

Travel Patterns

in the New York Metropolitan Area

Third
Quarter (Q3) 2021

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 includes 2,440 square miles and a 2020 population of 13.17 million, approximately 65% of New York State's population and 4 percent of the population of the nation. 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 Third Quarter 2021 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. This reduction in passenger numbers continued in 2021.

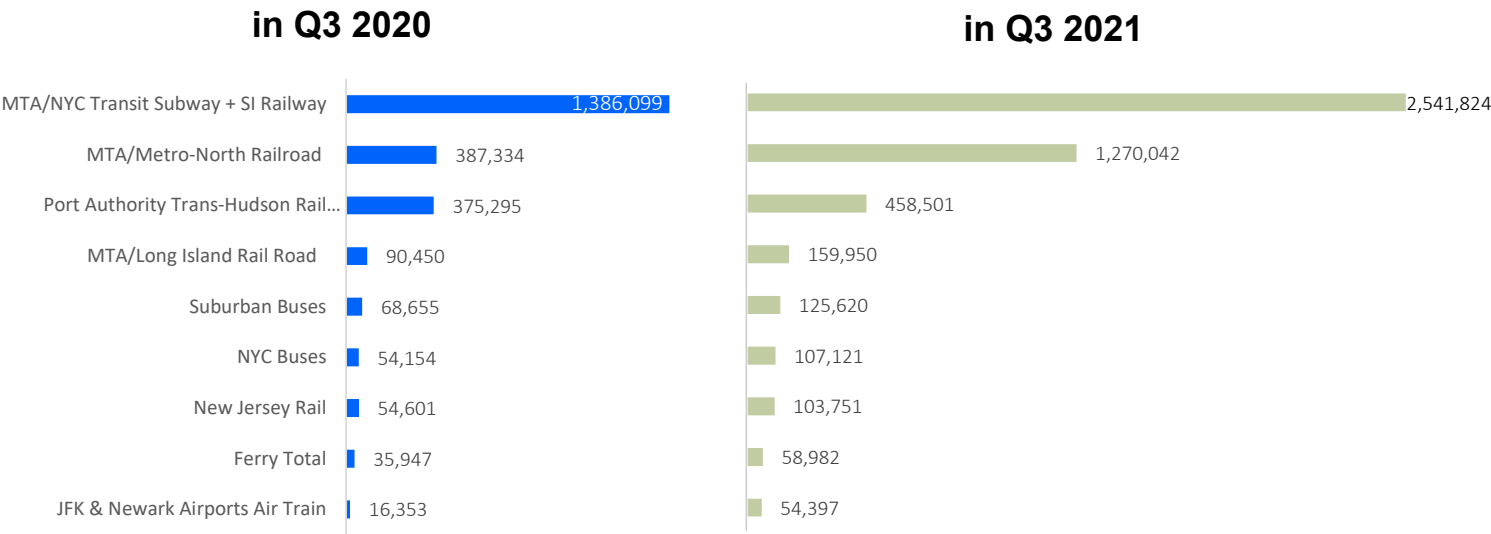
In the Third Quarter of 2021, the number of vehicles that crossed the New York metropolitan area’s major rivers reached 1.79 million, an increase of 13.2% compared to the Third Quarter of 2020, but still 2.2% below pre-pandemic levels in the corresponding quarter of 2019.

VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS % CHANGE		
From Q3 2020:	↑	13.2 %
From Q3 2019:	↓	2.2 %

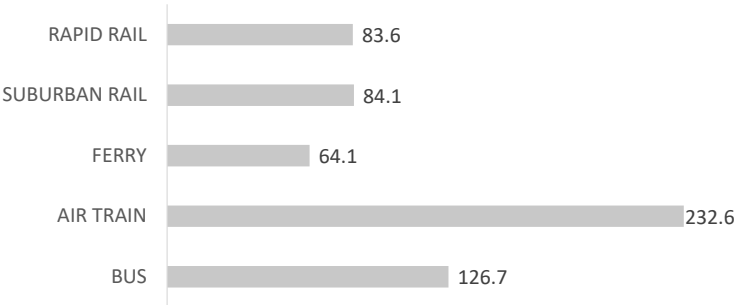
On an average weekday in the Third Quarter of 2021, there were nearly 4.9 million total bus, rail and ferry trips (about 97.7% up from the Third Quarter of 2020 but still down 50.2% from pre-pandemic Q3 2019).

TRANSIT TRIPS % CHANGE		
From Q3 2020:	↑	97.7 %
From Q3 2019:	↓	50.2 %

AVERAGE WEEKDAY BUS, RAIL, and FERRY TRIPS In the New York Metropolitan Area Total Trips by Mode



Total Trips by Mode, Percentage Change from Q3 2020 to Q3 2021



MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS TRAFFIC

Third Quarter 2021

Monthly Comparison Q3-2020 vs. Q3-2021

VEHICLE RIVER CROSSINGS	Agency		Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Average Q3 2020	Q3 2020 to Q3 2021 % Change
EAST RIVER/LONG ISLAND SOUND CROSSINGS							
Ed Koch Queensborough Bridge	NYC DOT	(1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Williamsburg Bridge	NYC DOT	(1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Manhattan Bridge	NYC DOT	(1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Brooklyn Bridge	NYC DOT	(1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Queens Midtown Tunnel	MTA B&T	(2)	79,366	79,262	81,123	79,917	23.8
Hugh L. Carey Tunnel	MTA B&T		58,405	58,819	62,152	59,792	12.9
RFK Bridge-Bronx Plaza	(3)	MTA B&T	142,869	143,317	138,713	141,633	13.0
RFK Bridge-Manhattan Plaza	(3)	MTA B&T	42,100	42,307	41,651	42,019	20.1
Bronx Whitestone Bridge	MTA B&T		145,793	148,441	140,534	144,923	19.0
Throgs Neck Bridge	MTA B&T		107,725	107,608	105,278	106,870	2.2
Total			576,258	579,754	569,451	575,154	14.1
HUDSON RIVER CROSSINGS							
George Washington Bridge	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ (4)	296,020	295,286	268,771	286,827	9.7
Lincoln Tunnel	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ	104,277	103,925	105,593	104,588	22.4
Holland Tunnel	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ	77,763	79,992	79,329	79,043	20.6
Gov. Mario M. Cuomo Bridge	(5)	NYS TA (6)	160,408	161,892	158,300	160,200	19.3
Bear Mountain Bridge		NYS BA (7)	21,247	21,280	21,346	21,291	-8.5
Total			659,715	662,375	633,339	651,949	14.4
ARTHUR KILL CROSSINGS							
Bayonne Bridge	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ	20,968	20,912	21,040	20,972	15.7
Goethals Bridge	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ	101,299	103,391	95,726	100,190	11.0
Outerbridge Crossing	(Note 1)	PANY&NJ	83,267	83,438	76,607	81,141	3.8
Total			205,534	207,741	193,373	202,303	8.4
HARLEM RIVER CROSSINGS							
Henry Hudson Bridge		MTA B&T	71,202	73,643	74,942	73,262	23.4
SOUTH SHORE/JAMAICA BAY CROSSINGS							
Marine Parkway Bridge		MTA B&T	26,166	25,796	22,885	24,949	1.9
Cross Bay Bridge		MTA B&T	26,239	24,990	24,077	25,102	2.8
Atlantic Beach Bridge	(8)	NCBA (9)	20,435	19,724	16,462	18,874	5.9
Total			72,840	70,510	63,424	68,925	3.3
NEW YORK BAY CROSSINGS							
Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge		MTA B&T	223,889	224,758	214,607	221,085	12.4
GRAND TOTAL			1,809,438	1,818,782	1,749,135	1,792,678	13.2

(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

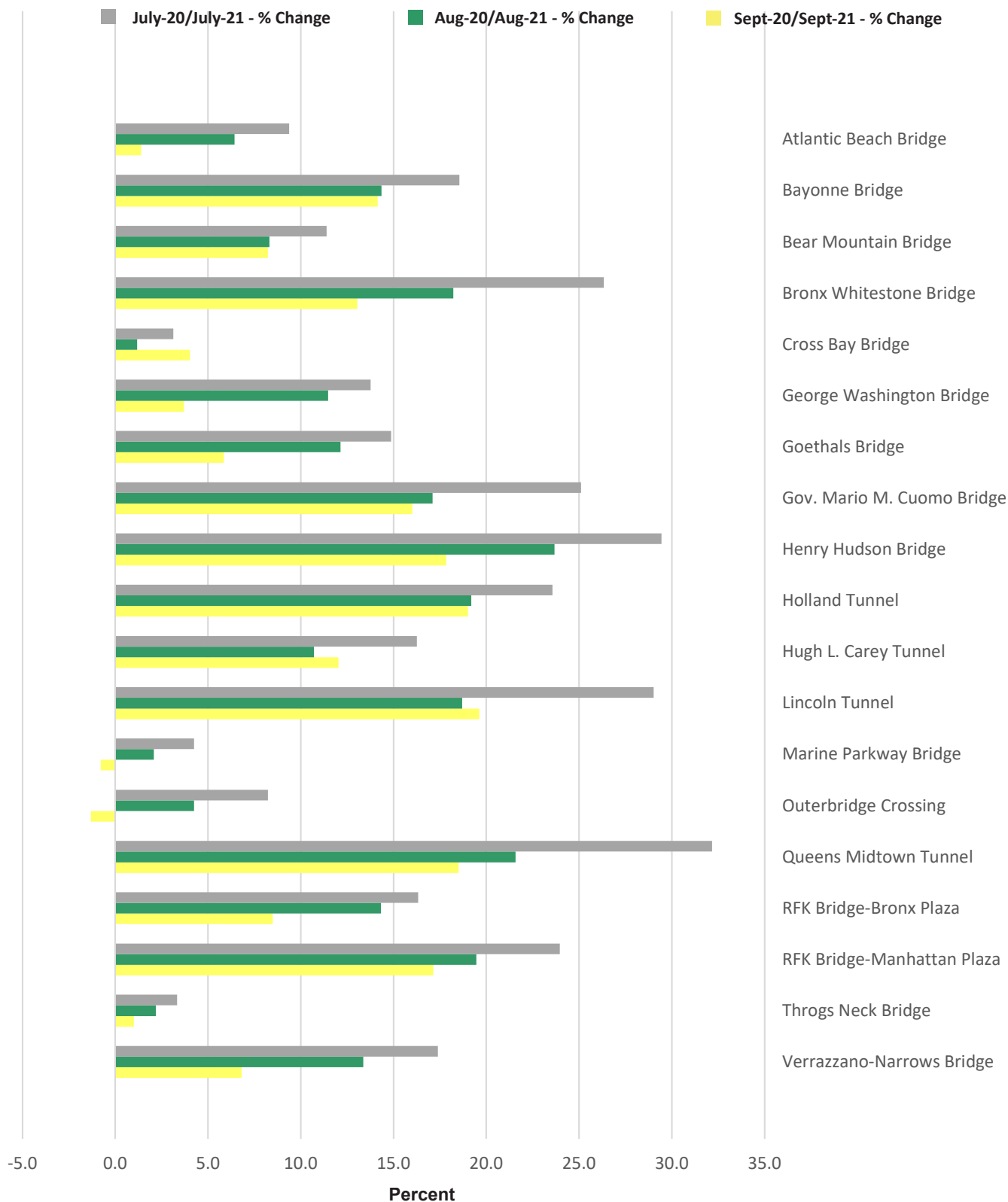
Note 1: Weighted average data provided by PANY&NJ.
n/a - Data not available.

Note: Starting from March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused sharp reductions in passenger travels of all transportation modes in the New York Metropolitan Area. This reduction in passenger numbers continued in 2021.

MAJOR VEHICULAR RIVER CROSSINGS

Average Weekday Traffic

Percentage Change from Q3 2020 to Q3 2021, by Month



Note 1: For Ed Koch Queensborough Bridge, Williamsburg Bridge, Manhattan Bridge, and Brooklyn Bridge only 4th Qtr data for each year is available.

Note 2: COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began in mid-March 2020 and resulted in significantly less travel. Travel was less restrictive by March 2021 than in March 2020 but still reduced from previous years. In the Third Quarter of 2021, the number of vehicles increased in most river crossings compared to the Third Quarter of 2020, but still was below pre pandemic levels in the corresponding quarter of 2019.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY BUS & RAIL TRIPS

Third Quarter 2021

Monthly Comparison Q3-2020 vs. Q3-2021

					Average	Q3 2020 vs Q3 2021 % Change
BUS and RAIL RIDERSHIP		Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Q3 2021	
NEW YORK TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM						
MTA/NYC Transit Subway	(1)	2,435,057	2,422,270	2,751,895	2,536,407	83.4
MTA/Staten Island Railway		5,028	5,049	6,173	5,417	84.3
MTA/Metro-North Railroad	(2)	105,192	100,566	115,606	107,121	97.8
MTA/Long Island Rail Road		123,086	117,645	136,128	125,620	83.0
MTA RAIL Total		2,668,363	2,645,530	3,009,802	2,774,565	83.9
NEW YORK CITY BUSES						
MTA/NYC Transit Bus		989,680	983,271	1,111,167	1,028,039	228.1
MTA Bus Company (formerly private buses)		230,396	232,450	263,162	242,003	227.9
Academy Bus		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total NYC Buses		1,220,076	1,215,721	1,374,329	1,270,042	228.1
PORT AUTHORITY TRANS-HUDSON (PATH) RAIL						
PATH-New York Stations		45,269	44,690	50,963	46,974	91.4
PATH-New Jersey Stations		53,963	53,733	62,636	56,777	88.9
PATH Total		99,232	98,423	113,599	103,751	90.0
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT RAIL SYSTEM (3)						
New Jersey Transit Rail	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	113,100	113.0
Newark Light Rail	(4)	(3)	(3)	(3)	10,350	6.7
New Jersey Transit HBLR	(5)	(3)	(3)	(3)	31,750	46.7
River Line		(3)	(3)	(3)	4,750	-20.8
NJ Rail Total					159,950	76.8
AIRPORT RAIL ACCESS						
Newark AirTrain	(6)	20,155	20,391	18,946	19,831	204.9
JFK AirTrain	(6)	34,404	34,986	34,309	34,566	250.9
Total Airport Rail Access		54,560	55,377	53,255	54,397	232.6
SUBURBAN BUSES						
New Jersey Transit Bus		(3)	(3)	(3)	321,200	28.6
Nassau Inter-County Express (NICE)		52,181	52,285	55,833	53,433	19.6
Westchester County Bee-Line Bus		55,018	54,915	59,924	56,619	4.0
Orange County Buses	(7)	(3)	(3)	(3)	3,780	8.1
Putnam County Buses	(6)	224	239	249	237	33.1
Rockland County Buses	(7), (Note 1)	7,520	8,354	7,445	7,773	60.3
Hudson Link Bus		1,156	1,239	1,161	1,185	25.5
Dutchess County Public Transit		2,198	2,187	2,435	2,273	64.0
City of Long Beach		445	462	517	475	32.8
Suffolk County Buses	(6), (8)	10,887	11,463	12,225	11,525	4.6
Total Suburb Buses					458,501	23.6
GRAND TOTAL					4,821,207	98.5

(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.

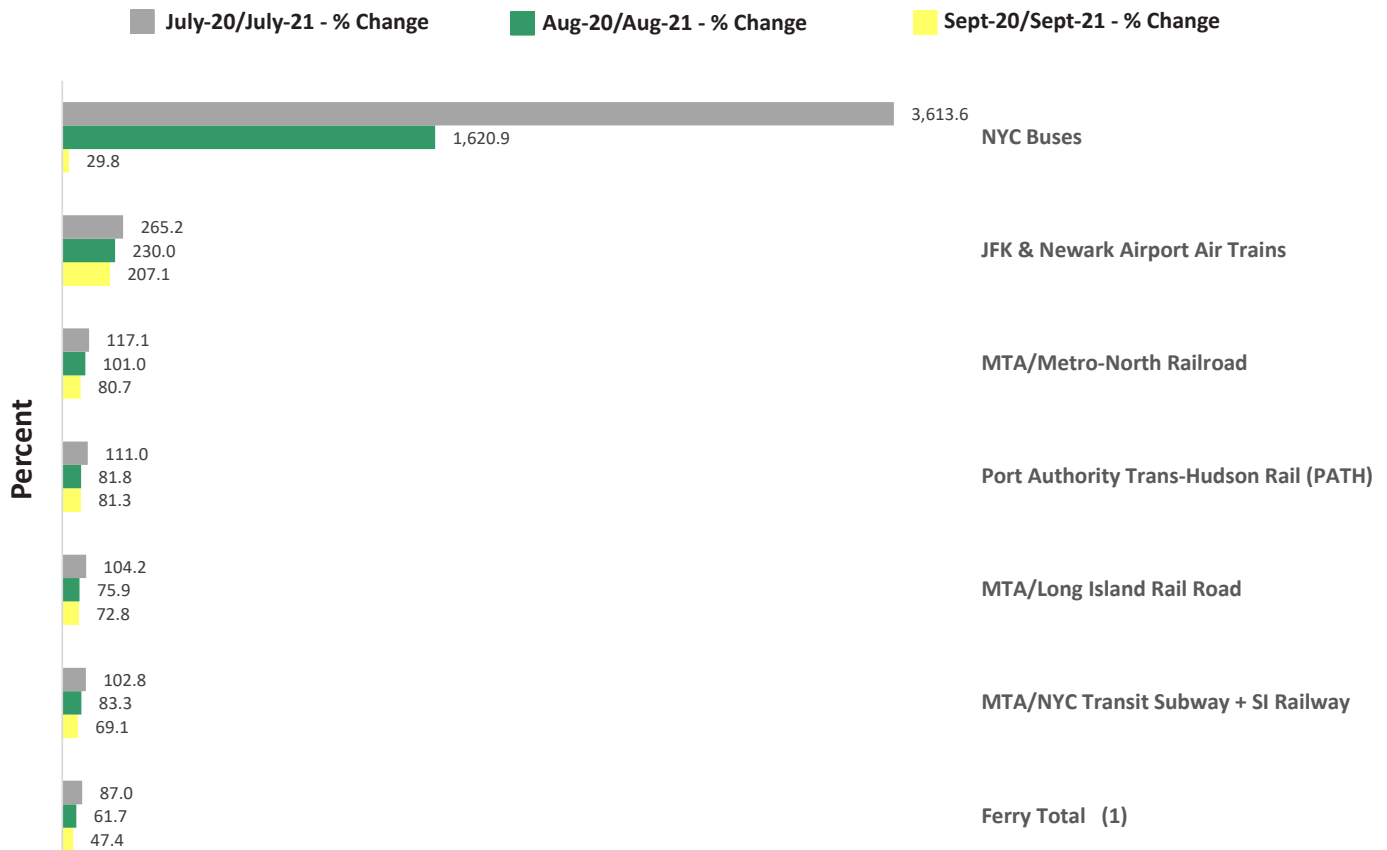
n/a Data not available.

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

Note: Starting from March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused sharp reductions in passenger travels of all transportation modes in the New York Metropolitan Area. This reduction in passenger numbers continued in 2021.

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

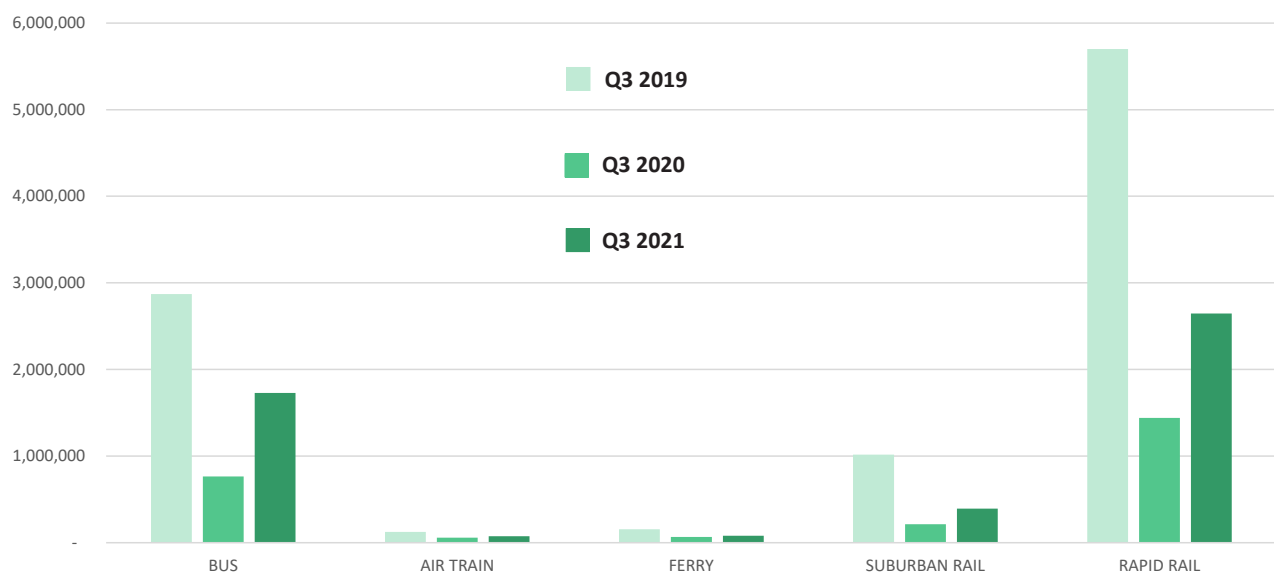
AVERAGE WEEKDAY PASSENGERS by Public Transportation Mode Percentage Change from Q3 2020 to Q3 2021, by Month



(1) Total includes private ferries and Staten Island Ferry

Note: COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began in mid-March 2020 and resulted in significantly less travel. Travel was less restrictive by March 2021 than in March 2020 but still reduced from previous years.

TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY PASSENGERS by Public Transportation Mode Q3 2019 vs. Q3 2020 vs. Q3 2021



Note: Starting from March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic caused sharp reductions in passenger travels of all transportation modes in the New York Metropolitan Area. This reduction in passenger numbers continued in 2021.

AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

Third Quarter 2021

Monthly Comparison Q3-2020 vs. Q3-2021

FERRY RIDERSHIP	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Average Q3 2021	Q3 2020 vs Q3 2021 % Change
Billybey Ferry					
Hoboken South					
Hoboken - Pier 11	160	169	161	161	229.5
Hoboken - WFC (World Financial Center)	899	851	857	869	158.3
Hoboken - Pier 79 (West 39th Street)	69	54	62	62	n/c
Total	1,128	1,074	1,080	1,094	210.3
Jersey City					
Paulus Hook - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	141	142	143	142	n/c
Paulus Hook - WFC	2,139	2,005	1,915	2,020	333.1
Port Liberte - Pier 11 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Liberty Harbor - Pier 11	135	125	153	138	208.1
Paulus Hook - Pier 11	192	189	206	196	97.7
Harborside - Pier 79 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Harborside - Brookfield Place/ Battery Park City (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2,607	2,461	2,417	2,495	309.0
Billybey Total	3,735	3,535	3,497	3,589	272.8
NY Waterway					
Weehawken/Hoboken North					
Weehawken - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	2,534	2,380	2,422	2,445	159.5
Weehawken - Hoboken North - WFC	314	307	378	333	n/c
Hoboken North - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	986	976	1,115	1,026	169.3
Weehawken - Pier 11	172	166	187	175	n/c
Lincoln Harbor - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	486	432	453	457	225.6
Edgewater - Pier 79 (West 39th St.)	119	122	132	124	n/c
Weehawken - Brookfield Place (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4,611	4,383	4,687	4,561	204.7
Belford / Haverstraw / Newburgh					
Belford - Pier 11	506	498	595	533	302.6
Haverstraw - Ossining	n/a	75	118	97	n/c
Newburgh - Beacon	n/a	81	83	82	n/c
Total	506	654	796	712	-56.3
NY Waterway Total	5,117	5,037	5,484	5,213	220.0
Seastreak					
Atlantic Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	1,019	976	883	959	168.5
Highlands-Pier 11, E34th St.	994	886	920	933	133.7
Total Seastreak	2,013	1,862	1,803	1,893	150.1
New York Water Taxi					
Ikea Terminal (Red Hook, Brooklyn) - Pier 11 (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Hop-on/Hop-off Ferry Service (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Total NYWater Taxi (1)	-	-	-	-	-
Liberty Park Water Taxi					
Liberty Landing - BPC (Battery Park City)	486	414	397	432	192.7
Total Liberty Park Water Taxi	486	414	397	432	192.7
Hornblower Marine Services					
East River Ferry Service	4,503	5,217	4,488	4,736	18.9
Rockaway Service	2,793	2,721	1,540	2,351	16.8
Brooklyn Service	1,874	1,874	1,480	1,743	36.5
Astoria Service	3,614	3,617	3,514	3,582	34.1
Sound View	2,406	2,335	2,220	2,321	19.9
Lower East Side	n/a	838	810	824	n/c
Total Hornblower Marine Services	15,190	16,601	14,053	15,281	28.7
Total Average Weekday Private Ferries	26,541	27,449	25,234	26,408	71.8
Staten Island Ferry	33,314	32,265	32,142	32,574	58.3
GRAND TOTAL	59,855	59,714	57,376	58,982	64.1

(1) No ferry operation in the third quarter of 2021.

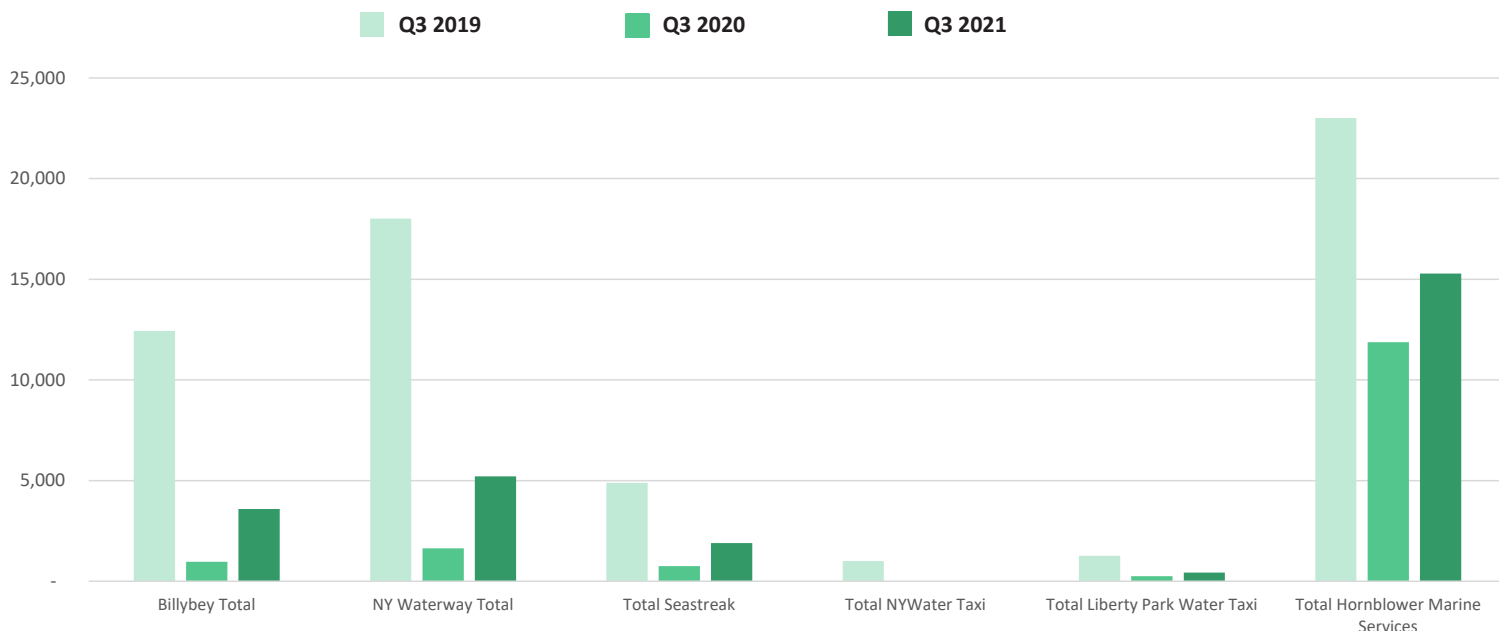
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Sources: NYCDOT, PANY&NJ

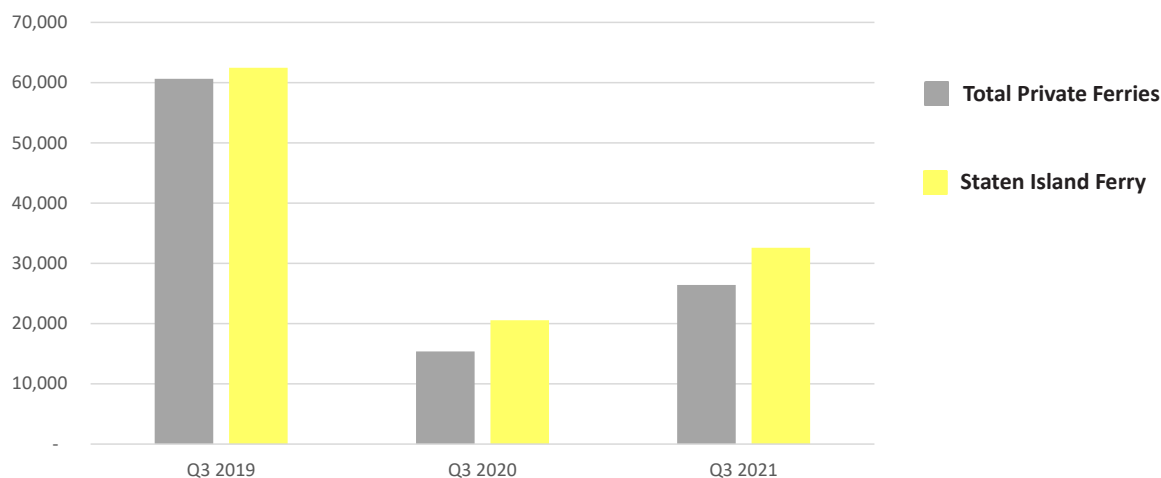
AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP

Private Ferry Operators Q3 2019 vs. Q3 2020 vs. Q3 2021



Note: COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began in mid-March 2020 and resulted in significantly less travel. Travel was less restrictive by March 2021 than in March 2020 but still reduced from previous years.

TOTAL AVERAGE WEEKDAY FERRY RIDERSHIP by Private and Staten Island Ferries Q3 2019 vs. Q3 2020 vs. Q3 2021



COVID-19 pandemic lockdown began in mid-March 2020 and resulted in significantly less travel. Travel was less restrictive by March 2021 than in March 2020 but still reduced from previous years.