



Travel Patterns

in the New York Metropolitan Area

Fourth
Quarter (Q4) 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 13.2 million, which was approximately 65% of New York State's 20.2 million total population, based on the 2020 Census. For more information, please visit www.nymtc.org.

**This quarterly brochure is compiled by the
New York Metropolitan Transportation Council.**

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Disclaimer

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Travel Patterns in the New York Metropolitan Area for 2020’s fourth quarter (Q4) provide an overview of regional travel patterns. NYMTC staff collected data 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.

In the Q4 of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to cause a large drop in passenger travel across 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 about 16% or 0.35 million vehicles in Q4 2020, compared to Q4 2019.

On an average weekday in the Q4 of 2020, there were nearly 3.4 million total bus, rail and ferry trips, which is about 6.5 million, or 65%, less trips than in the Q4 of 2019.

**AVERAGE WEEKDAY
VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS**
decreased by 16% or
0.35 million vehicles between
Q4-2019/Q4-2020

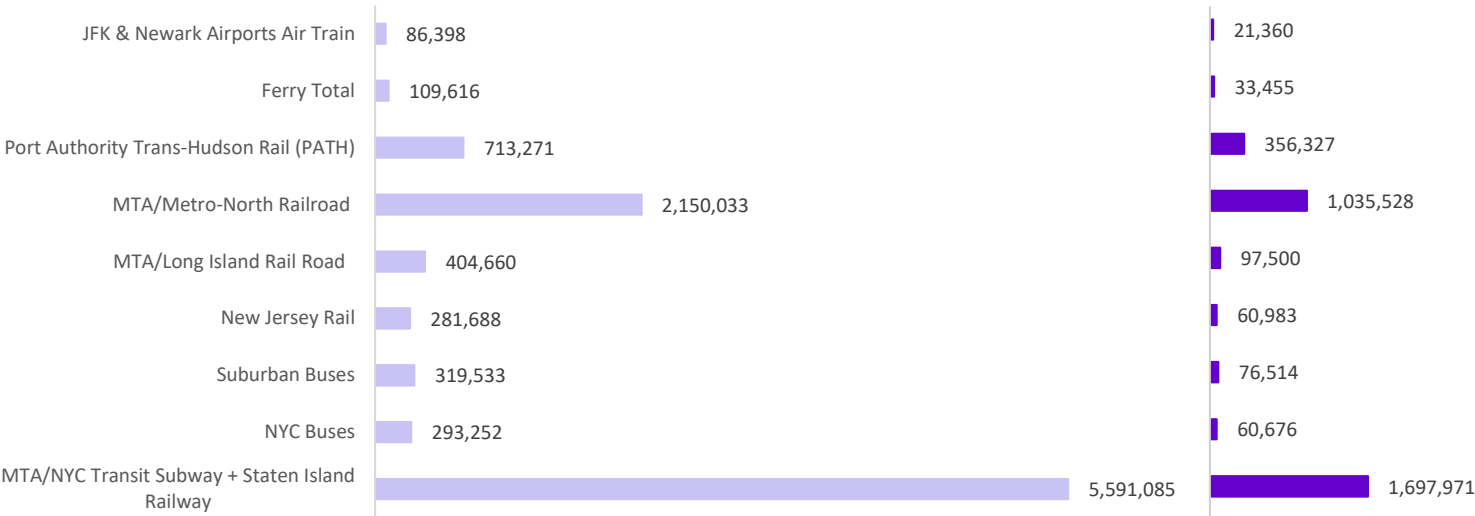
**AVERAGE WEEKDAY
TRANSIT PASSENGER TRAVEL**
decreased by 65% or 6.5 million
trips between Q4-2019/Q4-2020

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

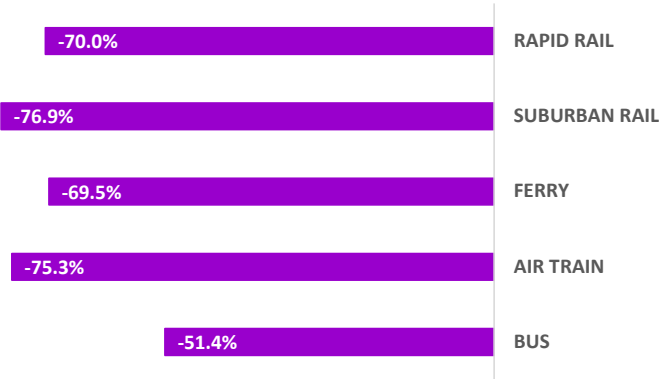
Total Trips by Mode

in Q4 2019

in Q4 2020



Total Trips by Mode, Percentage Change from Q4 2019 to Q4 2020



MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS TRAFFIC

Q4 2020

Monthly Comparison Q4-2019 vs. Q4-2020

VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS	Agency	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Average Q4 2020	Q4 2019 to Q4 2020 % Change
EAST RIVER/LONG ISLAND SOUND CROSSINGS						
Ed Koch Queensborough Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	127,447	-22.7
Williamsburg Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	85,412	-33.4
Manhattan Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	69,549	0.4
Brooklyn Bridge (1)	NYC DOT	n/a	n/a	n/a	114,186	-6.0
Queens Midtown Tunnel	MTA B&T (2)	68,455	63,901	61,131	64,496	-25.2
Hugh L. Carey Tunnel	MTA B&T	55,174	51,361	48,889	51,808	-10.2
RFK Bridge-Bronx Plaza (3)	MTA B&T	126,937	122,090	115,156	121,394	-15.6
RFK Bridge-Manhattan Plaza (3)	MTA B&T	35,170	34,110	31,994	33,758	-20.0
Bronx Whitestone Bridge	MTA B&T	122,825	117,380	110,710	116,972	-13.7
Throgs Neck Bridge	MTA B&T	101,491	97,447	89,556	96,165	-17.9
Total (Note 1)		510,052	486,289	457,436	881,187	-17.2
HUDSON RIVER CROSSINGS						
George Washington Bridge (Note 2)	PANY&NJ (4)	254,997	247,046	236,388	246,263	-12.6
Lincoln Tunnel (Note 2)	PANY&NJ	91,254	87,154	85,717	88,127	-14.1
Holland Tunnel (Note 2)	PANY&NJ	67,463	65,917	64,979	66,149	-24.3
Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge (5)	NYS TA (6)	137,510	125,964	115,731	126,402	-17.0
Bear Mountain Bridge	NYS BA (7)	19,705	18,654	16,980	18,446	-15.4
Total		570,928	544,735	519,795	545,387	-15.5
ARTHUR KILL CROSSINGS						
Bayonne Bridge (Note 2)	PANY&NJ	19,228	17,938	16,687	17,973	-14.8
Goethals Bridge (Note 2)	PANY&NJ	84,599	86,929	82,665	84,654	-11.3
Outerbridge Crossing (Note 2)	PANY&NJ	75,709	70,224	67,260	71,172	-11.9
Total		179,536	175,091	166,612	173,799	-11.9
HARLEM RIVER CROSSINGS						
Henry Hudson Bridge	MTA B&T	61,778	57,483	52,360	57,207	-23.3
SOUTH SHORE/JAMAICA BAY CROSSINGS						
Marine Parkway Bridge	MTA B&T	19,917	18,956	17,643	18,839	-17.7
Cross Bay Bridge	MTA B&T	21,909	20,940	19,368	20,739	-12.7
Atlantic Beach Bridge (8)	NCBA (9)	13,440	12,235	11,166	12,280	-10.9
Total		55,266	52,131	48,177	51,858	-14.2
NEW YORK BAY CROSSINGS						
Verrazano-Narrows Bridge	MTA B&T	195,588	187,087	187,374	190,016	-10.3
GRAND TOTAL (Note 1)		1,573,149	1,502,815	1,431,755	1,899,454	-15.7

(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

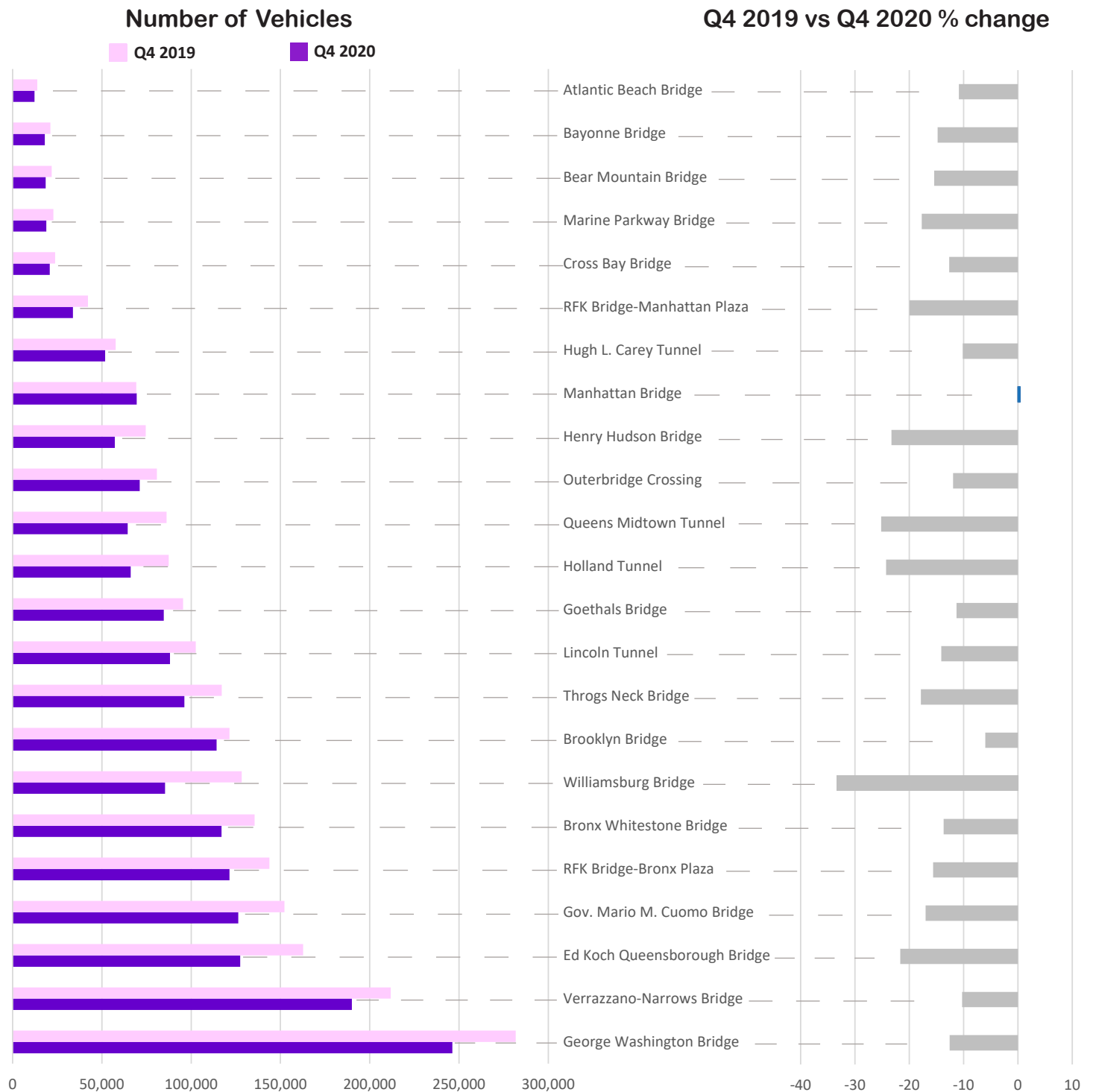
Note 1 Monthly totals exclude NYCDOT East River bridges.

Note 2 Weighted average data provided by PANY&NJ.

MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS

Average Weekday Traffic

Percentage Change from Q4 2019 to Q4 2020, by Quarter



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

Q4 2020

Monthly Comparison Q4-2019 vs. Q4-2020

BUS and RAIL RIDERSHIP		Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Average Q4 2020	Q4 2019 vs Q4 2020 % Change
NEW YORK TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM						
MTA/NYC Transit Subway	(1)	1,752,938	1,706,826	1,623,017	1,694,260	-69.6
MTA/Staten Island Railway		4,137	3,661	3,334	3,711	-77.3
MTA/Metro-North Railroad	(2)	66,984	61,595	53,449	60,676	-79.3
MTA/Long Island Rail Road		80,530	80,008	69,004	76,514	-76.1
MTA RAIL Total		1,904,589	1,852,090	1,748,804	1,835,161	-70.4
NEW YORK CITY BUSES						
MTA/NYC Transit Bus		892,003	857,303	793,142	847,483	-51.9
MTA Bus Company (formerly private buses)		197,739	189,644	176,015	187,799	-51.4
Academy Bus		281	245	212	246	-81.0
Total NYC Buses		1,090,023	1,047,192	969,369	1,035,528	-51.8
PORT AUTHORITY TRANS-HUDSON (PATH) RAIL						
PATH-New York Stations		29,948	28,171	25,245	27,788	-78.0
PATH-New Jersey Stations		35,893	33,584	30,109	33,195	-78.6
PATH Total		65,841	61,755	55,354	60,983	-78.4
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM (3)						
New Jersey Transit Rail		(3)	(3)	(3)	60,550	-81.2
Newark Light Rail	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	8,700	-59.9
New Jersey Transit HBLR	(5)	(3)	(3)	(3)	23,900	-53.9
River Line		(3)	(3)	(3)	4,350	-47.8
NJ Rail Total					97,500	-75.9
AIRPORT RAIL ACCESS						
Newark AirTrain	(6),	8,910	9,259	10,178	9,449	-69.0
JFK AirTrain	(6)	11,399	11,531	12,802	11,911	-78.7
Total Airport Rail Access		20,309	20,790	22,980	21,360	-75.3
SUBURBAN BUSES						
New Jersey Transit Bus		(3)	(3)	(3)	242,400	-52.6
Nassau Inter-County Express (NICE)		46,179	43,941	40,685	43,602	-45.0
Westchester County Bee-Line Bus		53,912	48,255	45,736	49,301	-41.8
Orange County Buses	(7)	(3)	(3)	(3)	3,116	-22.4
Putnam County Buses	(6)	211	186	175	191	-39.1
Rockland County Buses	(7), (Note1)	5,308	4,968	4,706	4,994	-58.2
Hudson Link Bus		937	907	836	893	-33.7
Dutchess County Public Transit		1,361	1,337	1,234	1,311	-54.8
City of Long Beach		349	502	527	459	-50.9
Suffolk County Buses	(6), (8)	10,794	10,531	8,857	10,061	-42.1
Total Suburb Buses					356,327	-50.1
GRAND TOTAL					3,406,859	-65.4

(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.

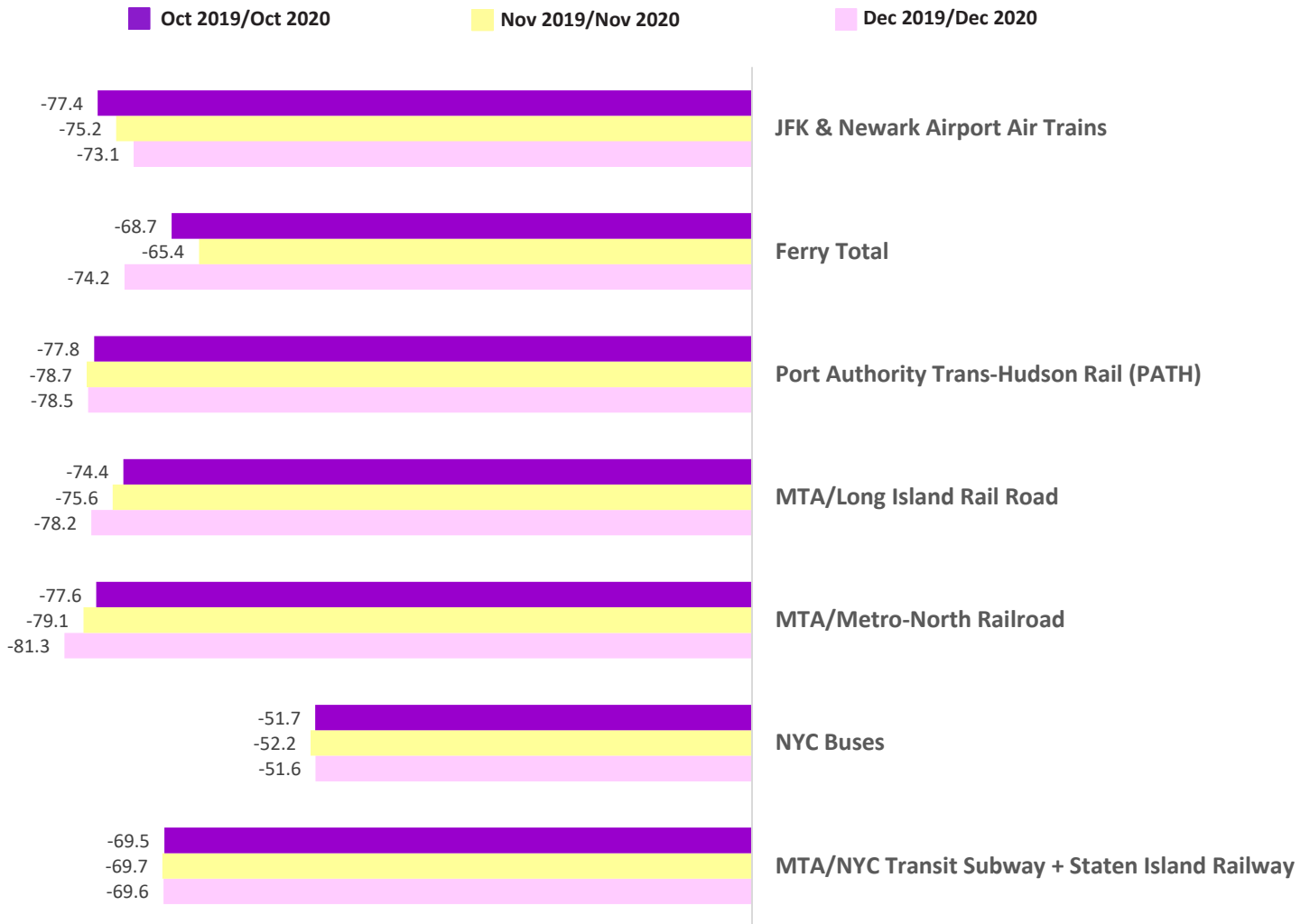
(7) Local and Express buses

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

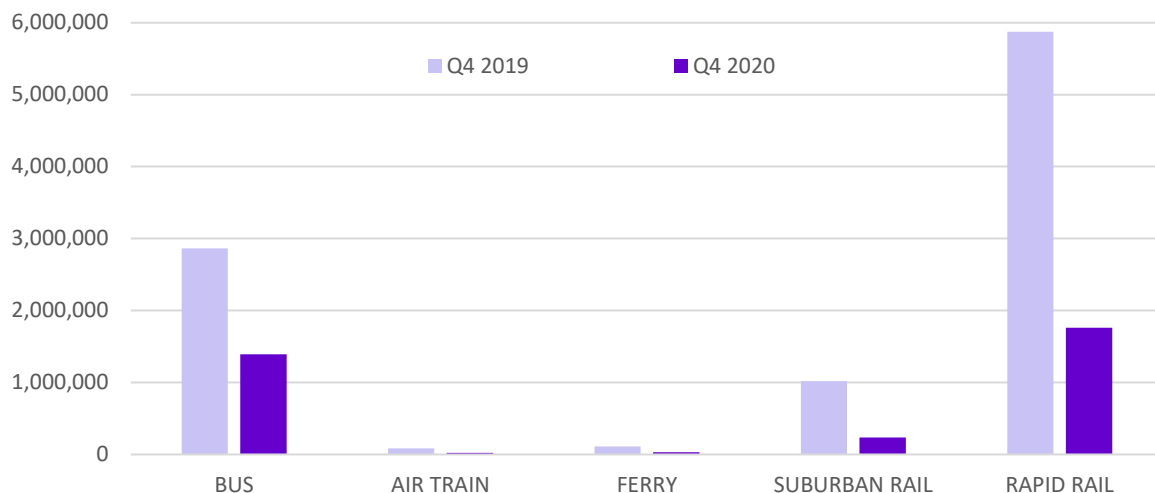
Note 1: Orange-Westchester Link (through buses) ridership in Rockland County include both private and County buses.

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 Q4 2019 to Q4 2020, by Month



TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY PASSENGERS by Public Transportation Mode Q4 2019 vs. Q4 2020



AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

Q4 2020

Monthly Comparison Q4-2019 vs. Q4-2020

FERRY RIDERSHIP	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Average Q4 2020	Q4 2019 to Q4 2020 % Change
Billybey Ferry					
Hoboken South					
Hoboken - Pier 11	55	38	27	27	-98.7
Hoboken - WFC (World Financial Center)	492	352	238	361	-84.8
Hoboken - Pier 79 (West 39th Street)	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Total	547	390	265	401	-91.2
Jersey City					
Paulus Hook - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Paulus Hook - WFC	741	593	368	567	-81.1
Port Liberte - Pier 11	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Liberty Harbor - Pier 11	85	57	43	62	-84.9
Paulus Hook - Pier 11	129	97	79	102	-86.1
Harborside - Pier 79	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Harborside - Brookfield Place/ Battery Park City	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Total	955	747	490	731	-86.5
Total Billybey	1,502	1,137	755	1,131	-88.7
NY Waterway					
Weehawken/Hoboken North					
Weehawken - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	1,168	1,003	863	1,011	-85.0
Weehawken - Hoboken North - WFC	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Hoboken North - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	370	423	315	369	-82.9
Weehawken - Pier 11	79	65	45	63	-93.8
Lincoln Harbor - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	145	140	131	139	-91.5
Edgewater - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Weehawken - Brookfield Place (started 9/21/20)	115	90	64	64	n/a
Total	1,877	1,721	1,418	1,672	-87.8
Belford / Haverstraw / Newburgh					
Belford - Pier 11	203	172	147	174	-92.2
Haverstraw - Ossining	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Newburgh - Beacon	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Total	203	172	147	174	-94.0
Total NY Waterway	2,080	1,893	1,565	1,846	-88.9
Seastreak					
Atlantic Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	405	332	263	333	-85.6
Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	410	339	260	336	-81.0
Total Seastreak	815	671	523	670	-83.6
New York Water Taxi					
Ikea Terminal (Red Hook, Brooklyn) - Pier 11	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Hop-on/Hop-off Ferry Service (1)	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Total NYWater Taxi	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Liberty Park Water Taxi					
Liberty Landing - BPC (Battery Park City)	146	75	102	108	-84.8
Total Liberty Park Water Taxi	146	75	102	108	-84.8
Hornblower Marine Services					
East River Ferry Service	3,637	2,415	1,650	2,567	-57.9
Rockaway Service	957	2,407	434	1,266	-10.1
Brooklyn Service	1,091	1,427	416	978	-21.0
Astoria Service	2,672	2,637	1,509	2,273	-5.5
Sound View	1,538	2,063	889	1,497	-19.6
Lower East Side	-	-	-	-	-100.0
Total Hornblower Marine Services	9,895	10,948	4,898	8,580	-38.4
Total Average Weekday Private Ferries	14,438	14,724	7,843	12,335	-73.1
Total Staten Island Ferry	22,300	21,002	20,058	21,120	-66.9
GRAND TOTAL	36,738	35,726	27,901	33,455	-69.5

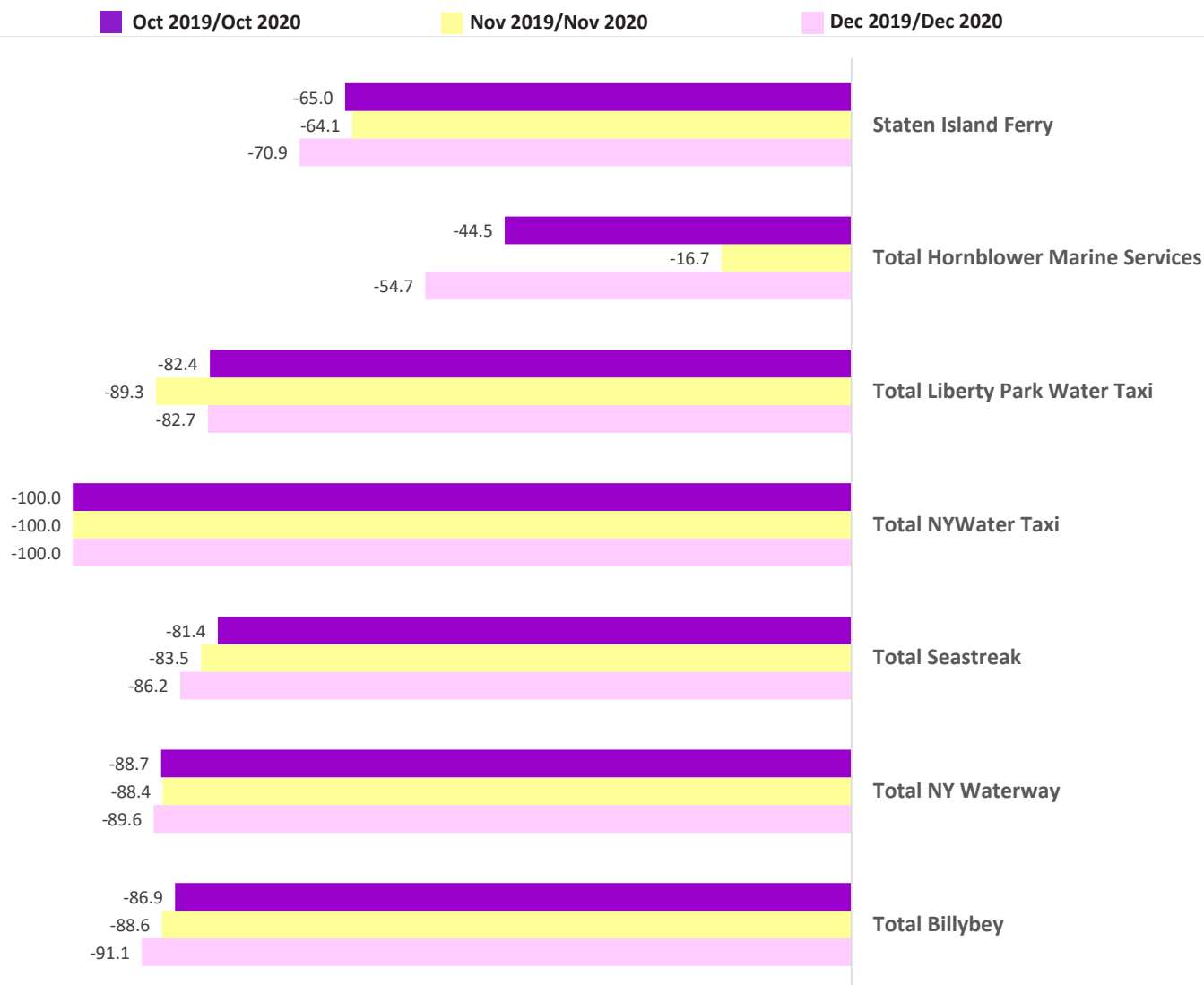
(1) South St. Seaport,
Battery Park, Fulton
Landing,
West 44th St.

Sources: NYC DOT,
PANYNJ

AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

by Ferry Operator

Percentage Change from Q4 2019 to Q4 2020, by Month



Note: The total volume of Hornblower Marine Services did not decline as much in November 2020 compared to November 2019 due to some passenger growth at Rockaway and Sound View Services in November 2020.

TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

Q4 2019 vs. Q4 2020

