

Economic Research & Policy Group (ERP)

Weekly Recovery Dashboard: **February 14, 2021**

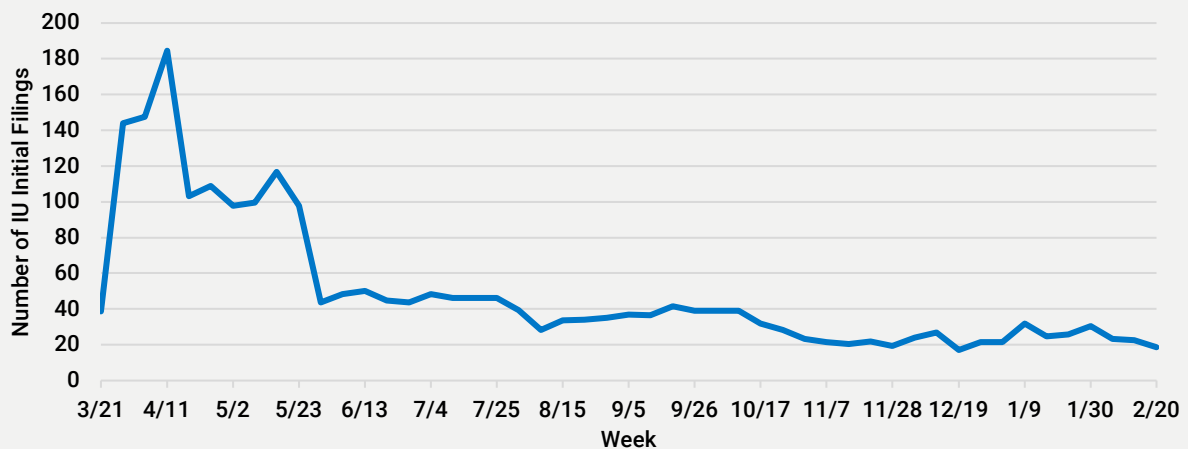
Report Summary

- The week of February 14 saw the number of initial unemployment filings (18,491) decrease by 18% (-3,959) and move back below 20,000 for the first time since mid-December 2020.
- Transportation trends remain steady while week-to-week ridership has fluctuated (presumably due to inclement weather.) Although the use of all transportation modes decreased from the prior week, year-on-year comparisons suggest this is a consequence of seasonality, largely driven by school closures following Presidents' Day. During the weekdays February 15–21, bus traffic decreased by 17% from the prior week for a weekday average of 829K trips (44% of the 2019 baseline). Subway traffic dropped by 7% and is still markedly below pre-pandemic levels, with a weekday average of 1.6M trips, which is 30% of the 2019 baseline.
- The Mobility and Engagement Index (MEI) for February 14–20 decreased slightly from the prior week (-1.7 citywide) to -64.1. Manhattan was the lone borough to see its level of activity increase (+1.3). Mobility in the Bronx (-5.8), Queens (-2.2), and Brooklyn (-1.8) decreased, while mobility remained virtually unchanged in Staten Island. The Bronx has consistently seen the highest level of activity on average since the spring 2020 trough.

All information is publicly available data that NYCEDC organizes and presents. Data are the property of their source. Some data points may not refresh every week. Each indicator is from the most recent data available and does not represent a snapshot of a single point in time.

Number of Initial NYC Unemployment Insurance Filings, March 21, 2020–February 20, 2021 (in thousands)

Weekly employment information from the Department of Labor is not seasonally adjusted.



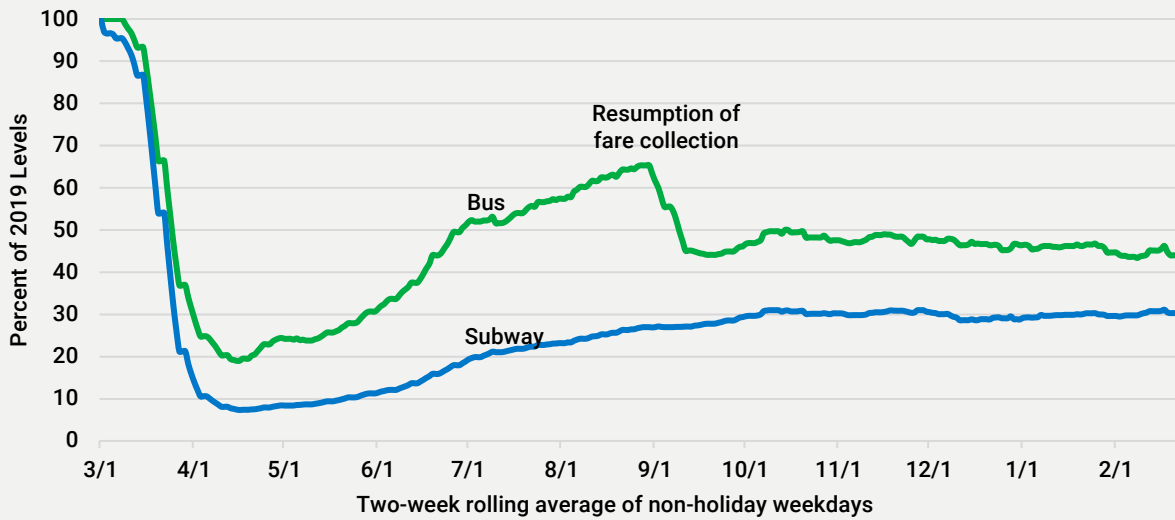
Source: [New York State Department of Labor](#)

Current week: Feb 20, 2021: 18,491

Peak: Apr 11, 2020: 184,525

Trough: Dec 19, 2020: 17,104

MTA Transportation Usage, Weekdays between March 1, 2020–February 21, 2021 (percent of 2019 levels)
Two-week rolling average of non-holiday weekdays on bus and subway (excluding weather events)



Source: [Metropolitan Transportation Authority](https://www.mta.info/press-releases/2020/04/12/mta-transportation-usage)

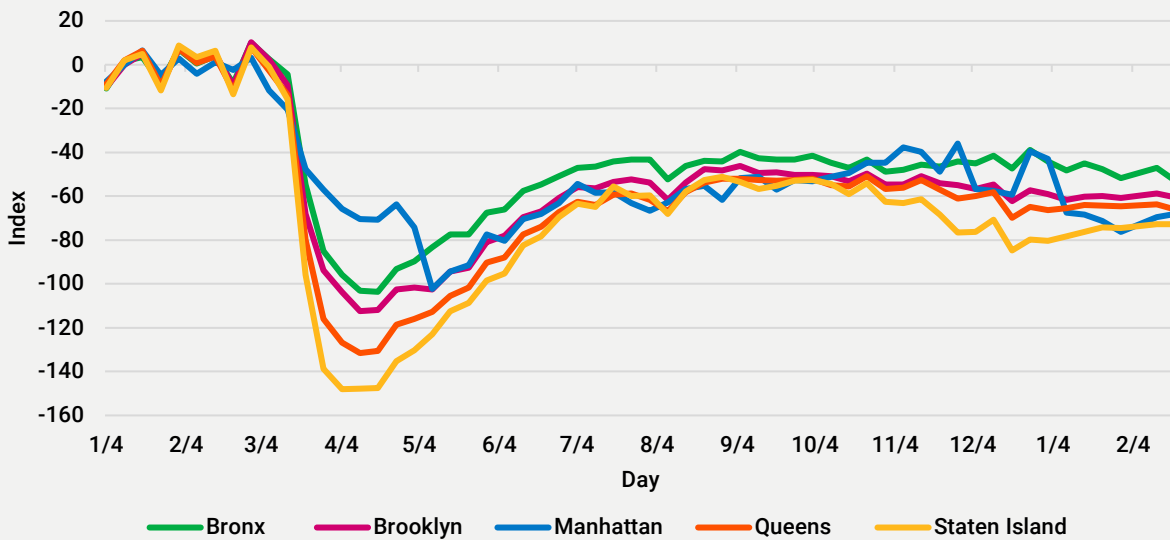
Daily Total Estimated Ridership

Bus: **Current weekday average:** Feb 21, 2021: 828,883 **Peak:** Aug 26, 2020: 1,361,400
Trough: Apr 12, 2020: 279,100

Subway: **Current weekday average:** Feb 21, 2021: 1,577,443 **Peak:** Oct 15, 2020: 1,857,697
Trough: Apr 12, 2020: 199,696

Mobility and Engagement Index by Borough, January 4, 2020–February 20, 2021 (indexed)

The Mobility and Engagement Index (MEI) is a composite of seven types of mobile phone geolocation data indicating activity outside the home, indexed to average January and February 2020 activity.



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Current week: Feb 20, 2021: -64.1 **Peak:** Oct 24, 2020: -48.5 **Trough:** Apr 11, 2020: -113.0

About NYCEDC

NYCEDC is a mission-driven, nonprofit organization that creates shared prosperity across New York City. Our projects and initiatives are about serving New Yorkers. We are working with and for communities through every step of the economic development process—bringing emerging industries to the five boroughs; creating the spaces and facilities they need to thrive and create jobs; giving New Yorkers the tools and training to succeed in those jobs; and investing in the public infrastructure and neighborhood development projects that make this city a great place to live, work, and do business. Ultimately, we strive to create a sustainable and resilient future, with shared prosperity and opportunity for all New Yorkers.

Find us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, or visit edc.nyc to learn more about our projects and initiatives.

The Economic Research & Policy Group at NYCEDC

The Economic Research & Policy (ERP) Group performs industry and economic research to provide insights into key policy issues, conducts economic analysis of New York City projects, and tracks economic trends for policymakers and the public as a whole. ERP also supports NYCEDC in the evaluation of projects by setting up tools to assess, measure, and report on ideation and results. The team advances high-impact thought leadership on inclusive and innovation-driven economic development.

For more information, visit edc.nyc/NYCEconomics
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