

Economic Research & Policy Group (ERP)

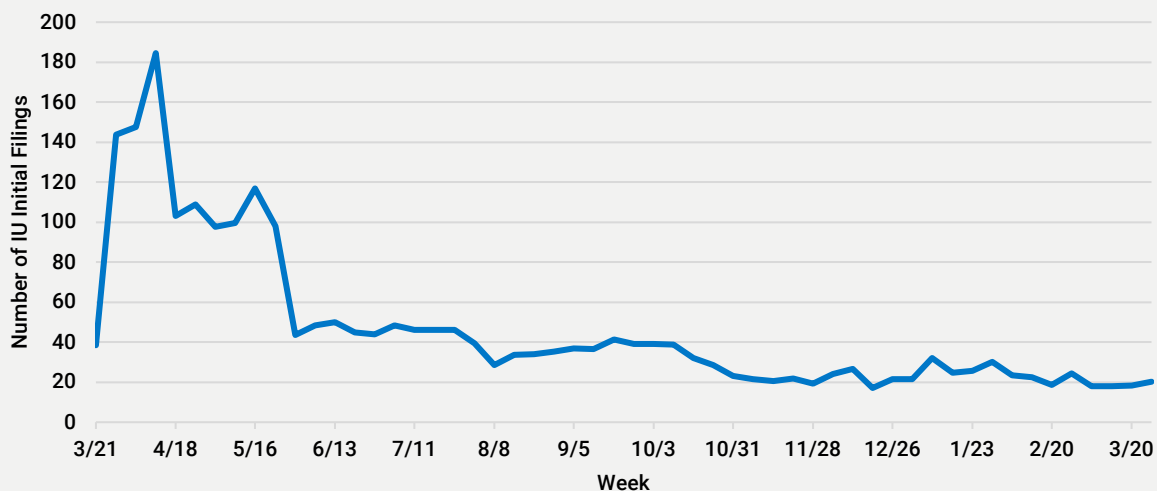
Weekly Recovery Dashboard: **March 21, 2021**

Report Summary

- The week of March 21 saw the number of initial unemployment filings (20,162) increase (+1,843) from the prior week, breaking 20,000 after three weeks below this level. Despite rising, this week's number of initial UI claims is still among the lowest recorded in 2021.
- The use of all transportation modes increased from the prior week (though overall ridership has held relatively stable since October). During weekdays March 22–28, bus traffic increased by 2% from the prior week for a weekday average of 1.1M trips (47% of the 2019 baseline). Subway traffic increased by 3%, though it is still low compared to pre-pandemic levels, with a weekday average of 1.9M trips (33% of the 2019 baseline).
- The Mobility and Engagement Index (MEI) for March 21–27 increased from the prior week (+6.9 citywide) and reached its highest level (-45.5) since the initial stay-at-home order. Mobility and engagement rose in all boroughs, especially Manhattan (+12.9). The Bronx (+7.0), Staten Island (+5.6), Brooklyn (+5.2), and Queens (+3.9) also increased sizably. Overall, NYC has seen a 57% increase in its MEI from the week of Phase 1 to the most recent week measured.

Number of Initial NYC Unemployment Insurance Filings, March 21, 2020–March 27, 2021 (in thousands)

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



Source: [New York State Department of Labor](https://www.labor.ny.gov/data/unemployment-reports/initial-unemployment-claims)

Current week: Mar 27, 2021: 20,162

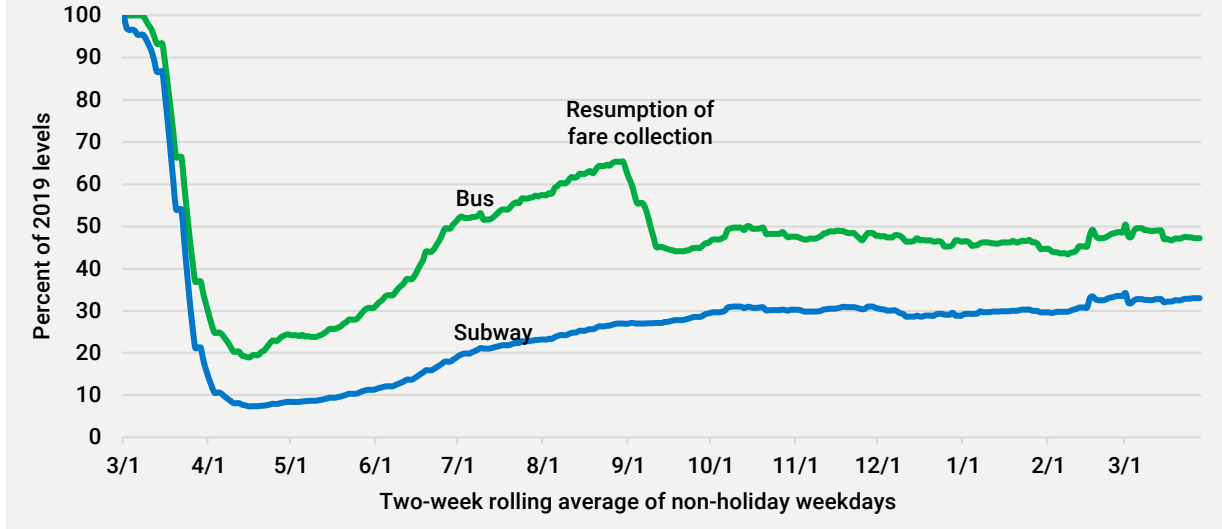
Peak: Apr 11, 2020: 184,525

Trough: Dec 19, 2020: 17,104

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.

MTA Transportation Usage, Weekdays between March 1, 2020–March 28, 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/2021-03-28-transportation-usage)

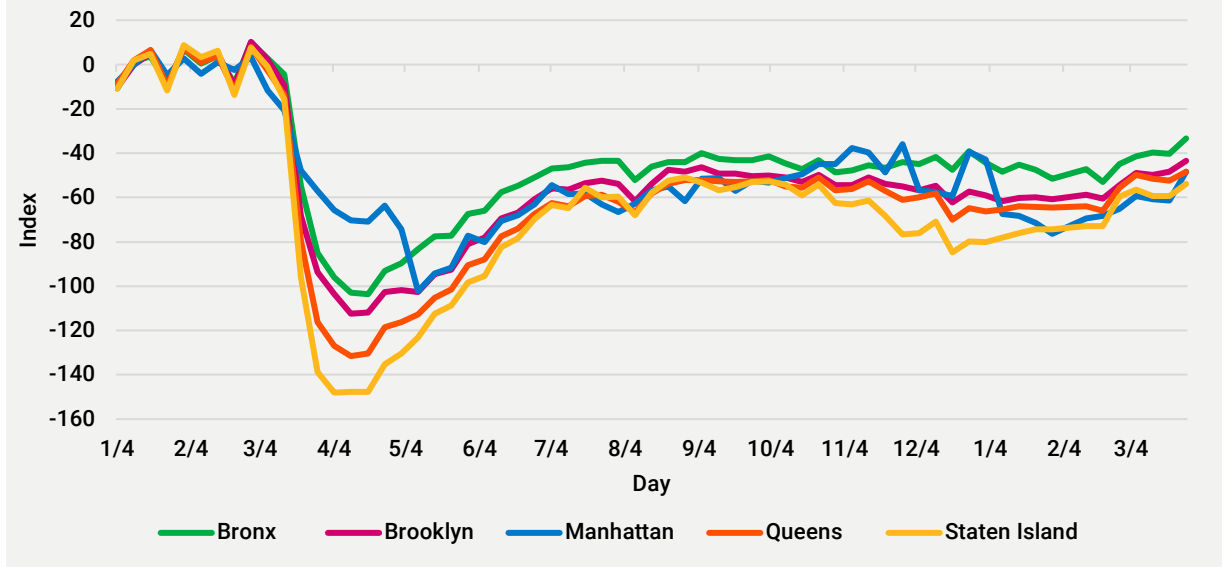
Daily Total Estimated Ridership

Bus: **Current weekday average:** Mar 28, 2021: 1,081,236 **Peak:** Aug 26, 2020: 1,361,400
Trough: Apr 12, 2020: 279,100

Subway: **Current weekday average:** Mar 21, 2021: 1,877,225 **Peak:** Oct 15, 2020: 1,857,697
Trough: Apr 12, 2020: 199,696

Mobility and Engagement Index by Borough, January 4, 2020–March 27, 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: Mar 13, 2021: -45.5 **Peak:** Mar 13, 2020: -45.5 **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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