



Travel Patterns

in the New York Metropolitan Area

Change in travel during Covid-19

First
Quarter **(Q1)** 2020

About the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council

The New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) is a regional council of governments that is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City, Long Island and the lower Hudson Valley. NYMTC provides a collaborative planning forum to address transportation-related issues, develop regional plans and make decisions on the use of federal transportation funds for its planning area. NYMTC's planning area covers 2,440 square miles and includes a population of 12.4 million, which was approximately 64% of New York State's population, based on the 2010 Census. For more information, please visit www.nymtc.org.

**This quarterly brochure is compiled by the
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Disclaimer

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Travel Patterns in the New York Metropolitan Area for 2020's First Quarter provides an overview of regional travel patterns. Data were collected from the agencies operating each facility. The information in this report is meant to provide a snapshot of travel from New York City, Long Island, the lower Hudson Valley and New Jersey. Regional travel patterns may change for a variety of reasons, including economic changes, service disruptions, construction, weather conditions or seasonal travel variations.

Starting from March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused sharp reductions in passenger travels of all transportation modes in the New York Metropolitan Area.

The number of vehicles that crossed the New York metropolitan area's major rivers decreased by almost 8% in the First Quarter of 2020 due to 0.44 million fewer total vehicle river crossings in March 2020, compared to March 2019 data.

VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS
0.44 million decrease
between
March-2019/March-2020

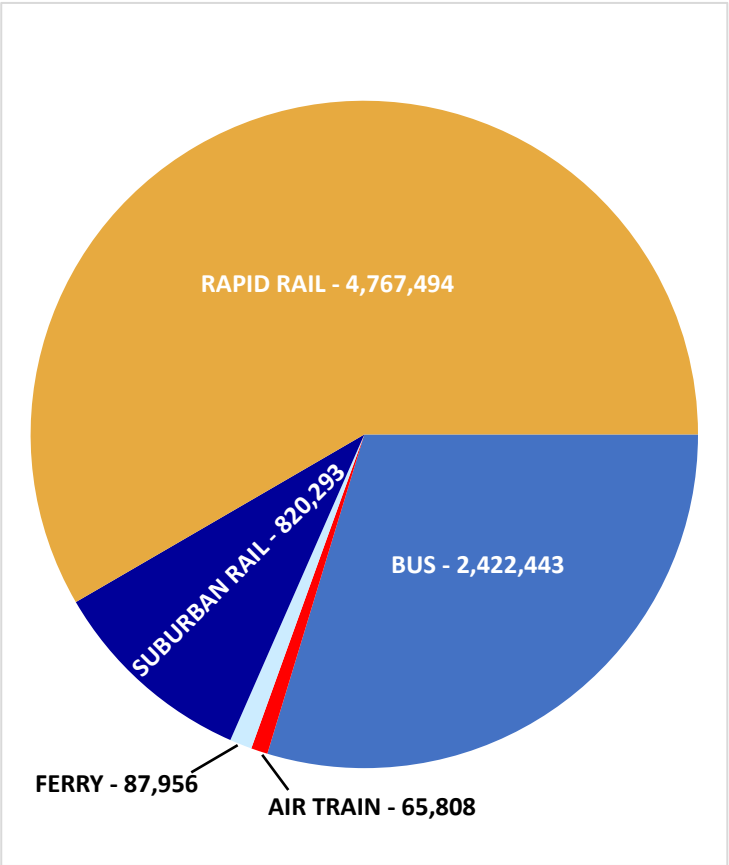
On an average weekday in the First Quarter of 2020, there were over 8.16 million total bus, rail and ferry trips (about 1.5 million less than in the First Quarter of 2019).

TRANSIT PASSENGER TRAVELS
15% decrease
between
Q1-2019/Q1-2020 (*)

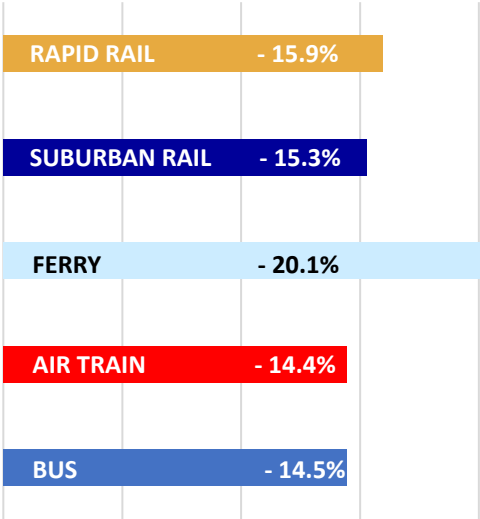
(*) Transit passenger travel dropped by 50% in the month of March 2020 compared to that in the month of March 2019.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY BUS, RAIL, and FERRY TRIPS In the New York Metropolitan Area

Total Trips by Mode
in Q1 2020



Percentage Change
from Q1 2019 to Q1 2020 (*)



(*) Transit passenger travel dropped by 50% in the month of March 2020 compared to that in the month of March 2019.

MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS TRAFFIC

First Quarter 2020

Monthly Comparison Q1-2019 vs. Q1-2020

VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS	Agency	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Average Q1 2020	Q1 2019 vs Q1 2020 % Change
EAST RIVER/LONG ISLAND SOUND CROSSINGS						
Ed Koch Queensborough Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Williamsburg Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manhattan Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Brooklyn Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Queens Midtown Tunnel	MTA B&T (2)	79,106	84,117	55,199	72,807	-11.3
Hugh L. Carey Tunnel	MTA B&T	53,666	56,936	39,106	49,903	-10.8
RFK Bridge-Bronx Plaza (3)	MTA B&T	135,189	138,633	102,979	125,600	-9.6
RFK Bridge-Manhattan Plaza (3)	MTA B&T	38,050	40,237	28,366	35,551	-12.8
Bronx Whitestone Bridge	MTA B&T	130,661	131,021	98,464	120,049	-5.2
Throgs Neck Bridge	MTA B&T	108,889	111,437	86,559	102,295	-11.3
Total		545,561	562,381	410,673	506,205	-9.5
HUDSON RIVER CROSSINGS						
George Washington Bridge (Note 1)	PANY&NJ (4)	265,660	270,139	207,266	246,312	-5.1
Lincoln Tunnel (Note 1)	PANY&NJ	95,500	98,471	71,131	87,764	-10.4
Holland Tunnel (Note 1)	PANY&NJ	81,559	84,297	60,598	74,960	-5.6
Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (5)	NYS TA (6)	136,413	141,179	103,848	127,147	-7.5
Bear Mountain Bridge	NYS BA (7)	21,070	20,941	16,551	19,520	-6.5
Total		600,202	615,027	459,393	555,703	-6.6
ARTHUR KILL CROSSINGS						
Bayonne Bridge (Note 1)	PANY&NJ	19,754	19,913	15,836	18,413	11.7
Goethals Bridge (Note 1)	PANY&NJ	90,663	92,861	71,218	84,437	-3.9
Outerbridge Crossing (Note 1)	PANY&NJ	77,002	76,552	59,943	70,811	-6.2
Total		187,419	189,326	146,997	173,661	-3.4
HARLEM RIVER CROSSINGS						
Henry Hudson Bridge	MTA B&T	68,985	69,972	44,480	61,146	-12.3
SOUTH SHORE/JAMAICA BAY CROSSINGS						
Marine Parkway Bridge	MTA B&T	21,704	20,956	16,381	19,680	-6.9
Cross Bay Bridge	MTA B&T	23,078	22,538	18,622	21,413	-7.9
Atlantic Beach Bridge (8)	NCBA (9)	13,176	13,171	6,908	11,085	-15.6
Total		57,958	56,665	41,911	52,178	-9.3
NEW YORK BAY CROSSINGS						
Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge	MTA B&T	203,527	203,946	162,495	189,989	-6.8
GRAND TOTAL		1,663,652	1,697,317	1,265,949	1,538,882	-7.6

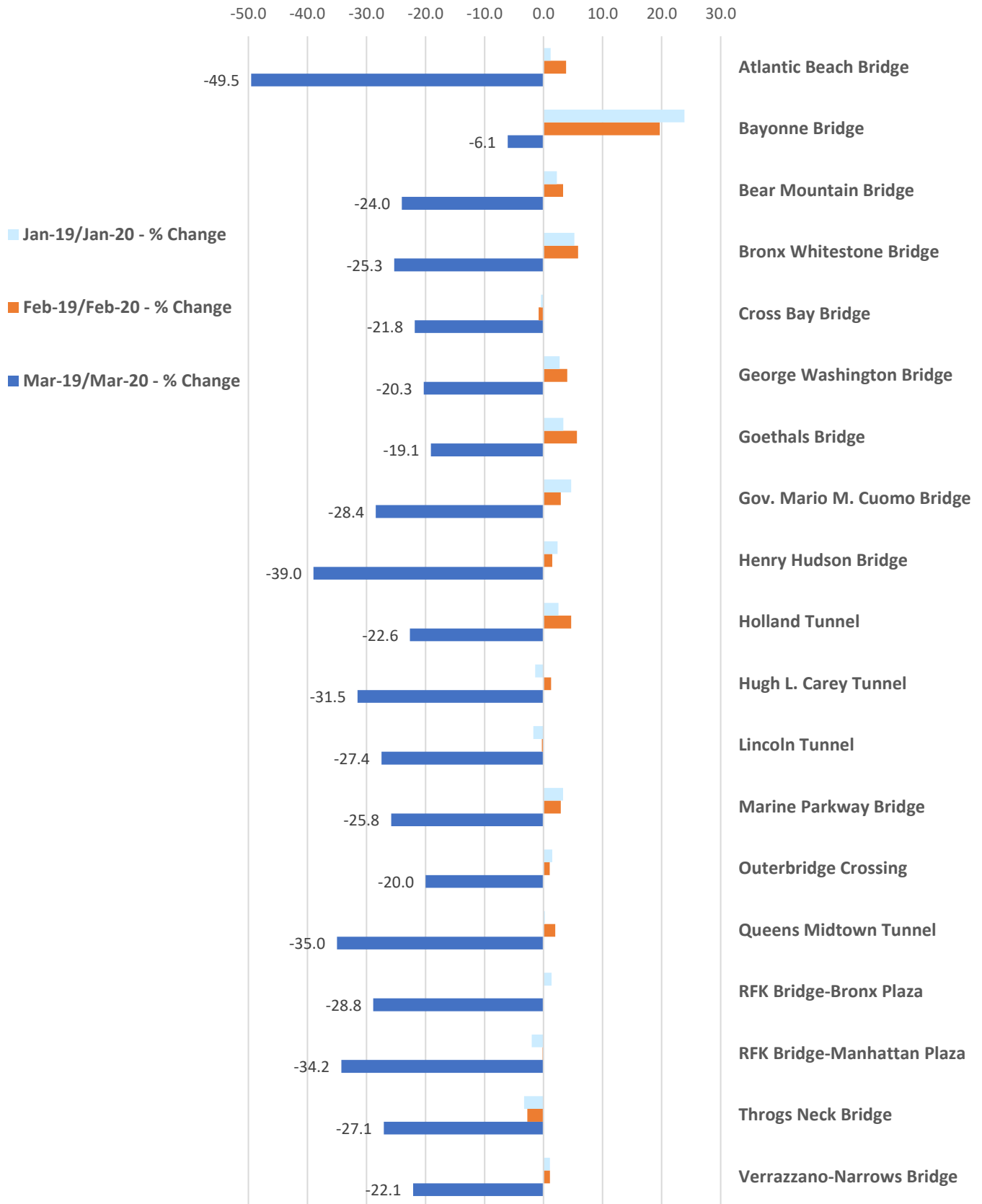
- (1) NYC DOT - New York City Department of Transportation (Monthly data not available. Average weekday data collected in October are used for the average 4th Qtr each year).
 (2) MTA B&T- Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Bridges and Tunnels
 (3) The Triborough Bridge, renamed to the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge in 2008, and sometimes referred to as the RFK Triborough Bridge
 (4) Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
 (5) The Tappan Zee Bridge was renamed to Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge, in 2017
 (6) New York State Thruway Authority
 (7) New York State Bridge Authority
 (8) Monthly average traffic data include weekends.
 (9) Nassau County Bridge Authority

Note 1: Weighted average data provided by PANY&NJ.
 n/a - Data not available.

MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS

Average Weekday Traffic

Percentage Change from Q1 2019 to Q1 2020, by Month



Note: For Ed Koch Queensborough Bridge, Williamsburg Bridge, Manhattan Bridge, and Brooklyn Bridge only 4th Qtr data for each year is available.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY BUS & RAIL TRIPS

First Quarter 2020

Monthly Comparison Q1-2019 vs. Q1-2020

					Average	Q1 2019 vs Q1 2020 % Change	
BUS and RAIL RIDERSHIP		Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Q1 2020		
NEW YORK TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM							
MTA/NYC Transit Subway	(1)	5,270,001	5,484,495	2,820,420	4,524,972	-15.9	
MTA/Staten Island Railway		16,201	16,298	8,575	13,691	-14.7	
MTA/Metro-North Railroad	(2)	275,130	273,584	146,084	231,599	-17.0	
MTA/Long Island Rail Road		302,533	305,557	131,992	246,694	-19.4	
MTA RAIL Total		5,863,865	6,079,934	3,107,071	5,016,957	-16.1	
NEW YORK CITY BUSES							
MTA/NYC Transit Bus		1,705,411	1,765,568	984,777	1,485,252	-15.6	
MTA Bus Company (formerly private buses)		375,796	388,497	217,801	327,365	-15.2	
Academy Bus		1,310	1,313	740	1,121	-28.8	
Total NYC Buses		2,082,517	2,155,378	1,203,318	1,813,738	-15.6	
PORT AUTHORITY TRANS-HUDSON (PATH) RAIL							
PATH-New York Stations		124,630	127,483	56,798	102,970	-17.5	
PATH-New Jersey Stations		152,602	155,369	69,610	125,860	-17.4	
PATH Total		277,232	282,852	126,408	228,831	-17.5	
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM (3)							
New Jersey Transit Rail	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	270,700	-11.2	
Newark Light Rail	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	17,900	-4.0	
New Jersey Transit HBLR	(5)	(3)	(3)	(3)	46,050	-11.4	
River Line		(3)	(3)	(3)	7,450	-8.6	
NJ Rail Total					342,100	-10.8	
AIRPORT RAIL ACCESS							
Newark AirTrain	(6),	25,641	24,473	13,965	21,360	-17.1	
JFK AirTrain	(6), (Note 1)	52,212	49,512	31,621	44,448	-13.1	
Total Airport Rail Access		(Note 1)	77,853	73,985	45,586	65,808	-14.4
SUBURBAN BUSES							
New Jersey Transit Bus	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	436,650	-10.4	
Nassau Inter-County Express (NICE)		74,993	72,640	50,847	66,160	-13.9	
Westchester County Bee-Line Bus		82,812	79,068	51,065	70,982	-14.6	
Orange County Buses	(7)	(3)	(3)	(3)	3,191	-14.1	
Putnam County Buses	(6)	320	317	160	265	-14.5	
Rockland County Buses	(7), (Note 2)	14,788	14,198	9,064	12,683	0.1	
Hudson Link Bus		1,362	1,379	951	1,231	-4.8	
Dutchess County Public Transit		2,273	2,341	1,538	2,051	-20.0	
City of Long Beach		801	746	699	749	-20.1	
Suffolk County Buses	(6), (8)	16,219	17,484	10,528	14,744	-10.8	
Total Suburb Buses					608,705	-11.2	
GRAND TOTAL					8,076,138	-15.4	

(1) MTA - Metropolitan Transportation Authority

(2) MTA/M-N Railroad ridership covers MTA trains leaving from GCT (Grand Central Terminal) and Penn Station (West of Hudson trains).

(3) Only quarterly data available.

(4) Newark Light Rail data was formerly added to Hudson Bergen Light Rail (HBLR) System

(5) Hudson Bergen Light Rail

(6) Monthly average ridership data include weekends.

(7) Local and Express buses

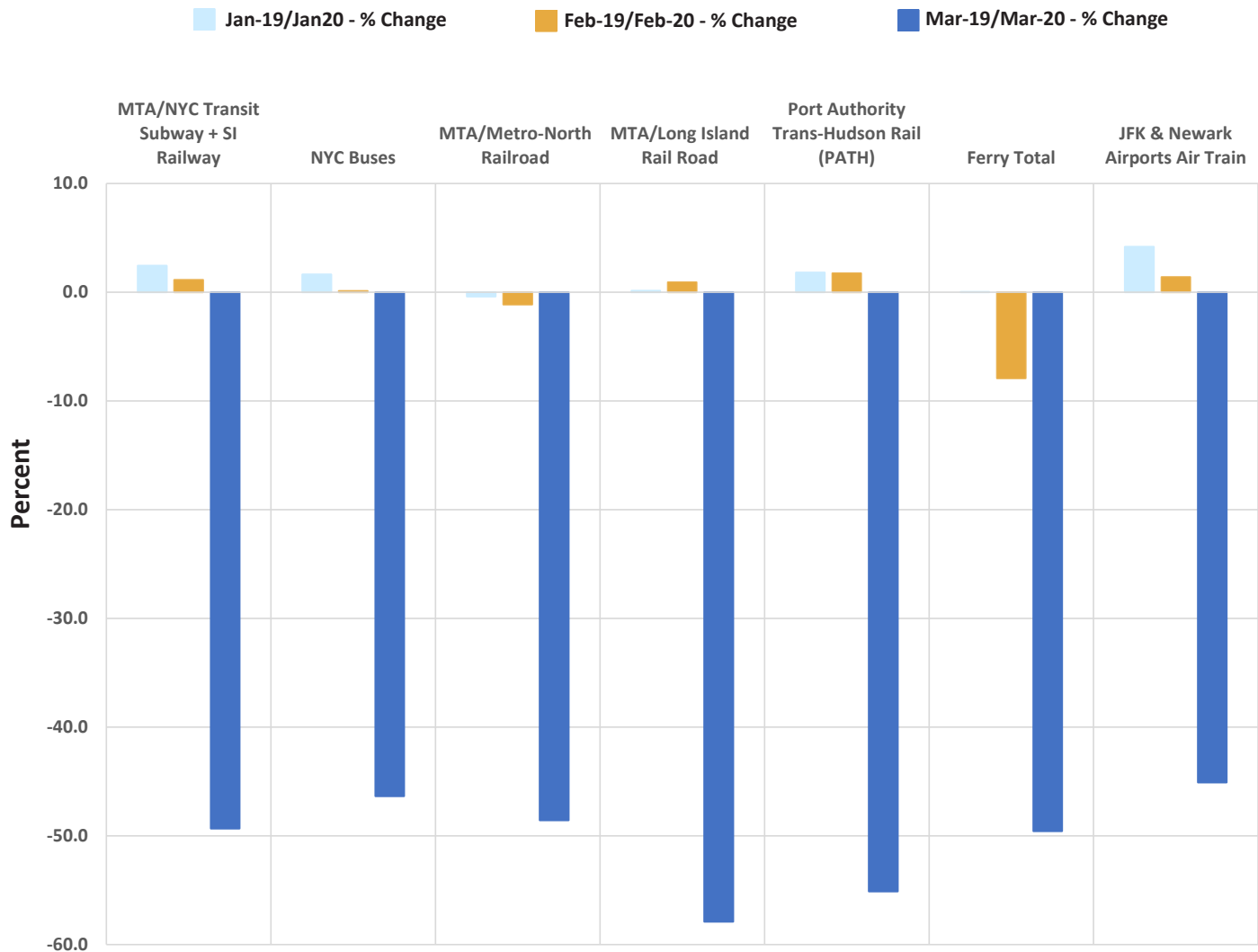
(8) Suffolk Cty includes local and pass-through buses, HART - Huntington Area Rapid Transit

Note 1: Increased numbers due to the change in the system of counting passengers which now includes all passengers throughout the system.

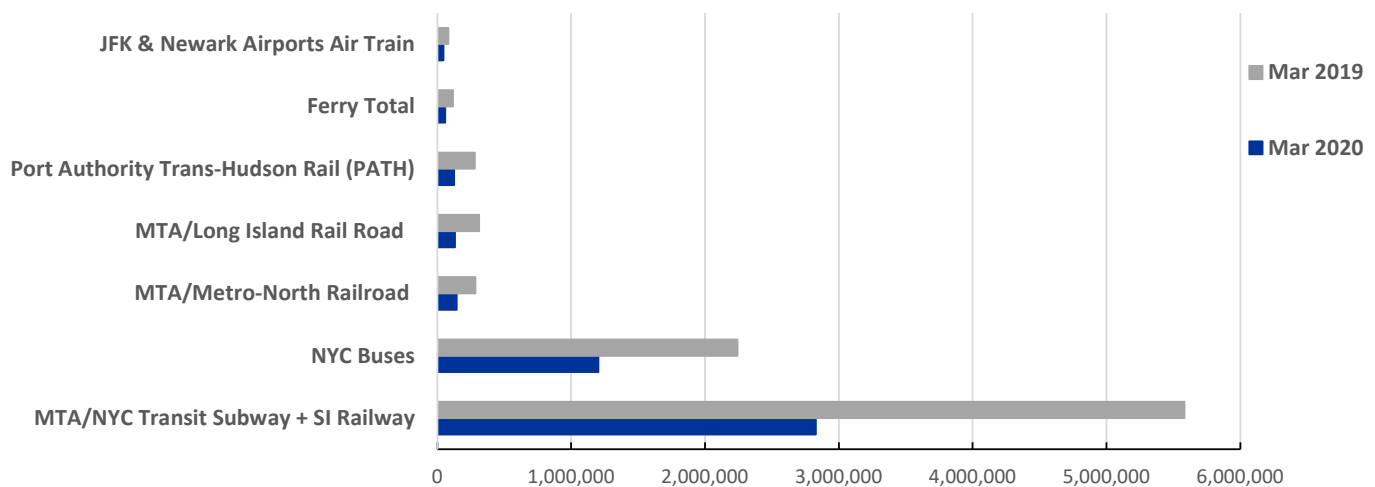
Note 2: Orange-Westchester Link (through buses) ridership in Rockland County include both private and County buses.

Sources: Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, MTA, New Jersey Transit Co, NYS DOT, NYCDOT, Westchester DOT, other NY counties bus operators.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY PASSENGERS by Public Transportation Mode Percentage Change from Q1 2019 to Q1 2020, by Month



TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY PASSENGERS by Public Transportation Mode March 2019 vs. March 2020



AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

First Quarter 2020

Monthly Comparison Q1-2019 vs. Q1-2020

FERRY RIDERSHIP	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Average Q1 2020	Q1 2019 vs Q1 2020 % Change
Billybey Ferry					
Hoboken South					
Hoboken - Pier 11	2,031	2,017	1,307	1,785	-19.0
Hoboken - WFC (World Financial Center)	2,395	2,289	1,443	2,042	-11.3
Hoboken - Pier 79 (West 39th Street)	113	166	167	149	-23.8
Total	4,539	4,472	2,918	3,976	-15.4
Jersey City					
Paulus Hook - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	291	331	303	308	-13.2
Paulus Hook - WFC	3,032	3,027	1,356	2,472	-20.3
Port Liberte - Pier 11	353	374	222	316	-9.6
Liberty Harbor - Pier 11	421	395	275	364	-25.7
Paulus Hook - Pier 11	679	685	502	622	-24.4
Harborside - Pier 79	177	305	286	256	3.1
Harborside - Brookfield Place/ Battery Park City	312	318	329	320	-15.5
Total	5,265	5,435	3,272	4,657	-18.9
Billybey Total	9,804	9,907	6,190	8,634	-17.4
NY Waterway					
Weehawken/Hoboken North					
Weehawken - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	5,636	5,746	3,443	4,942	-17.2
Weehawken - Hoboken North - WFC	1,263	1,183	790	1,079	-5.6
Hoboken North - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	2,127	2,209	1,345	1,894	-14.7
Weehawken - Pier 11	1,078	1,105	768	984	-13.9
Lincoln Harbor - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	1,631	1,577	861	1,356	-13.0
Edgewater - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	977	995	747	906	-13.6
Total	12,712	12,815	7,955	11,161	-14.7
Belford / Haverstraw / Newburgh					
Belford - Pier 11	2,295	2,113	500	1,636	-30.8
Haverstraw - Ossining	473	469	100	347	-23.7
Newburgh - Beacon	219	222	100	180	4.3
Total	2,987	2,804	700	2,164	-27.7
NY Waterway Total	15,699	15,619	8,655	13,324	-17.1
Seastreak					
Atlantic Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	2,476	2,319	1,002	1,932	-11.2
Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	1,875	1,674	741	1,430	-12.3
Total Seastreak	4,351	3,993	1,743	3,362	-11.7
New York Water Taxi					
Ikea Terminal (Red Hook, Brooklyn) - Pier 11	87	97	68	84	-18.9
Hop-on/Hop-off Ferry Service (1)	384	332	391	369	-34.2
Total NYWater Taxi	471	429	459	453	-31.8
Liberty Park Water Taxi					
Liberty Landing - BPC (Battery Park City)	639	547	379	522	-12.5
Total Liberty Park Water Taxi	639	547	379	522	-12.5
Hornblower Marine Services					
East River Ferry Service	4,935	4,965	3,006	4,302	10.6
Rockaway Service	1,248	1,175	735	1,053	15.9
Brooklyn Service	903	863	586	784	-15.1
Astoria Service	2,234	2,221	1,420	1,958	8.7
Sound View (2)	1,727	1,674	1,103	1,501	43.3
Lower East Side (2)	994	969	625	863	-5.1
Total Hornblower Marine Services	12,041	11,867	7,474	10,461	10.4
Total Average Weekday Private Ferries	43,005	42,362	24,900	36,756	-10.5
Staten Island Ferry	61,305	58,634	33,661	51,200	-25.8
GRAND TOTAL	104,310	100,996	58,561	87,956	-20.1

(1) - South St. Seaport, Battery Park, Fulton Landing, West 44th St.

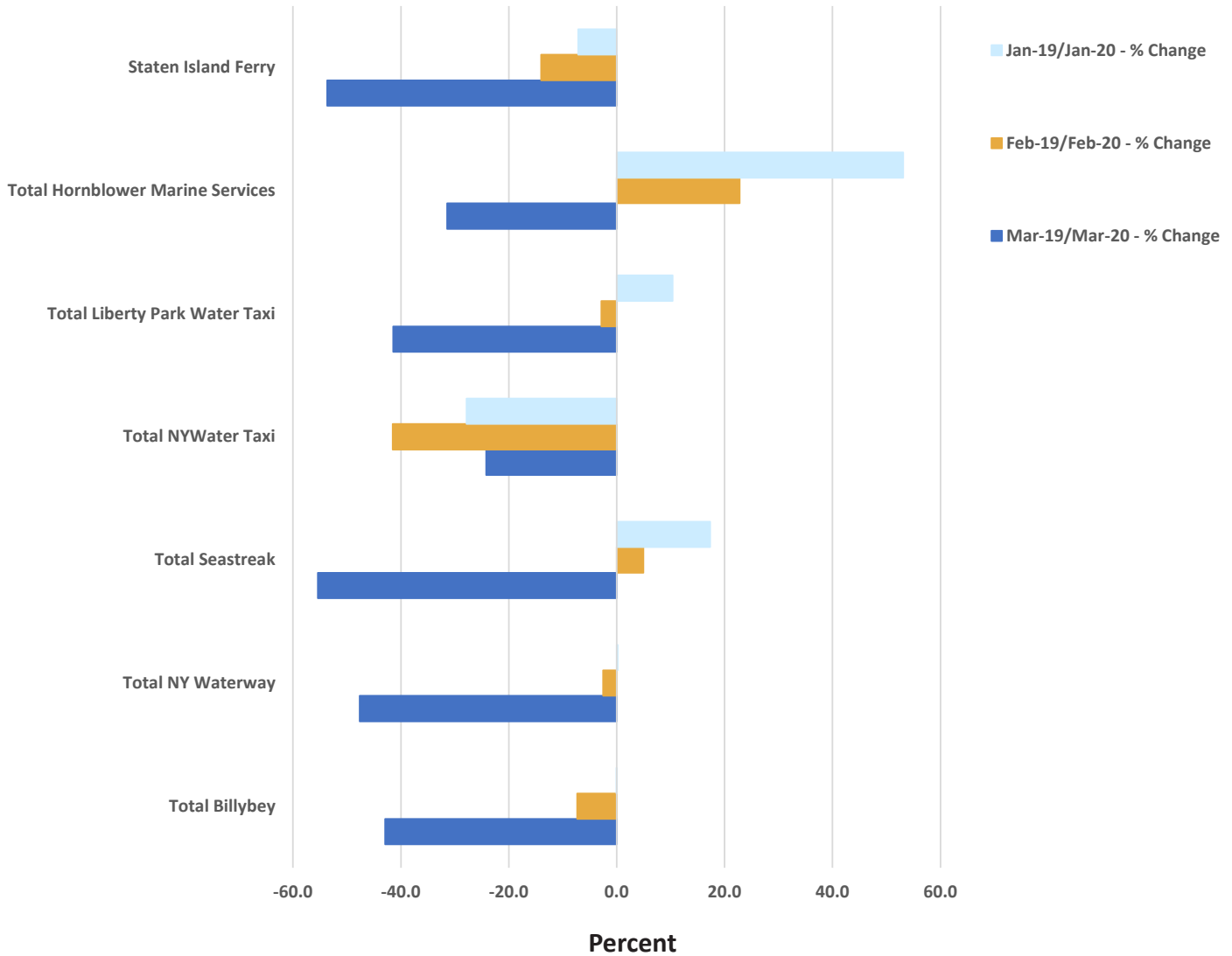
(2) - Hornblower Marine - Sound View and Lower East Side services started in August 2018.

Sources: NYC DOT, PANY&NJ

AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

by Ferry Operator

Percentage Change from 2019 to 2020, by Month



TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

March 2019 vs. March 2020

