



Metropolitan Transportation Authority New York | Post-Covid Usage Recovery Analysis

Total

Subways

Bridges and Tunnels

Buses

LIRR

Metro-North

Access-A-Ride

Staten Island Railway

Project Details

Project Focus

This project analyzes the 90-day rolling average of MTA ridership recovery post-COVID, with a primary focus on the three largest transport modes: Subway, Bridges and Tunnels, and Buses. It also examines how recovery trends differ between weekdays and weekends

Key Findings

- **Overall Recovery:** As of October 2024, MTA ridership recovery is at 76% of pre-COVID levels, equating to approximately 6.8 million commuters.
- **Impact of Remote Work:** Significant shifts in commuting patterns, especially for the Subway, with lower weekday recovery due to remote work trends.
- **Buses:** Shows consistent low recovery across both weekdays and weekends. This trend is likely influenced by economic factors affecting lower-income commuters, who are more reliant on buses.

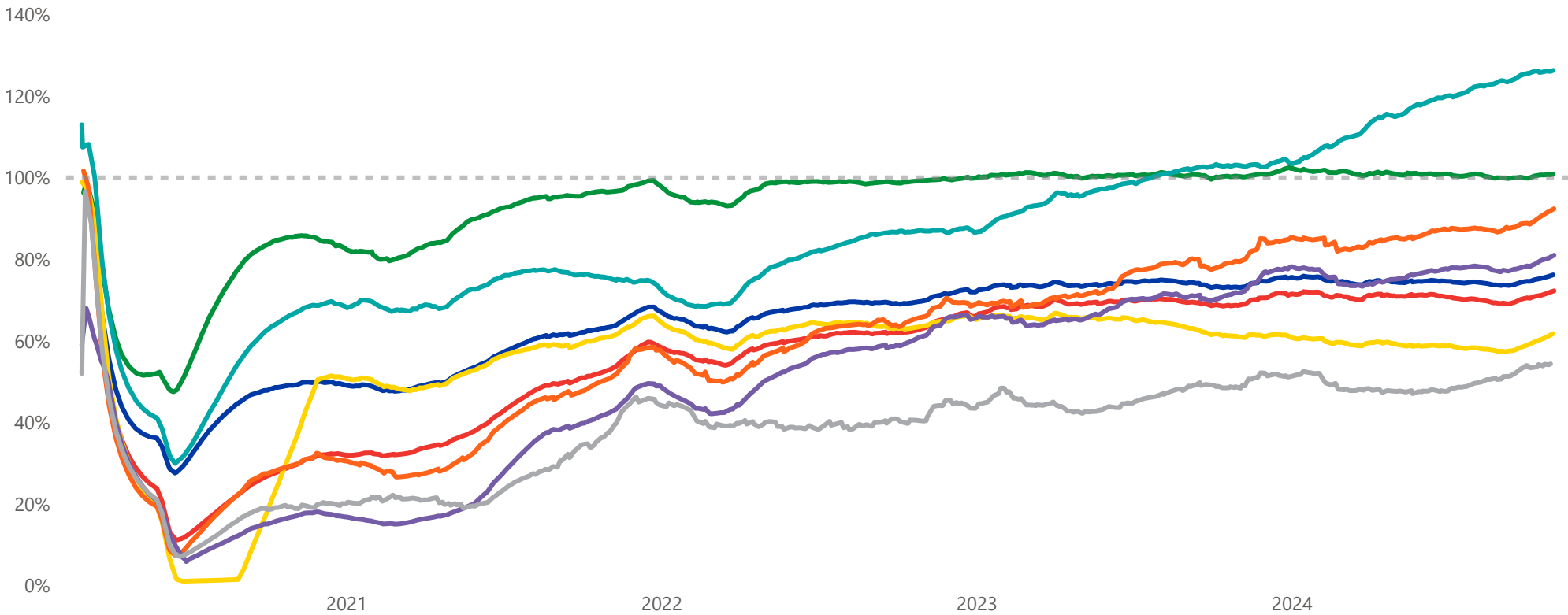
Weekday vs Weekend

- **Overall:** Weekends generally show better recovery than weekdays across most modes.
- **Bridges and Tunnels:** No significant difference between weekend and weekday recovery, both fully recovered (100%) due to sustained commercial traffic.
- **Buses:** Recovery rates are low for both weekdays and weekends, likely due to economic factors affecting lower-income commuters who rely on buses.
- **Subway:** Weekend recovery (84%) outpaces weekday recovery (73%), likely due to the shift to remote work reducing weekday commuter numbers.
- **LIRR:** Weekend recovery exceeds 100%, likely driven by increased leisure travel and the Grand Central Madison station expansion in 2023, while weekday recovery is more modest.

Time Trends | Usage Recovery (%)

Relative MTA use based on Total Estimated Ridership

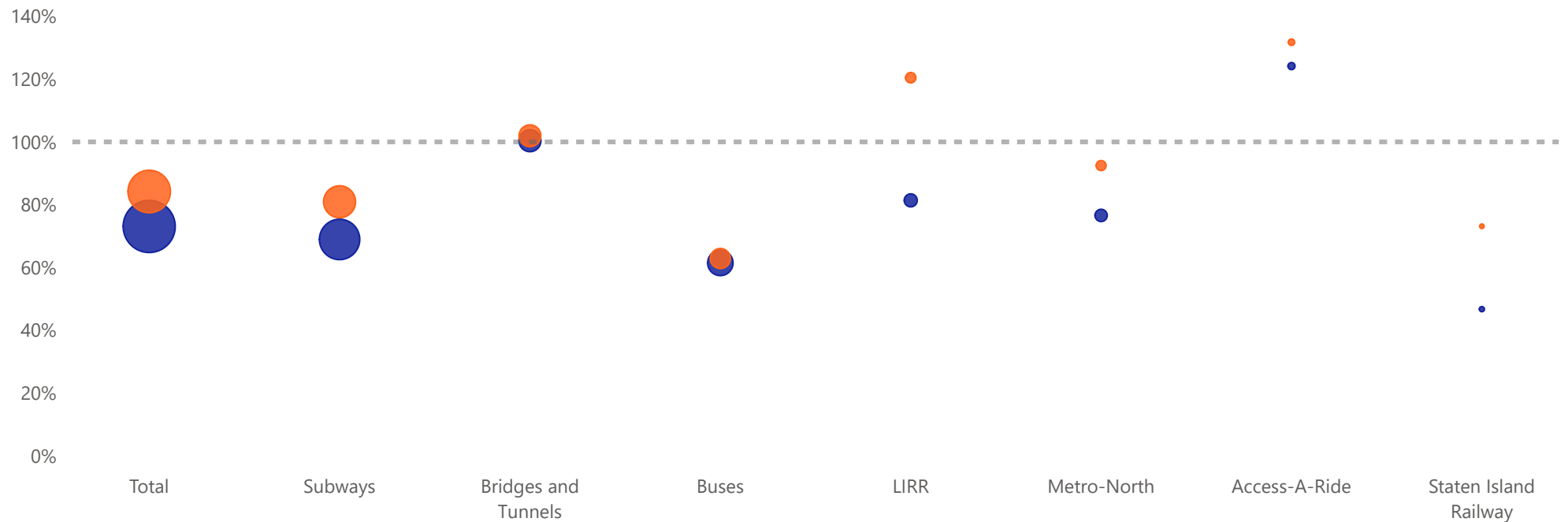
Mode of Transport: ● Total ● Subways ● Bridges and Tunnels ● Buses ● LIRR ● Metro-North ● Access-A-Ride ● Staten Island Railway



Weekday vs Weekend | Usage Recovery (%) compared to pre-Covid expectations

Comparison between weekday and weekend recovery based on the 90-day average post-Covid compared indexed on pre-Covid usage

Part of Week: ● Weekday ● Weekend



Mode of Transport

Bridges and Tunnels:

Maintained full recovery (100%) post-COVID, likely due to consistent commercial travel. Minimal impact from remote work trends.

Buses

Show significantly lower recovery rates compared to other modes. Likely influenced by economic factors such as inflation, disproportionately affecting lower-income commuters reliant on bus travel., causing both weekday and weekend recoveries to remain low.

Subway

Recovery remains below pre-COVID levels, primarily due to the shift towards remote and hybrid work environments.

Notable Smaller Modes

- **Access-A-Ride:** Reached 100% recovery in 2023 and continued to grow, driven by the E-Hail expansion, which tripled pilot participants to 3,600 customers, enhancing customer satisfaction, on-time performance, and reducing no-shows.
- **LIRR:** Recovery exceeded 100%, driven by increased capacity from the LIRR Grand Central Madison station launched in January 2023. Impact is most noticeable on weekends, likely due to leisure travel, while weekday ridership saw modest gains.