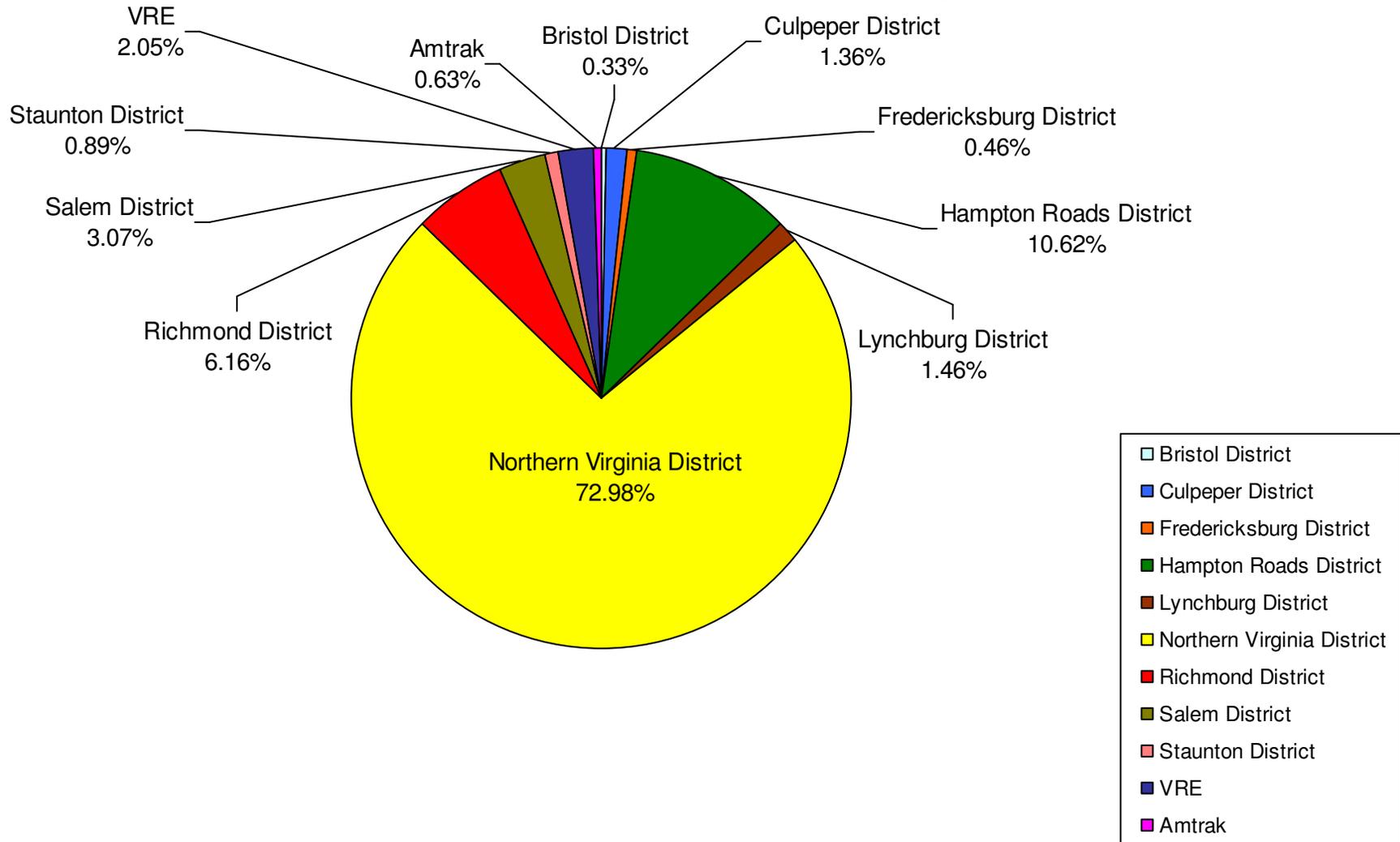


Average Fuel Price vs. Statewide Ridership December 2007 and December 2008

44.2% Fuel Price Decrease

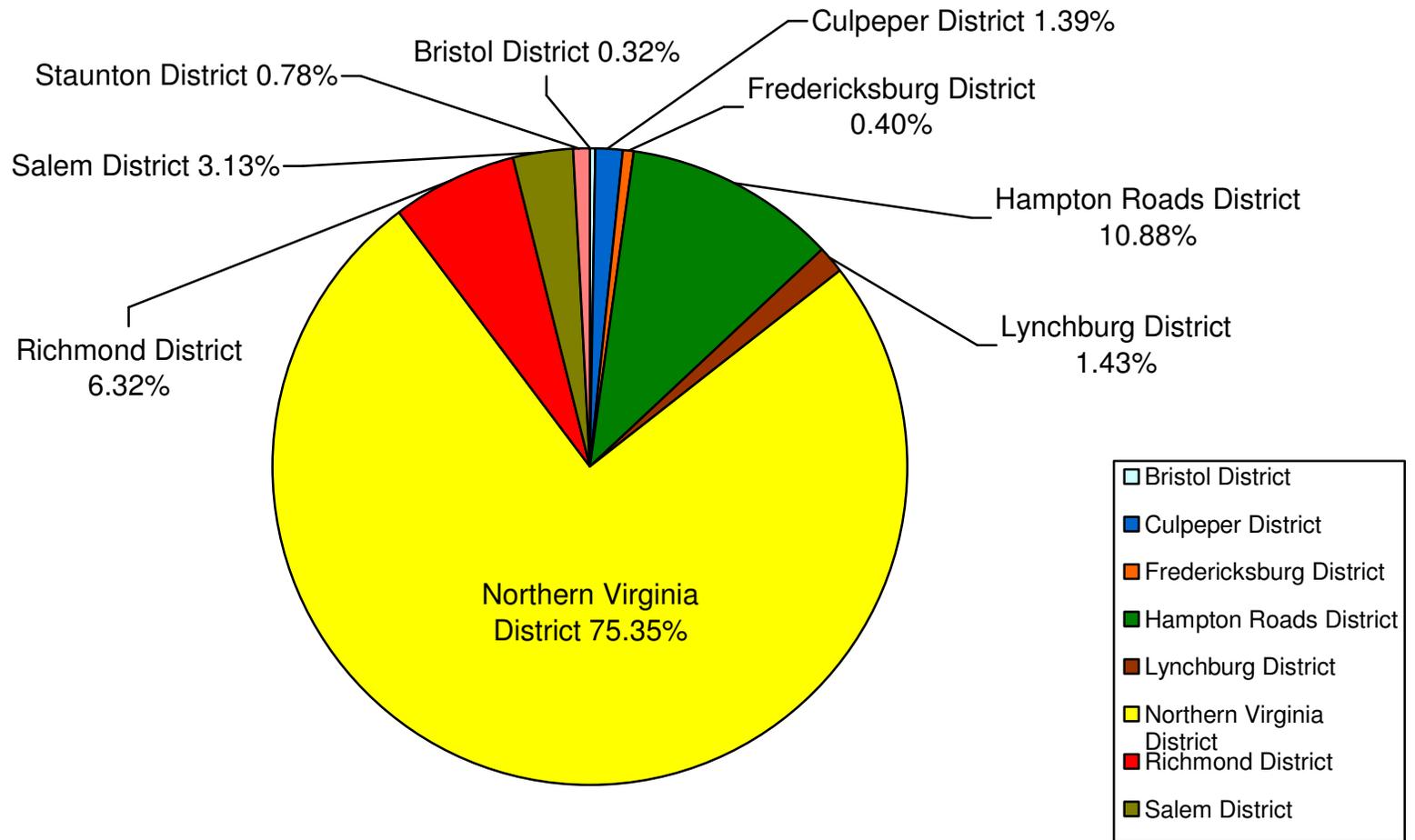


December 2008 Statewide Ridership by District

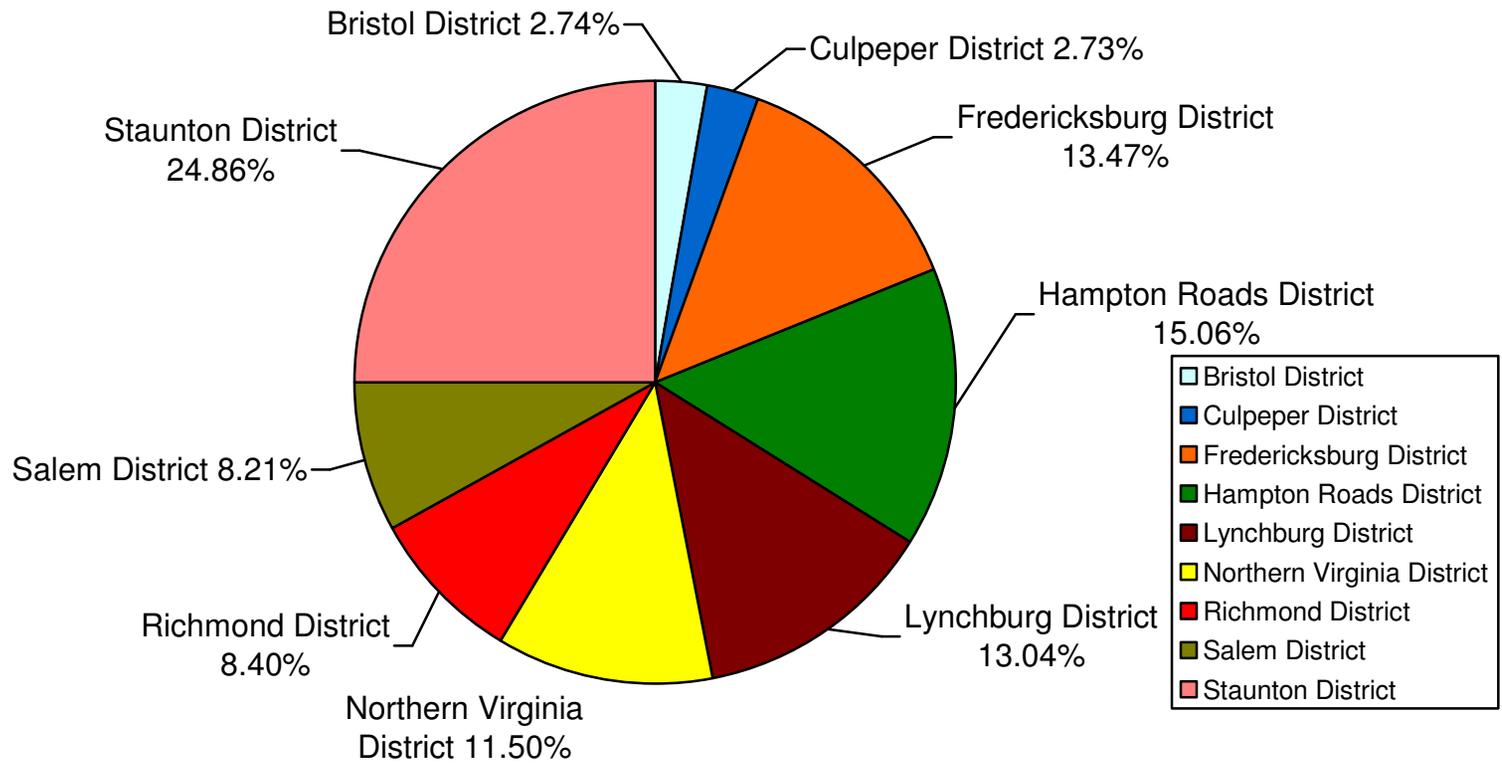


VRE and Amtrak ridership is not included within district totals because the operators provide cross-district service.

December 2008 Transit Ridership by District



December 2008 Human Service Ridership by District



December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

Operator	Total Ridership December 2008	Total Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
PASSENGER RAIL						
Virginia Railway Express	297,356	239,696	24%	1,753,159	1,725,669	2%
Amtrak (Virginia only)	90,986	88,309	3%	546,725	508,545	8%
Total Passenger Rail Ridership	388,342	328,005	18%	2,299,884	2,234,214	3%
PASSENGER RAIL ON-TIME PERFORMANCE	Percent On-Time Performance December 2008	Percent On-Time Performance December 2007	Percent Change	FYTD 2009 (July-Dec. 2008)	FYTD 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
Virginia Railway Express	86.5%	86.5%	0%	86.2%	88.5%	-3%
Amtrak*	63.0%	53.2%	18%	n/a	n/a	n/a
BRISTOL DISTRICT						
AASC / Four County Transit	13,594	13,533	0%	90,259	95,797	-6%
City of Bristol Virginia	6,580	5,733	15%	38,623	31,839	21%
District Three Public Transit	15,811	16,984	-7%	117,153	110,886	6%
Junction Center for Independent Living	82	254	-68%	862	1,501	-43%
Mount Rogers Community Services Board	2,106	1,014	108%	12,229	7,963	54%
Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.	6,028	3,324	81%	38,796	24,107	61%
Town of Bluefield-Graham Transit	3,290	3,937	-16%	20,533	19,635	5%
Total Bristol District Ridership	47,491	44,779	6%	318,455	291,728	9%
CULPEPER DISTRICT						
Charlottesville Transit Service	157,955	124,165	27%	977,721	855,464	14%
Greene County Transit, Inc.	4,896	3,580	37%	27,025	25,773	5%
JAUNT, Inc.	21,752	18,967	15%	138,519	130,472	6%
Rappahannock-Rapidan CSB-AAA	2,185	2,331	-6%	16,812	13,986	20%
Virginia Regional Transit - Culpeper County	476	234	103%	2,611	2,046	28%
Virginia Regional Transit - Fauquier/Warrenton	2,922	3,433	-15%	13,201	18,447	-28%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Culpeper	5,387	4,317	25%	34,603	31,597	10%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Orange	2,106	1,925	9%	13,995	14,261	-2%
Total Culpeper District Ridership	197,679	158,952	24%	1,224,487	1,092,046	12%

December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

Operator	Total Ridership December 2008	Total Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
FREDERICKSBURG DISTRICT						
Bay Aging	10,497	9,055	16%	71,765	68,009	6%
Bay Aging/Colonial Beach Transit	1,043	642	62%	6,020	4,846	24%
FRED - Caroline County	628	371	69%	4,154	2,913	43%
FRED - King George	1,711	901	90%	11,189	6,394	75%
Fredericksburg Regional Transit	41,676	27,051	54%	263,267	183,547	43%
Rappahannock Area Community Services Board	10,772	8,367	29%	58,663	50,094	17%
Total Fredericksburg District Ridership	66,327	46,387	43%	415,058	315,803	31%
HAMPTON ROADS DISTRICT						
Arc of the Virginia Peninsula	1,248	n/a	n/a	8,877	n/a	n/a
Chesapeake Service Systems	296	380	-22%	2,128	2,179	-2%
Eastern Shore Community Services Board	1,964	2,200	-11%	15,754	15,364	3%
ESAAA/CAA	766	1,178	-35%	5,318	6,345	-16%
Hampton Roads Transit	1,292,636	1,169,385	11%	8,080,681	7,853,072	3%
Historic Triangle Senior Center	791	424	87%	3,697	2,808	32%
Peninsula Agency on Aging	1,498	1,878	-20%	10,628	11,562	-8%
Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia	3,140	1,533	105%	17,291	13,373	29%
STAR Transit	2,857	3,050	-6%	15,488	21,222	-27%
Sussex-Greenville-Emporia Adult Activity Services, Inc	1,740	1,555	12%	11,122	10,651	4%
Town of Chincoteague**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Western Tidewater Community Service Board	601	547	10%	4,490	3,625	24%
Williamsburg Area Transport	233,948	221,536	6%	1,769,533	1,821,578	-3%
Total Hampton Roads District Ridership	1,541,485	1,403,666	10%	9,945,007	9,761,779	2%

December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

Operator	Total Ridership December 2008	Total Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
LYNCHBURG DISTRICT						
Blackstone Area Bus / Piedmont Area Transit	628	395	59%	4,327	3,266	32%
Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging	2,790	2,347	19%	18,123	14,825	22%
Crossroads Community Services Board	92	n/a	n/a	269	n/a	n/a
Danville City's Parks, Recreation, And Tourism; Stonewall Therapeutic Recreation Center	77	62	24%	432	464	-7%
Danville Transit System	21,084	18,196	16%	133,005	114,526	16%
Farmville Area Bus	7,756	16,231	-52%	62,729	61,555	2%
Greater Lynchburg Transit Company	169,986	139,147	22%	1,604,837	1,295,312	24%
JAUNT Buckingham	1,031	687	50%	5,162	4,360	18%
Lake Area Bus / Halifax Area Rural Transit	516	431	20%	3,926	2,792	41%
Southside Community Services Board	6,418	1,036	519%	25,156	8,752	187%
STEPS, Inc	1,051	290	262%	7,173	5,192	38%
Total Lynchburg District Ridership	211,429	178,822	18%	1,865,139	1,511,044	23%
NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT						
Alexandria Transit Company	316,905	285,188	11%	2,072,932	1,994,044	4%
Arlington County	114,166	89,257	28%	729,498	572,063	28%
City of Alexandria-King Street Trolley	39,825	n/a	n/a	376,845	n/a	n/a
City of Fairfax	80,943	69,608	16%	559,538	525,611	6%
ECHO, Inc	3,717	2,734	36%	34,218	19,263	78%
Fairfax County	769,602	699,800	10%	5,033,159	4,829,764	4%
Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia	156	39	300%	690	260	165%
Loudoun County Office of Transportation Services	66,511	49,701	34%	449,309	362,136	24%
WMATA Metrorail (Virginia only)***	7,139,885	6,909,983	3%	50,449,778	48,481,982	4%
WMATA Metrobus & Falls Church GEORGE (Virginia only)	1,767,413	1,585,320	11%	11,633,071	10,209,044	14%
PRTC-OmniRide	247,466	194,580	27%	1,643,534	1,367,393	20%
The Arc of Greater Prince William	5,330	4,944	8%	30,606	31,923	-4%
Virginia Regional Transit - Loudoun	43,032	30,797	40%	281,723	217,613	29%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Purcellville	1,271	977	30%	9,989	9,620	4%
Total Northern Virginia District Ridership	10,596,222	9,922,928	7%	73,304,890	68,620,716	7%

December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

Operator	Total Ridership December 2008	Total Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
RICHMOND DISTRICT						
A Grace Place Adult Care Center	444	474	-6%	2,786	2,821	-1%
American Red Cross	654	655	0%	4,638	4,897	-5%
Bay Aging/NewKent/Charles City	922	714	29%	6,115	5,819	5%
Beth Sholom Home	308	310	-1%	1,772	1,820	-3%
Blackstone Area Bus	2,064	1,262	64%	11,052	7,872	40%
Blackstone Area Bus / Town and County Transit	316	259	22%	1,816	1,566	16%
Blackstone Area Bus - Brunswick Express	275	174	58%	1,991	1,587	25%
Chesterfield Community Service Board	1,667	1,397	19%	9,733	9,463	3%
City of Petersburg	49,304	48,794	1%	310,055	293,216	6%
Crater District Area Agency On Aging	3,127	3,168	-1%	22,182	25,060	-11%
Daily Planet	26	n/a	n/a	94	n/a	n/a
ElderHomes Corporation	148	152	-3%	974	1,012	-4%
Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services	38	45	-16%	364	404	-10%
Greater Richmond Transit Company	833,475	755,166	10%	5,404,581	5,080,012	6%
Lake Area Bus	1,460	1,523	-4%	10,054	11,222	-10%
St. Joeseph's Villa	226	n/a	n/a	774	n/a	n/a
Weinstein Jewish Community Center	82	102	-20%	643	732	-12%
Total Richmond District Ridership	894,536	814,195	10%	5,789,624	5,447,503	6%
SALEM DISTRICT						
Blacksburg Transit	215,678	119,704	80%	1,601,042	1,414,093	13%
Goodwill Industries of the Valleys	201	n/a	n/a	797	n/a	n/a
Greater Roanoke Transit Company	214,167	195,857	9%	1,333,996	1,193,645	12%
New River Valley Community Services	1,970	1,682	17%	11,947	11,749	2%
Piedmont Community Services	521	461	13%	3,262	3,250	0%
Pulaski Area Transit	7,770	6,881	13%	40,006	41,969	-5%
RADAR/Roanoke	2,021	566	257%	9,063	4,097	121%
Southern Area Agency On Aging	3,844	4,357	-12%	26,898	25,823	4%
Stepping Stones, Inc	28	28	0%	214	208	3%
Total Salem District Ridership	446,200	329,536	35%	3,027,225	2,694,834	12%

December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

Operator	Total Ridership December 2008	Total Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
STAUNTON DISTRICT						
City of Harrisonburg Dept. of Public Transportation	82,190	78,904	4%	863,677	772,831	12%
City of Winchester	9,715	9,689	0%	72,593	67,860	7%
Friendship Industries	772	757	2%	4,909	6,540	-25%
Grafton, Inc	1,201	1,894	-37%	9,410	11,364	-17%
Northwestern Community Services	948	1,000	-5%	7,019	6,000	17%
Pleasant View, Inc	6,178	n/a	n/a	31,289	n/a	n/a
RADAR/Covington & Clifton Forge	1,007	932	8%	7,103	6453	10%
Rockbridge Area CSB	890	920	-3%	7,556	6,400	18%
Rockbridge Area Occupational Center	532	376	41%	3,783	3,210	18%
Rockbridge Area Transportation System	838	471	78%	4,922	2,826	74%
Shen-Paco Industries	240	100	140%	2,676	1,320	103%
Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging	6,187	1,680	268%	17,881	13,599	31%
The Arc of Harrisonburg/Rockingham	565	2,139	-74%	10,615	15,988	-34%
Valley Program for Aging Services	2,376	1,725	38%	7,266	5820	25%
Virginia Regional Transit - CATS Coordinated Area Transportation	4,050	3,135	29%	22,996	19,210	20%
Virginia Regional Transit - City of Staunton	7,540	7,244	4%	54,775	52,324	5%
Virginia Regional Transit - Clarke County	244	119	105%	1,063	911	17%
Virginia Regional Transit - Page County	655	516	27%	4,147	3,643	14%
Virginia Regional Transit - Shenandoah Blue Ridge Service	2,468	1,487	66%	23,216	12,625	84%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Front Royal	985	998	-1%	6,277	5,738	9%
Total Staunton District Ridership	129,581	114,086	14%	1,163,173	1,014,662	15%
TOTAL STATEWIDE RIDERSHIP	Total Statewide Ridership December 2008	Total Statewide Ridership December 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2009 (July-Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
	14,519,292	13,341,356	9%	99,352,942	92,984,329	7%

December 2008 Statewide Ridership Report - Virginia Operators

CALENDAR COMPARISON	December 2008	December 2007	Percent Change		Fiscal Year-to-Date 2009 (July-Dec. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2008 (July-Dec. 2007)	Percent Change
Number of Weekdays	19	18	6%		121	121	0%
Number of Saturdays and Sundays	8	10	-20%		52	53	-2%
Number of State Holidays	3	3	0%		10	10	0%

*Amtrak provides on-time-performance data on a quarterly basis. Amtrak currently does not provide fiscal year-to-date on-time-performance data.

**Town of Chincoteague provides seasonal service and will resume operation in spring 2009.

***WMATA Metrorail has implemented a more accurate methodology for capturing Virginia-only unlinked passenger trips.

NOTES:

- Transit ridership is impacted by a number of factors to include: land use, population density, seasonal changes, service changes, number of days in a particular month, weather, fuel price, economic conditions and fare adjustments. The best method for comparison is current month's performance compared to the previous year's performance for that month.
- Over time, this report will become more detailed as DRPT collects and analyzes, in a more comprehensive manner, factors that impact ridership such as economic conditions and fare policy.
- Comparisons between regions or transit operators should be avoided without detailed analysis and understanding of local goals that support investment in public transportation.
- The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is the nation's second largest rail operator and fifth largest bus operator. WMATA reports only Virginia ridership (trips that begin and/or end in the Commonwealth) for DRPT's performance reports.
- The total statewide ridership figure excludes Amtrak ridership.