



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Commonwealth Transportation Board

**THROUGH:** Chip Badger  
Acting Director

**FROM:** Corey Hill  
Chief of Public Transportation

**DATE:** January 14, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Monthly Transit Ridership Report

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

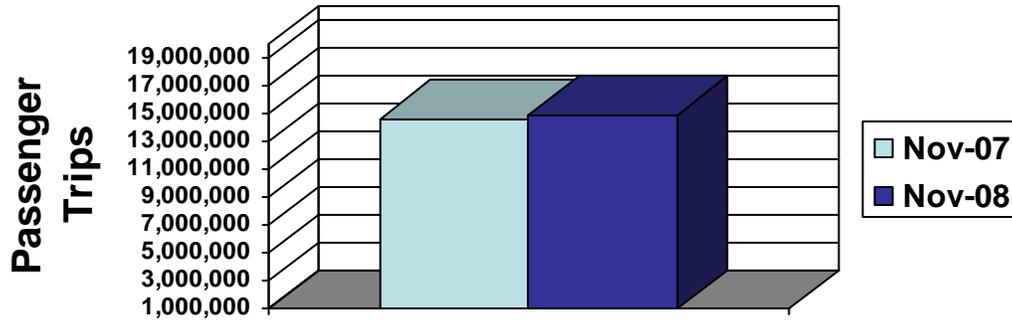
The following key facts are based on a year-over-year comparison of monthly results reported by transit operators for November 2007 and November 2008.

### Key Facts

- The price of fuel per gallon dropped 30.5 percent in November 2008, to \$2.14 per gallon, as compared to the November 2007 price of \$3.08 per gallon.
- November 2008 had one fewer weekday and two additional weekend service days as compared to November 2007, which may have impacted ridership for many operators.
- Virginia transit ridership for the month of November increased by 2 percent, or 281,311 trips in November 2008 as compared to November 2007, based on reports from all 57 transit operators, 47 (of 49) human service operators, and both passenger rail operators.
- Fiscal year 2009-to-date (July 2008-November 2008), Virginia transit ridership increased by 9 percent, or 6,616,491 trips, over the same period in fiscal year 2008 (July 2007-November 2007).
- Five of Virginia's nine transportation districts recorded increases in transit trips in November 2008 as compared to November 2007.
- The Fredericksburg District achieved the highest increase in transit trips in November 2008 as compared to November 2007.
- The Northern Virginia District accounts for 74 percent of statewide transit ridership for November 2008. The Hampton Roads and Richmond Districts account for 9.5 percent and 5.8 percent, respectively.

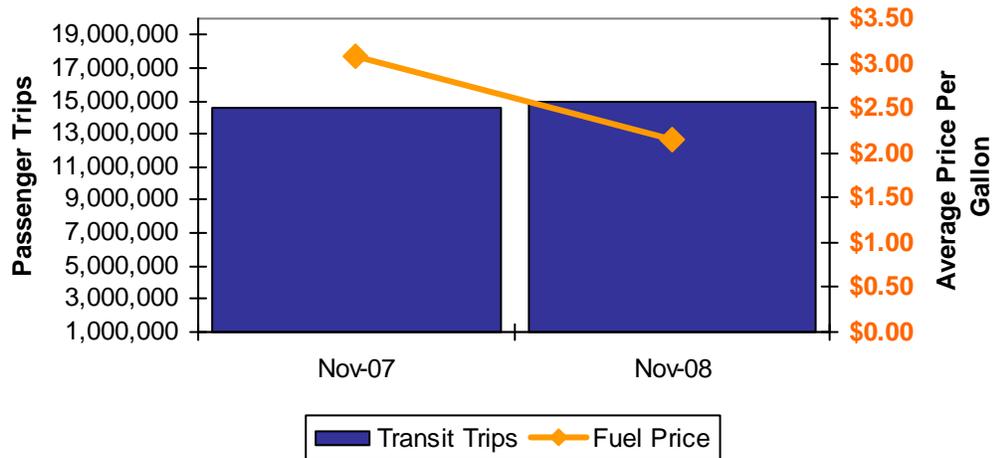
## Statewide Transit Ridership November 2007 and November 2008

*2% Ridership Increase*

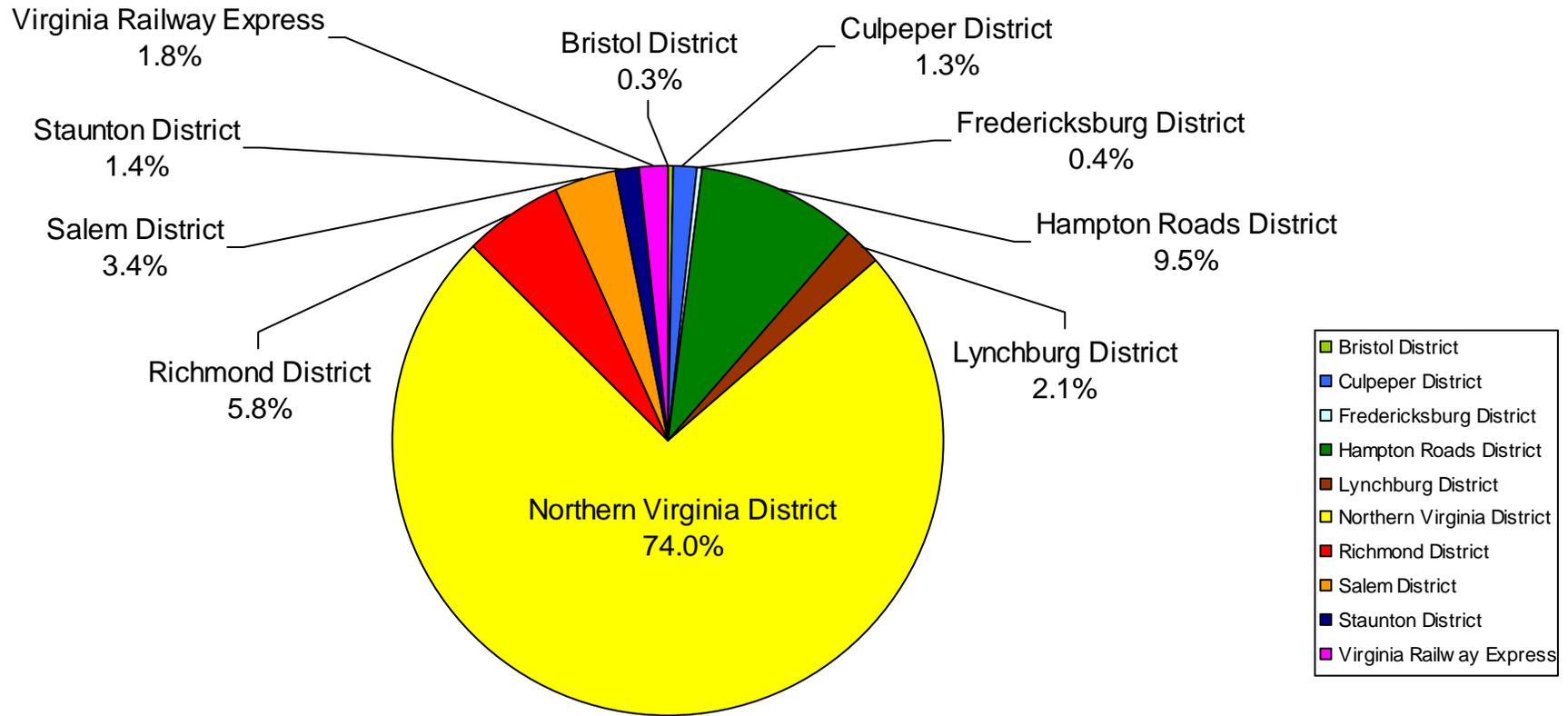


## Average Fuel Price vs. Transit Ridership November 2007 and November 2008

*30.5% Fuel Price Decrease*



# November 2008 Ridership



Virginia Railway Express (VRE) ridership is not depicted within district totals because VRE provides cross-district service.

## November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>PASSENGER RAIL</b>						
Virginia Railway Express	268,071	277,425	-3%	1,455,803	1,485,973	-2%
Amtrak (Virginia only)	83,608	89,183	-6%	455,739	420,236	8%
<b>Total Passenger Rail Ridership</b>	<b>351,679</b>	<b>366,608</b>	<b>-4%</b>			
PASSENGER RAIL ON-TIME PERFORMANCE	Percent On-Time Performance November 2008	Percent On-Time Performance November 2007	Percent Change	FYTD 2009 (July-Nov. 2008)	FYTD 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
Virginia Railway Express	80.6%	89.8%	-10%	86.2%	88.8%	-3%
Amtrak*	63.0%	53.2%	18%	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>BRISTOL DISTRICT</b>						
AASC / Four County Transit	11,850	16,136	-27%	76,665	82,264	-7%
City of Bristol Virginia	5,069	5,503	-8%	32,043	26,106	23%
District Three Public Transit	17,128	14,717	16%	99,825	93,893	6%
Junction Center for Independent Living	88	269	-67%	1,021	1,247	-18%
Mount Rogers Community Services Board	2,344	1,432	64%	10,123	6,949	46%
Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.	5,358	3,812	41%	32,768	20,783	58%
Town of Bluefield-Graham Transit	2,766	2,824	-2%	17,243	15,698	10%
<b>Total Bristol District Ridership</b>	<b>44,603</b>	<b>44,693</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>269,688</b>	<b>246,940</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>CULPEPER DISTRICT</b>						
Charlottesville Transit Service	161,726	153,977	5%	819,766	731,299	12%
Greene County Transit, Inc.	4,389	4,378	0%	22,129	22,193	0%
JAUNT, Inc.	21,086	21,763	-3%	116,767	111,505	5%
Rappahannock-Rapidan CSB-AAA	2,902	2,331	24%	14,627	11,655	25%
Virginia Regional Transit - Culpeper County	426	325	31%	2,135	1,812	18%
Virginia Regional Transit - Fauquier/Warrenton	2,917	2,610	12%	10,279	10,778	-5%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Culpeper	4,986	5,610	-11%	29,216	27,280	7%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Orange	1,942	2,134	-9%	11,889	12,336	-4%
<b>Total Culpeper District Ridership</b>	<b>200,374</b>	<b>193,128</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>1,026,808</b>	<b>928,858</b>	<b>11%</b>

## November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>FREDERICKSBURG DISTRICT</b>						
Bay Aging	9,607	10,000	-4%	61,268	58,954	4%
Bay Aging/Colonial Beach Transit	844	497	70%	4,977	4,204	18%
FRED - Caroline County	585	412	42%	3,526	2,542	39%
FRED - King George	1,620	969	67%	9,478	5,493	73%
Fredericksburg Regional Transit	38,267	31,530	21%	220,718	156,496	41%
Rappahannock Area Community Services Board	9,950	8,072	23%	47,891	41,727	15%
<b>Total Fredericksburg District Ridership</b>	<b>60,873</b>	<b>51,480</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>347,858</b>	<b>269,416</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>HAMPTON ROADS DISTRICT</b>						
Arc of the Virginia Peninsula	1,350	n/a	n/a	7,629	n/a	n/a
Bon Secours Senior Health	304	102	198%	2,152	241	793%
Chesapeake Service Systems	364	366	-1%	1,832	1,799	2%
Eastern Shore Community Services Board	2,204	2,720	-19%	13,790	13,164	5%
ESAAA/CAA	826	1,055	-22%	4,552	5,167	-12%
Hampton Roads Transit	1,257,380	1,235,223	2%	8,199,188	6,683,687	23%
Historic Triangle Senior Center	446	409	9%	2,865	2,384	20%
Hope House Foundation	40	n/a	n/a	292	n/a	n/a
Peninsula Agency on Aging	1,454	1,878	-23%	9,130	9,684	-6%
Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia	2,630	2,326	13%	14,151	11,840	20%
STAR Transit	2,886	3,793	-24%	15,991	18,172	-12%
Sussex-Greenville-Emporia Adult Activity Services, Inc	1,681	1,724	-2%	9,382	9,096	3%
Town of Chincoteague**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Western Tidewater Community Service Board	601	526	14%	3,207	3,078	4%
Williamsburg Area Transport	169,726	204,908	-17%	1,536,534	1,600,042	-4%
<b>Total Hampton Roads District Ridership</b>	<b>1,441,892</b>	<b>1,455,030</b>	<b>-1%</b>	<b>9,820,695</b>	<b>8,358,354</b>	<b>17%</b>

## November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>LYNCHBURG DISTRICT</b>						
Blackstone Area Bus / Piedmont Area Transit	622	568	10%	3,699	2,871	29%
Central Virginia Area Agency on Aging	3,001	2,397	25%	15,333	12,478	23%
Danville City's Parks, Recreation, And Tourism; Stonewall Therapeutic Recreation Center	56	75	-25%	355	402	-12%
Danville Transit System	19,970	19,671	2%	111,921	96,330	16%
Farmville Area Bus	12,108	10,943	11%	54,973	45,324	21%
Greater Lynchburg Transit Company	276,106	260,723	6%	1,418,185	1,156,165	23%
JAUNT Buckingham	1,035	770	34%	4,131	3,673	12%
Lake Area Bus / Halifax Area Rural Transit	407	386	5%	2,934	2,361	24%
Southside Community Services Board	5,740	1,544	272%	12,818	7,716	66%
STEPS, Inc	1,002	674	49%	6,122	4,902	25%
<b>Total Lynchburg District Ridership</b>	<b>320,047</b>	<b>297,751</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>1,630,471</b>	<b>1,332,222</b>	<b>22%</b>
<b>NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT</b>						
Alexandria Transit Company	300,748	310,652	-3%	1,756,027	1,708,856	3%
Arlington County	107,994	94,491	14%	615,332	482,806	27%
City of Alexandria-King Street Trolley	65,283	n/a	n/a	337,020	n/a	n/a
City of Fairfax	85,625	86,192	-1%	478,595	456,003	5%
ECHO, Inc	3,355	3,146	7%	19,091	16,529	16%
Fairfax County	755,717	785,341	-4%	4,303,327	4,129,964	4%
Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia	130	104	25%	534	221	142%
Loudoun County Office of Transportation Services	62,706	58,435	7%	382,798	312,435	23%
WMATA Metrorail (Virginia only)***	7,843,904	7,786,157	1%	43,309,893	41,571,999	4%
WMATA Metrobus & Falls Church GEORGE (Virginia only)	1,725,905	1,586,708	9%	9,865,658	8,623,724	14%
PRTC-OmnIRide	236,699	221,221	7%	1,394,320	1,172,813	19%
The Arc of Greater Prince William	4,919	5,368	-8%	25,276	26,979	-6%
Virginia Regional Transit - Loudoun	41,316	35,051	18%	239,716	186,816	28%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Purcellville	1,290	1,175	10%	8,718	8,643	1%
<b>Total Northern Virginia District Ridership</b>	<b>11,235,591</b>	<b>10,974,041</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>62,736,305</b>	<b>58,697,788</b>	<b>7%</b>

## November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>RICHMOND DISTRICT</b>						
A Grace Place Adult Care Center	401	340	18%	2,342	2,347	0%
American Red Cross	690	715	-3%	3,984	4,242	-6%
Bay Aging/NewKent/Charles City	871	857	2%	5,193	5,105	2%
Beth Sholom Home	255	320	-20%	1,464	1,510	-3%
Blackstone Area Bus	1,604	1,363	18%	8,988	6,610	36%
Blackstone Area Bus / Town and County Transit	282	296	-5%	1,500	1,307	15%
Blackstone Area Bus - Brunswick Express	323	285	13%	1,716	1,413	21%
Chesterfield Community Service Board	1,302	1,400	-7%	8,066	8,066	0%
City of Petersburg	47,717	51,082	-7%	260,751	244,422	7%
Crater District Area Agency On Aging	3,362	4,676	-28%	18,427	21,892	-16%
Daily Planet	15	n/a	n/a	89	n/a	n/a
ElderHomes Corporation	190	148	28%	826	860	-4%
Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services	74	80	-8%	416	359	16%
Greater Richmond Transit Company	826,221	855,833	-3%	4,571,106	4,324,846	6%
Lake Area Bus	1,343	2,210	-39%	8,594	9,735	-12%
St. Joeseph's Villa	304	n/a	n/a	962	n/a	n/a
Weinstein Jewish Community Center	115	126	-9%	561	630	-11%
<b>Total Richmond District Ridership</b>	<b>885,069</b>	<b>919,731</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>4,894,985</b>	<b>4,633,344</b>	<b>6%</b>

### November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>SALEM DISTRICT</b>						
Blacksburg Transit	296,666	271,571	9%	1,385,364	1,294,389	7%
Goodwill Industries of the Valleys	135	n/a	n/a	596	n/a	n/a
Greater Roanoke Transit Company	203,564	200,831	1%	1,119,829	990,048	13%
New River Valley Community Services	1,883	1,873	1%	9,977	10,067	-1%
Piedmont Community Services	551	563	-2%	2,741	2,789	-2%
Pulaski Area Transit	6,137	7,018	-13%	35,142	38,840	-10%
RADAR/Roanoke	2,504	845	196%	7,042	3531	99%
Southern Area Agency On Aging	4,912	4,839	2%	23,054	21,466	7%
Stepping Stones, Inc	34	38	-11%	186	180	3%
<b>Total Salem District Ridership</b>	<b>516,386</b>	<b>487,578</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>2,583,931</b>	<b>2,361,310</b>	<b>9%</b>

## November 2008 Ridership Report

Operator	Total Ridership November 2008	Total Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2009 (July- Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to- Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
<b>STAUNTON DISTRICT</b>						
City of Harrisonburg Dept. of Public Transportation	170,542	176,577	-3%	781,487	693,771	13%
City of Winchester	10,130	11,134	-9%	62,878	58,171	8%
Friendship Industries	723	1,015	-29%	4,137	5,783	-28%
Grafton, Inc	1,295	1,894	-32%	8,209	9,470	-13%
Northwestern Community Services	916	1,500	-39%	6,336	7,340	-14%
Pleasant View, Inc	6,267	n/a	n/a	25,111	n/a	n/a
RADAR/Covington & Clifton Forge	976	950	3%	6,096	5521	10%
Rockbridge Area CSB	828	920	-10%	4,786	4,560	5%
Rockbridge Area Occupational Center	557	465	20%	3,251	2,834	15%
Rockbridge Area Transportation System	863	471	83%	4,084	2,355	73%
Shen-Paco Industries	300	100	200%	2,436	1,220	100%
Shenandoah Area Agency on Aging	1,747	2,065	-15%	11,694	11,919	-2%
The Arc of Harrisonburg/Rockingham	510	543	-6%	2,905	2,860	2%
Valley Program for Aging Services	2,212	2,196	1%	12,091	11294	7%
Virginia Regional Transit - CATS Coordinated Area Transportation	3,455	3,159	9%	18,946	16,075	18%
Virginia Regional Transit - City of Staunton	7,332	7,408	-1%	47,235	45,080	5%
Virginia Regional Transit - Clarke County	181	119	52%	819	792	3%
Virginia Regional Transit - Page County	580	633	-8%	3,492	3,127	12%
Virginia Regional Transit - Shenandoah Blue Ridge Service	4,087	2,551	60%	20,748	11,139	86%
Virginia Regional Transit - Town of Front Royal	900	793	13%	5,292	4,740	12%
<b>Total Staunton District Ridership</b>	<b>214,401</b>	<b>214,493</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>1,032,033</b>	<b>898,051</b>	<b>15%</b>

## November 2008 Ridership Report

TOTAL STATEWIDE RIDERSHIP	Total Statewide Ridership November 2008	Total Statewide Ridership November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2009 (July-Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
		14,919,236	14,637,925	2%	84,342,774	77,726,283
CALENDAR COMPARISON	November 2008	November 2007	Percent Change	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2009 (July-Nov. 2008)	Fiscal Year-to-Date 2008 (July-Nov. 2007)	Percent Change
	Number of Weekdays	16	17	-6%	102	102
Number of Saturdays and Sundays	10	8	25%	44	43	2%
Number of State Holidays	4	4	0%	7	7	0%

\*Amtrak provides monthly OTP data on a quarterly basis. Amtrak currently does not provide a calculation for fiscal year-to-date OTP.

\*\*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.