

# On-Time Performance

December 2020



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Prepared by the Division of Strategic Planning & Performance







































**Table 9: Annual Train Delays and On-Time Performance**

**2015 - 2020**

	Delays									On-Time Performance						
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015 - 2019 Avg	2020	2019 vs. 2020 change		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015 - 2019 Avg	2020
<b>BNSF</b>	1,484	1,607	1,450	2,072	1,352	1,593	344	-1,008	-74.6%	94.4%	94.0%	94.5%	92.2%	95.0%	94.0%	97.9%
<b>ME-ML</b>	735	598	493	497	546	574	470	-76	-13.9%	96.9%	97.5%	97.9%	98.0%	97.8%	97.6%	97.3%
<b>ME-BI</b>	199	142	179	175	152	169	96	-56	-36.8%	98.2%	98.7%	98.2%	97.6%	97.9%	98.2%	98.1%
<b>ME-SC</b>	293	258	275	206	192	245	222	30	15.6%	98.3%	98.5%	98.3%	98.5%	98.6%	98.5%	98.2%
<b>HC</b>	151	101	121	189	216	156	125	-91	-42.1%	90.2%	94.2%	93.2%	89.4%	87.9%	91.0%	89.6%
<b>MD-N</b>	915	951	1,089	1,265	1,448	1,134	463	-985	-68.0%	94.9%	94.6%	93.8%	92.7%	91.9%	93.6%	95.8%
<b>MD-W</b>	620	875	761	733	841	766	614	-227	-27.0%	96.4%	94.9%	95.5%	95.7%	95.1%	95.5%	94.7%
<b>NCS</b>	348	307	333	367	292	329	179	-113	-38.7%	93.8%	94.5%	94.0%	92.9%	94.3%	93.9%	91.7%
<b>RI</b>	600	847	946	1,053	1,668	1,023	647	-1,021	-61.2%	97.1%	96.1%	95.7%	94.8%	92.0%	95.1%	95.8%
<b>SWS</b>	436	380	403	580	555	471	231	-324	-58.4%	94.5%	95.2%	94.9%	92.7%	93.0%	94.1%	94.0%
<b>UP-N</b>	508	446	572	691	955	634	252	-703	-73.6%	97.5%	97.8%	97.2%	96.6%	95.3%	96.9%	98.1%
<b>UP-NW</b>	718	695	905	951	1,346	923	447	-899	-66.8%	96.2%	96.3%	95.1%	94.9%	93.0%	95.1%	96.7%
<b>UP-W</b>	789	846	1,014	1,462	1,328	1,088	615	-713	-53.7%	95.4%	95.1%	94.1%	91.5%	92.3%	93.7%	94.9%
<b>System</b>	<b>7,796</b>	<b>8,053</b>	<b>8,541</b>	<b>10,241</b>	<b>10,891</b>	<b>9,104</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>-6,186</b>	<b>-56.8%</b>	<b>96.2%</b>	<b>96.1%</b>	<b>95.8%</b>	<b>94.8%</b>	<b>94.6%</b>	<b>95.5%</b>	<b>96.5%</b>

Delays data for most recent month is final (01/15/2021) version from TOPS.

**Table 10: Annual System Causes of Train Delays  
2015 to 2020**

Cause Category	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		2015-2019 Avg		2020	
	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%	Delays	%
<b>Freight Interference - Total</b>	<b>1,092</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>11.8%</b>
Freight Interference - Peak	371	4.8%	309	3.8%	357	4.2%	556	5.4%	366	3.4%	392	4.3%	208	4.4%
Primary	240	3.1%	202	2.5%	228	2.7%	299	2.9%	232	2.1%	240	2.6%	175	3.7%
Secondary	131	1.7%	107	1.3%	129	1.5%	257	2.5%	134	1.2%	152	1.7%	33	0.7%
Freight Interference - Off-Peak	721	9.2%	533	6.6%	643	7.5%	958	9.4%	704	6.5%	712	7.8%	347	7.4%
Primary	567	7.3%	423	5.3%	476	5.6%	696	6.8%	485	4.5%	529	5.8%	281	6.0%
Secondary	154	2.0%	110	1.4%	167	2.0%	262	2.6%	219	2.0%	182	2.0%	66	1.4%
<b>Signal/Switch Failure - Total</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>17.3%</b>	<b>1,221</b>	<b>14.3%</b>	<b>1,565</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>1,598</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>1,342</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>13.0%</b>
Signal/Switch Failure - Metra/PSA	735	9.4%	900	11.2%	996	11.7%	1,228	12.0%	1,207	11.1%	1,013	11.1%	472	10.0%
Primary	443	5.7%	543	6.7%	639	7.5%	857	8.4%	825	7.6%	661	7.3%	363	7.7%
Secondary	292	3.7%	357	4.4%	357	4.2%	371	3.6%	382	3.5%	352	3.9%	109	2.3%
Signal/Switch Failure - Foreign	203	2.6%	490	6.1%	225	2.6%	337	3.3%	391	3.6%	329	3.6%	140	3.0%
Primary	126	1.6%	354	4.4%	140	1.6%	214	2.1%	273	2.5%	221	2.4%	124	2.6%
Secondary	77	1.0%	136	1.7%	85	1.0%	123	1.2%	118	1.1%	108	1.2%	16	0.3%
<b>Mechanical Failure - Total</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>1,169</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>1,252</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>1,198</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>9.1%</b>
Mechanical Failure - Metra/PSA	947	12.1%	1,179	14.6%	1,147	13.4%	1,363	13.3%	1,217	11.2%	1,171	12.9%	405	8.6%
Non-Locomotive Equipment Issue - Metra/PSA	310	4.0%	276	3.4%	268	3.1%	388	3.8%	357	3.3%	320	3.5%	147	3.1%
Primary	131	1.7%	148	1.8%	142	1.7%	178	1.7%	166	1.5%	153	1.7%	86	1.8%
Secondary	179	2.3%	128	1.6%	126	1.5%	210	2.1%	191	1.8%	167	1.8%	61	1.3%
Locomotive Issue - Metra/PSA	637	8.2%	903	11.2%	879	10.3%	975	9.5%	860	7.9%	851	9.3%	258	5.5%
Primary	234	3.0%	304	3.8%	308	3.6%	295	2.9%	285	2.6%	285	3.1%	122	2.6%
Secondary	403	5.2%	599	7.4%	571	6.7%	680	6.6%	575	5.3%	566	6.2%	136	2.9%
Mechanical Failure - Foreign	30	0.4%	9	0.1%	22	0.3%	40	0.4%	35	0.3%	27	0.3%	21	0.4%
<b>Passenger Train Interference - Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
Passenger Train Interference - Metra/PSA	70	0.9%	49	0.6%	76	0.9%	78	0.8%	41	0.4%	63	0.7%	27	0.6%
Passenger Train Interference - Foreign	70	0.9%	105	1.3%	57	0.7%	144	1.4%	109	1.0%	97	1.1%	12	0.3%
<b>Accident - Total</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>7.4%</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>4.9%</b>
Accident - Metra/PSA	490	6.3%	505	6.3%	512	6.0%	371	3.6%	391	3.6%	454	5.0%	198	4.2%
Accident - Foreign	9	0.1%	39	0.5%	122	1.4%	36	0.4%	200	1.8%	81	0.9%	31	0.7%
<b>Track Work - Total</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>945</b>	<b>11.1%</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>851</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
Track Work - Metra/PSA	577	7.4%	955	11.9%	931	10.9%	770	7.5%	834	7.7%	813	8.9%	390	8.3%
Track Work - Foreign	40	0.5%	41	0.5%	14	0.2%	5	0.0%	17	0.2%	23	0.3%	26	0.6%
<b>Human Error - Total</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>10.5%</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>1,068</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>10.2%</b>
Human Error - Metra/PSA	459	5.9%	502	6.2%	604	7.1%	635	6.2%	684	6.3%	577	6.3%	396	8.4%
Human Error - Foreign	236	3.0%	135	1.7%	296	3.5%	269	2.6%	384	3.5%	264	2.9%	85	1.8%
<b>PTC Related - Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>8.5%</b>
PTC Related - Metra/PSA	-	0.0%	6	0.1%	24	0.3%	289	2.8%	643	5.9%	192	2.1%	349	7.4%
PTC Related - Foreign	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	6	0.1%	-	0.0%	22	0.2%	6	0.1%	51	1.1%
<b>Weather - Total</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>15.4%</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>11.5%</b>
Weather - Metra/PSA	997	12.8%	553	6.9%	595	7.0%	1,050	10.3%	1,670	15.3%	973	10.7%	538	11.4%
Weather - Foreign	17	0.2%	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	4	0.0%	6	0.1%	6	0.1%	3	0.1%
<b>Passenger Related - Total</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>1,051</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>13.4%</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>1,128</b>	<b>12.4%</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
<b>Obstruction/Debris - Total</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>7.1%</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>12.1%</b>
<b>Catenary Failure - Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Other - Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
<b>Total Trains Delayed</b>	<b>7,796</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,053</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>8,541</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10,241</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>10,891</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>9,104</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Total Metra/PSA Delays	6,098	78.2%	6,388	79.3%	6,791	79.5%	7,892	77.1%	8,652	79.4%	7,164	78.7%	3,781	80.4%
Total Foreign Carrier Delays	1,698	21.8%	1,665	20.7%	1,750	20.5%	2,349	22.9%	2,239	20.6%	1,940	21.3%	924	19.6%

Data for current month is final (01/15/2021) version of TOPS

'Metra/PSA' refers to delays that may be directly or indirectly attributed to Metra or Metra Purchase of Service Agreement partners (BNSF and UP) in commuter rail operation.

'Foreign' refers to delays that may be directly or indirectly attributed to other carriers, including freight carriers, Amtrak, and NICTD, that affect Metra trains. 'Foreign' also includes delays attributable to BNSF and Union Pacific freight operations.

Effective January 2020, Metra has updated the delay cause categories in this table; totals by cause category for prior years may not match what was previously reported.