METRO PROFILE 2024

Annual Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area



Adopted: xx-xx-2024 1-2nd Street N, Suite 232 Fargo, ND 58102 www.fmmetrocog.org The preparation of this document was funded in part by the United States Department of Transportation with funding administered through the North Dakota and Minnesota Departments of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. Additional funding was provided through local contributions from the governments of Fargo, West Fargo, Horace, and Cass County in North Dakota; and Moorhead, Dilworth, and Clay County in Minnesota. The United States government and the states of North Dakota and Minnesota assume no liability for the contents or use thereof.

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Dear Interested Persons, Stakeholders, Jurisdictions, Agencies and Organizations

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG) is pleased to present the 2024 Metropolitan Profile: Annual Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. This document is previously known as the Surveillance and Monitoring Report for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. **The data presented within this Profile pertains to the 2023 calendar year (January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023)**.

Metro COG began producing the Metropolitan Transportation Surveillance and Monitoring Report in 1981. Over time, this document has taken various forms in order to ensure compliance and compatibility with relevant surface transportation authorization, such as the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Metro Profile has become an essential performance management tracking tool.

The profile is structured to document and monitor the following:

- (a) Changes to the transportation system;
- (b) Demographic and socioeconomic conditions;
- (c) Changes in land use patterns and/or development patterns;
- (d) Accuracy of projections/assumptions made within the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP); and
- (e) Implementation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The Metro COG Policy Board believes this data to be critical to both accurately represent the state of the transportation network and to maintain and to implement elements of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Program, such as the TIP, MTP, and regional Travel Demand Model (TDM).

It is Metro COG's goal to continue to enhance the ease and accuracy of collecting and reporting metropolitan transportation data; as well as improving accessibility to this information for all interested persons and stakeholders.

Any questions or comments on the content of this document should be directed to Metro COG. Supporting plans, studies, and other transportation data for the Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area is available by contacting Metro COG (701.532.5100), by email at metrocog@fmmetrocog.org, or visiting Metro COG's website at www.fmmetrocog.org.

Duane Breitling

Chair, Metro COG Policy Board

Ben Griffith

Executive Director, Metro COG

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INTRODUCTION

Who is Metro COG?

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments (Metro COG) is both the designated Council of Governments (COG) and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the greater Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Area. An MPO is a transportation policy-making organization comprised of representatives from local government and transportation authorities. The Federal Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1973 requires the formation of a MPO for any urbanized area with a population greater than 50,000. MPOs ensure that existing and future expenditures for transportation projects and programs are based on a comprehensive, cooperative, and continuing planning process, known as the "3-C" process.

October of 2023, Metro COG became a designated Transportation Management Area (TMA). A TMA is an urbanized area with a population of greater than 200,000 people that is designated by the US Secretary of Transportation. With the new TMA status, Metro COG will have a stronger role in setting priorities for tranportation improvement projects.

What is the Metro Profile?

The Metro Profile is an annual report that provides a snapshot of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area based on data from the previous year. The Metropolitan Profile is separated into five chapters, each of which focus on trends affecting the development patterns and transportation network of the Fargo-Moorhead MPA. Together the chapters provide a comprehensive snapshot of the conditions and trends affecting the metro area based on 2023 data.

The chapters are grouped into two sections:

Community Profile

Transportation

The Transportation section encompasses topics focused on the:

Roadway System

Freight & Interstate Travel

Bicycle & Pedestrian Network

Local & Regional Transit

Within each of these chapters are metrics that Metro COG tracks from year to year. These metrics are used to track progress towards goals set in the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). The goals in the MTP are developed with Metro COG's vision, mission, and core functions in mind.

JURISDICTIONS

MEMBE

CASS COUNTY 1,768 SQ. MILES

FARGO 51.18 SQ. MILES

WEST FARGO 16.41 SQ. MILES

HORACE 12.68 SQ. MILES

CASSELTON 2.18 SQ. MILES

HARWOOD 1.31 SQ. MILES

MAPLETON 3.91 SQ. MILES

ASSOCIATI

CLAY COUNTY 1,053 SQ. MILES

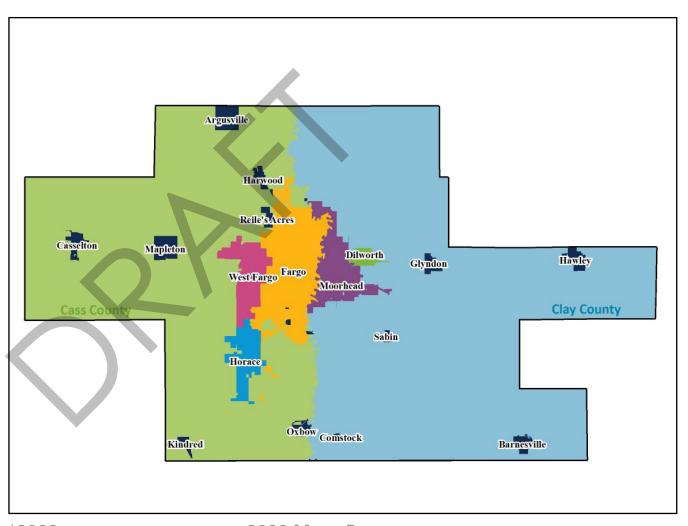
MOORHEAD 22.32 SQ. MILES

DILWORTH 3.22 SQ. MILES

BARNESVILLE 1.96 SQ. MILES

GLYNDON 1.59 SQ. MILES

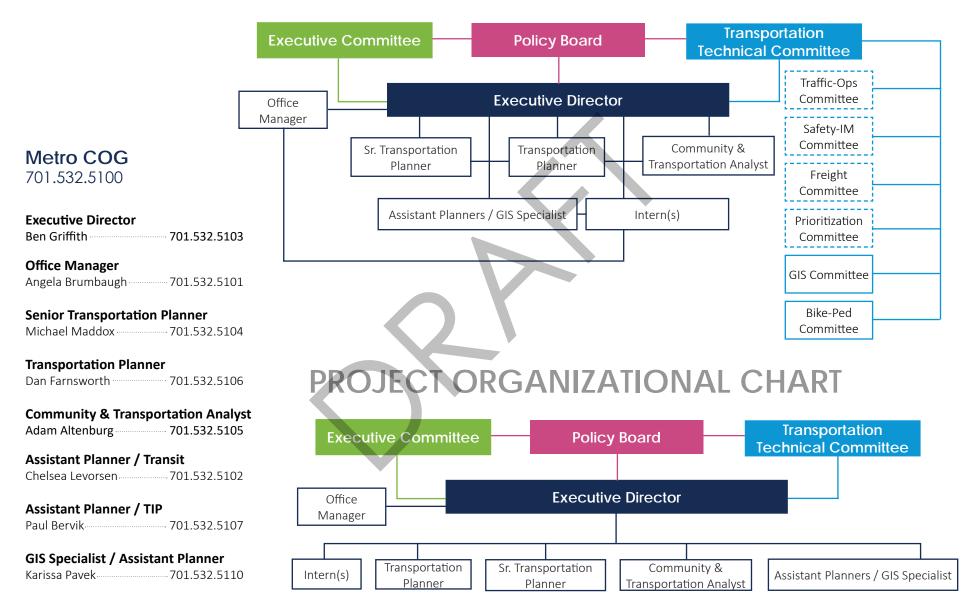
HAWLEY 2.448 SQ. MILES



*2023 INFORMATION WAS USED IN 2022 METRO PROFILE

NOTE: Jurisdiction acreage was calculated from the GIS information provided by each jurisdiction. Associate Jurisdictions are depicted in navy, while the Member Jurisdictions are color coded by pink, purple, greens, bright blues, or yellow.

STAFF ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



VISION AND MISSION

Vision Statement

Provide quality, proactive regional planning services for a changing society.

Mission

- 1. Harmonize the activities of federal, state, and local agencies
- 2. Render technical assistance
- 3. Encourage public participation in the development of the area

Core Functions

- □ Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- ☐ Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- ☐ Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- □ Increase accessibility and mobility for people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvements and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- □ Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- □ Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate storm water impacts of surface transportation.
- ☐ Enhance travel and tourism.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The economy in the Metro continued to see growth trends during 2023 as it neared pre-pandemic levels. This can be seen through Hector International Airport reporting its highest passenger volume of all time.

Demographic Highlights

The Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) has continued to experience faster population growth than the country as a whole. In 2023, much of this growth is estimated to have occurred within Horace. The population of the metro remains younger and more educated than national averages thanks to the number of higher education institutions in the area. The metro also continues to look more diverse, with despite having lower rates of foreign-born individuals and those speaking a language other than English at home. Even though the MSA is diversifying, regional trends are slower than what is occurring nationally.

Economics

The unemployment rate in the Metro continues to decrease. In 2023, despite seeing a slight decrease in the labor force, the Fargo-Moorhead Metro area was ranked #2 in the nation for lowest unemployment rate (tied with Sioux Falls, SD). Even though the FM Area observed increased median household incomes, the region is still below the national average. The regional poverty rate increased, nearing the national average.

Transportation

Vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and vehicle miles traveled per capita both increased in 2023. However, the Metro area's average commute time decreased from 2022.

The Metro area welcomed two Amazon Warehouses at the end of 2021 and in 2023 construction continued a series of four buildings for the Dakota Commerce Center. The area saw an increase in truck average daily traffic and an improved truck travel time reliability index. However, air cargo continued to decline.

Amtrak's Empire Builder increased their on-time performance and saw a significant increase in passenger ridership in 2023. Hector International Airport also saw an improvement in both air passengers and enplanements. 2023 was Hector International Airport's busiest passenger year on record.

Data collected from Metro COG's pedestrian counters shows a drop in activity this year, however bicycle activity increased. Metro COG saw a significant decrease in the number of non-motorized crashes but the number of both: serious injuries and fatalities, increased.

MATBUS ridership has continued to increase in all jurisdictions. Ridership is up for paratransit and Metro Senior ride. Overall, ridership from local university students has increased; however, ridership from MSUM and NDSCS has decreased. MATBUS was able to increase some service, however, like 2021 and 2022. driver shortages have continued to hinder service.

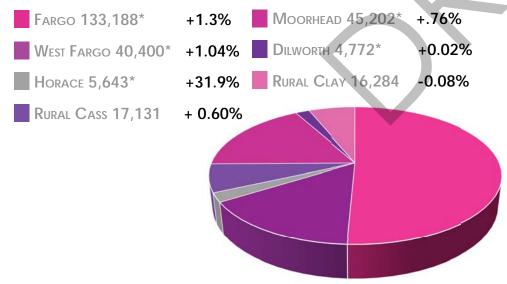
Overview



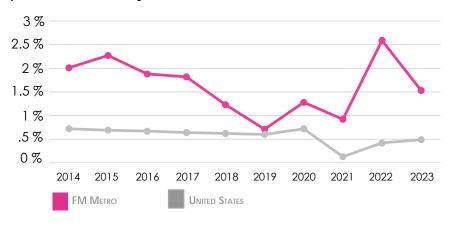
2014 - 2023 FM MSA Annual population growth



Population & Growth by jurisdiction



2014 - 2023 Population Growth by %



^{*} Census ACS discrepency; Source: Census data, Vintage Estimates, 2023
Sources in this section: Census data, American Community Survey (ACS) estimates, Federal Reserve Bank, Home Builders Association of Fargo-Moorhead

Demographics



Median age

FM MSA

United States 32.9 +2.7% 39.2 yrs



Bachelor's degree or higher

25 Years and Over

United States **FM MSA** 42.9% -0.23% 136.2%



Speaks a language other than English at home**

FM MSA 6.9% -19.7% 12

United States



Foreign born

FM MSA 5.9% -14.54% 114.3%

United States

Racial composition^

FM MSA

3.3% 96.6%

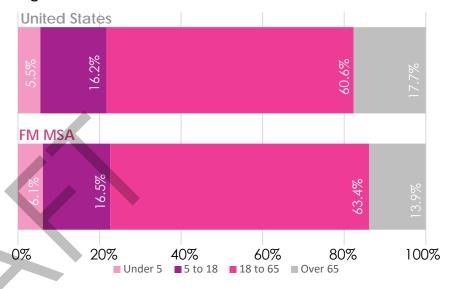
United States

80.6% 19.4%

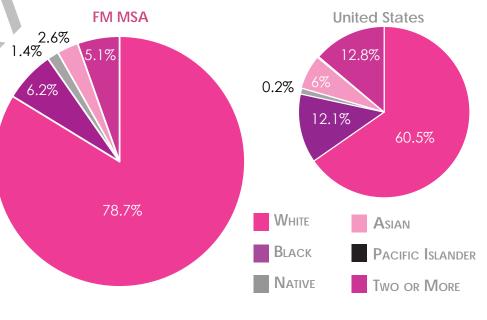
■ Hispanic non-Hispanic

+ / - Designates change from previous year ** 2022 (8.6%) used previous year (ACS) 5-year estimates

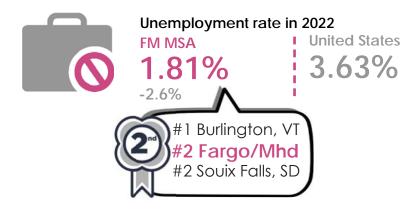
Age distribution



Racial composition^



Employment





Percent in labor force[^]

74.1%

-1.2%

United States 63.5%



Median household income[^]

\$73,641 +7.5%

\$75,14

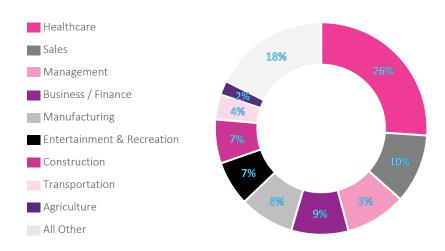


Percent in poverty[^]

FM MSA 11.8% +4.4% United States 12.5%

Worked from home FM MSA 10.2% 10.2% 10.2% 13.8% 10% 15.2% 2021 13.4% 17.9% 2020 data not available 2019 4.2% 5.7%

Top 10 industries ranked by employment



^{+ / -} Designates change from previous year

^{^2019-2023} American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates

Housing



Housing units metro wide

Average household size

FM MSA

United States

Owner-occupied rate[^]

FM MSA

55% -2.65% 65%

United States

2023 30-Yr Fixed Mortgage*

Average

Year High

6.81%

7.79%

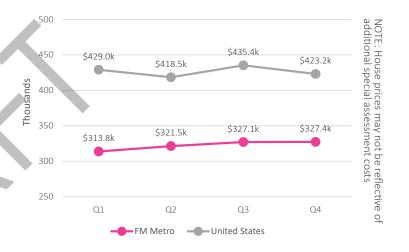
Median Home Price*

\$322,433

+ \$13,858 from 2022

Average Rent (3 bedroom)

2023 Median Household Price*



Building permits issued in 2023

New single-family Permits

New multi-family Permits [& 1066 units]

New single-family Permits

Fargo

West Fargo

Horace

Moorhead

+19Dilworth

+35Associate Jurisdictions

New multi-family Permits & Units

+9 [842] Fargo

+0 West Fargo

+0 Horace

+3 [224] Moorhead

+0 Dilworth

+0 Associate Jurisdictions

NOTE: For more in-depth information, see "Permits Plus" in Additional Resources

^{+ / -} Designates change from previous year

^{*} fred.stlouisfred.org

^{^2019-2023} American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates

Overview



Vehicle miles traveled (VMT)

2.5billion+ (+5%)

VMT per capita

FM Metro 9,451 + 297 from 2022

United States 9,745

Average Daily VMT per capita

FM Metro **25.89**

Average commute time in minutes[^]

FM Metro **17.7**

United States 26.8

FM Area Auto Travel Time Reliability*
Interstate
Non-Interstate

100%

99.3%

NOTE: For more information, see "Performance Measures" in Additional Resources.

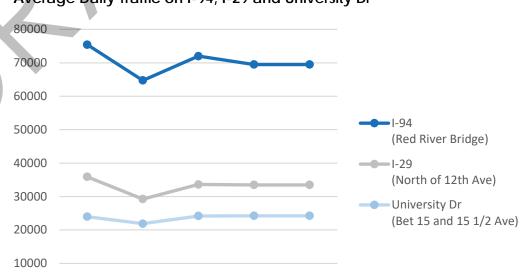
Sources in this section: NDDOT, MnDOT, American Community Survey (ACS) estimates ^2019-2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates *NPMRDS data



2021

2019

2020



2022

2023

Projects





Top 2023 Federal Fiscal Year Funded TIP Projects

52nd Ave. Reconstruction (4200016)

I-94 Bridge Repair at Lynchburg Interchange (9231005) 8th Ave. North Reconstruction (9230001)

MN9 Reconstruct, Mill & Overlay, Trail, ADA Improvements (8200011) Transit Operating Assistance (4200029)

Number of TIP Projects in 2023

60

Total cost

86,065,822

Federal funding

50,069,286

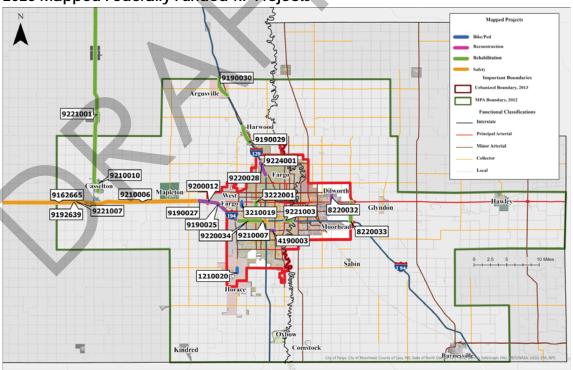
State funding

\$ 12,837,956

Local funding

\$ 23,158,580

2023 Mapped Federally Funded TIP Projects



Safety & Pavement Condition Targets



ND-Side of the FM MPA 2023 safety data

- Number of fatalities
- 52 Number of serious injuries
- 12 Number of non-motorized fatalities and non-motorized serious injuries

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 safety data

- Number of fatalities
- Number of serious injuries
- Number of non-motorized fatalities and nonmotorized serious injuries

ND-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Pavement Conditions



77.35% of Interstate in good condition

0% of Interstate in poor condition

15.55% of non-Interstate in good condition

.87% of non-Interstate in poor condition

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Pavement Conditions

67.42% of Interstate in good condition

of Interstate in poor condition

52.94% of non-Interstate in good condition

of non-Interstate in poor condition

ND-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Bridge Conditions



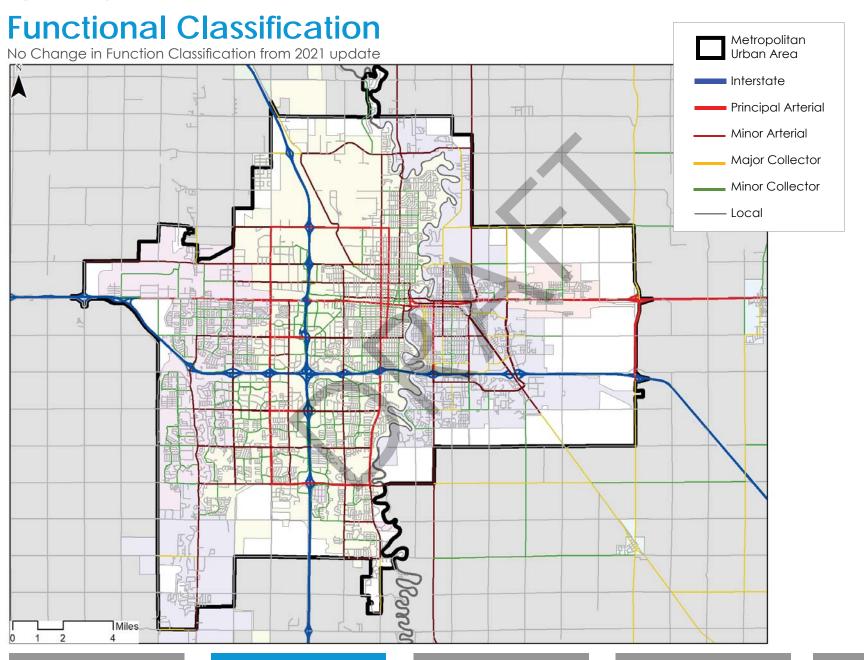
54.05% of NHS bridges in good condition

2.03% of NHS bridges in poor condition

MN-Side of the FM MPA 2023 Bridge Conditions

11.87% of NHS bridges in good condition

5.95% of NHS bridges in poor condition



Overview



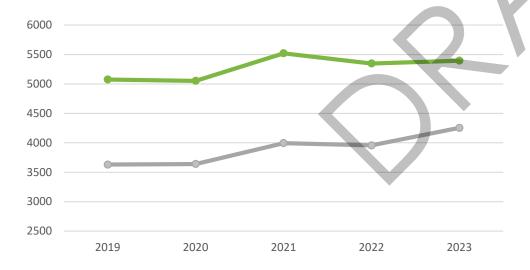
Air cargo total landed weight in 2023 (lbs)

406.1 million

Change from year previous

-0.9%

Truck Average Daily Traffic (ADT) on I-94 and I-29



- 1-94 / Red River Bridge
- 1-29/ North of 12th Ave.

New Facilities

Asian & American Supermarket

 $19,\!500$ sf international store - The largest international grocery store in the Dakotas

Brewhalla

100,000 sq. ft. Brewery with a hotel, apartments, food, and shopping

Truck



Truck Travel Time Reliability Index (TTTR) *

Fargo-Moorhead MPA

1.22

Minneapolis-St Paul MPA

TTTR Actual vs Target



NOTE: For more information, see "Performance Measures" in Additional Resources. *NPMRDS data

FM Area Auto Travel Time Reliability *

Interstate

Non-Interstate

99.3%

Number of unreliable non-interstate road segments

2ND STREET N.

north & southbound, near NP avenue

1ST AVENUE N. west & northbound, near 2nd Street

(Center Avenue) westbound, near 21st street / 1st Avenue

(8th Street) north & southbound, US10 (Center Avenue) to Main Street

1ST AVENUE N.

eastbound to the State border

US 75

northbound, Center Avenue to 8th Street



Fargo Amtrak station ridership in 2023

17,545

Change from 2022

+19.17%

FAR air passengers in 2023

1,032,497

Change from 2022

2023 was

the **busiest** passenger year on record

+13.7%

Empire Builder passengers in 2023

338,993

Change from 2022

+11.6%

FAR enplanements (boarding) in 2023

516,071

Change from year previous

+13.29%

NOTE: For more information, see "Hector International Airport Year-End Statistics" in Additional Resources.

Empire Builder 2023 on-time performance

51%

Change from 2022

+6.25%

Trains per Day



6 BNSF Freight & 2 Empire Builder Crossing #070839F, North Track

26 BNSF Freight Crossing #070807A, South Track

Direct Flights from Hector International Airport



NOTE: For more information, see "Fargo Amtrak Station" in Additional Resources.

+ / - Designates change from previous year

Rail and Air Map

Amtrak Projects & Studies

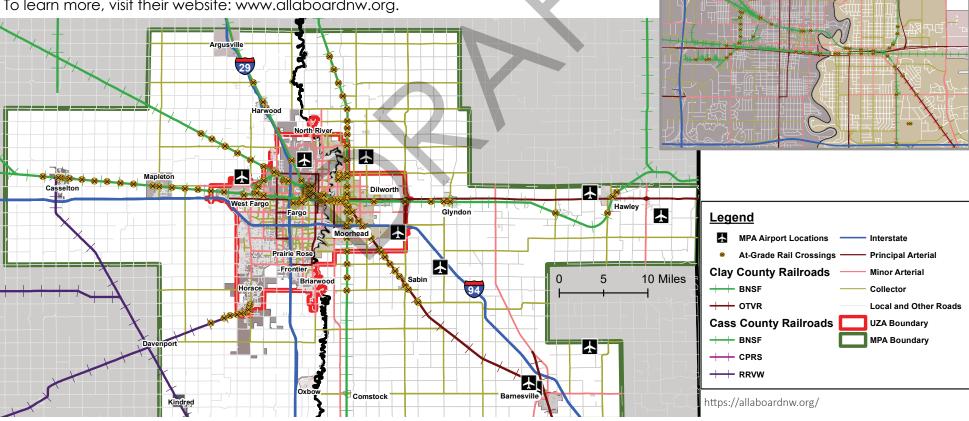
In 2023 Fargo Amtrak started to modify it's station and platform to be ADA compliant. Updates are scheduled to be completed in 2024.

Amtrak Daily Long-Distance Service Study.

All Aboard Northwest

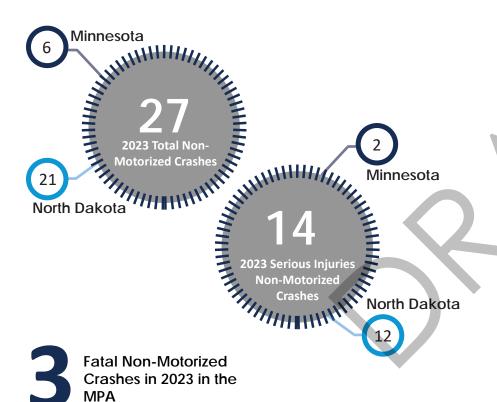
All Aboard Northwest continues to advocate for the needs of rail passengers in the Greater Northwest. In 2023 AANW conducted their 2023 Train Trek: "Returning Passenger Tains to a Station Near You: Why and How"

To learn more, visit their website: www.allaboardnw.org.



Downtown Inset

Safety Overview





July 9, 2023



September 13, 2023

atal Non-Motorized Crash Locations



NOTE: For more information, please see "Performance Measures" in additional resources.

Sources in this section: NDDOT, MnDOT

Projects















Reconstruction Projects 2023 Projects

Amber Valley Parkway - Fargo 32nd Avenue South - Fargo

Midtown Trail - Moorhead 45th Street Path - Fargo 64th Avenue Path - Forgo

The Wilds - West Fargo Main - Moorhead

Orchard Glen - Fargo

11th Street South - Moorhead **Center Avenue - Horace** CR 17 - Horace

Area Bikeway Typologies

253 (+4 miles) Miles of Shared-Use Bikeway Paths

Miles of Bikeway Lanes

Miles of Signed Bike Lanes

Miles of Bikeway Sharrows (shared-lane)

5Miles of Buffered Bike Lanes

Miles of Separated Bike Lanes



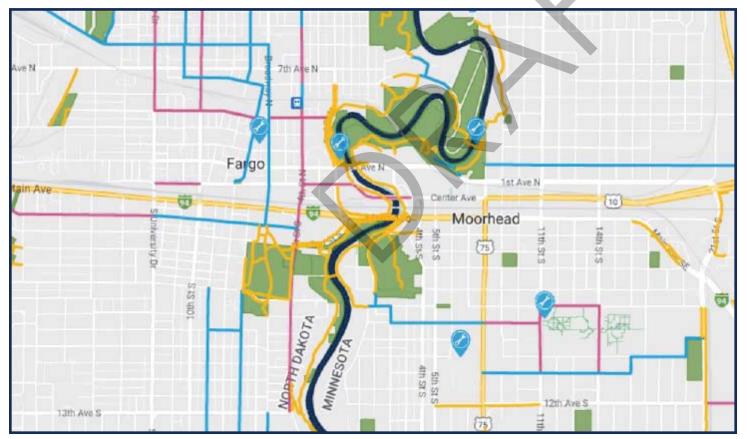
Network map



Fargo-Moorhead Bike Map

The application is available on Google Play and the Apple App Store

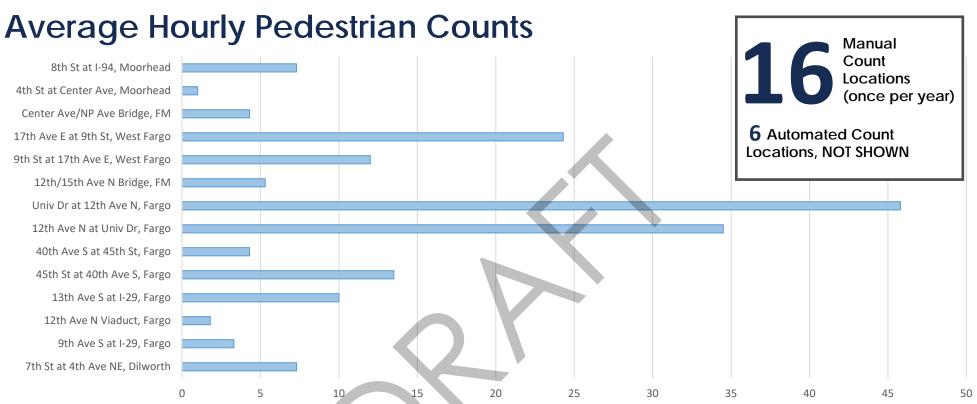
The bike map of the Fargo-Moorhead metro area includes locations of bikeways (streets with sharrows, wide shoulders, bike lanes or bike-signed roadways) and shared use paths (paths for biking and walking). Also included in the map are the locations of bike repair stations and bike lockers.



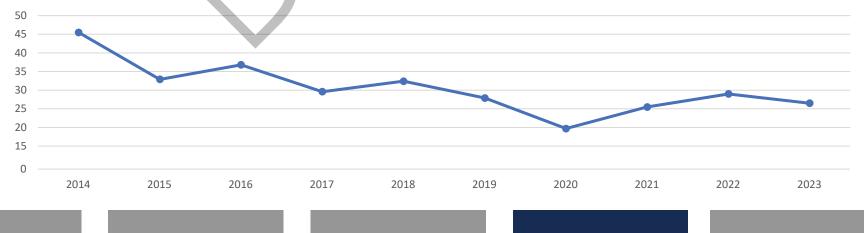




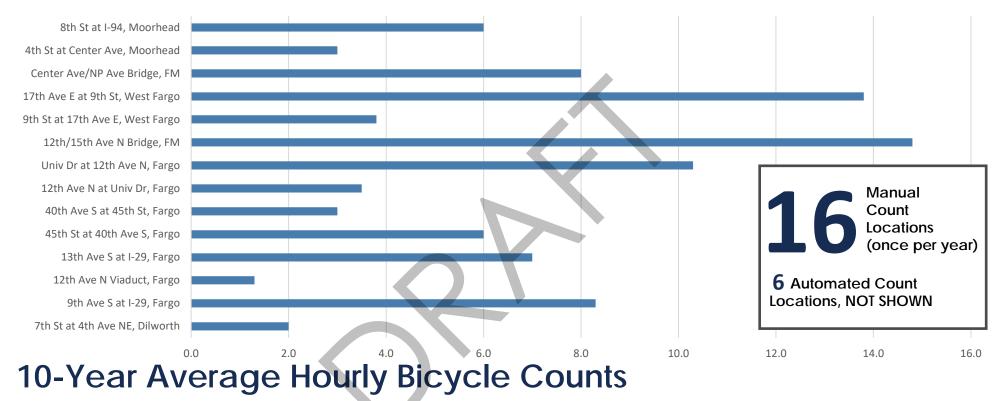
NOTE: For the most up-to-date bike network map, please click here or see "Fargo-Moorhead Bike Map" in additional resources.

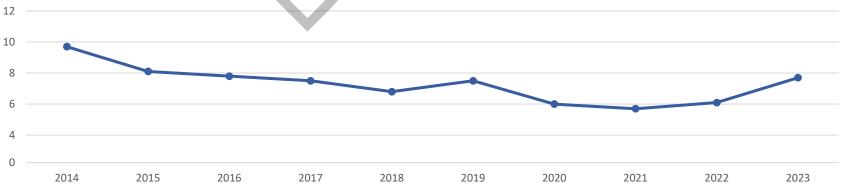


10-Year Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts

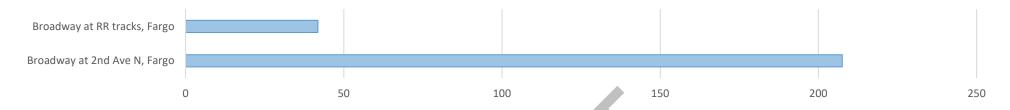


Average Hourly Bicycle Counts





Broadway Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts



Broadway Average Hourly Bicycle Counts



10-Year Average Hourly Pedestrian Counts



Overview



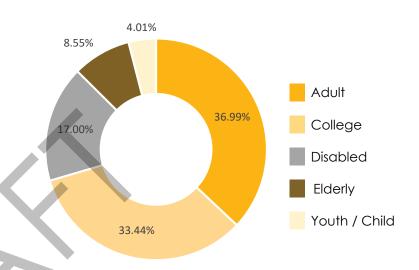
Total MATBUS passengers in 2023

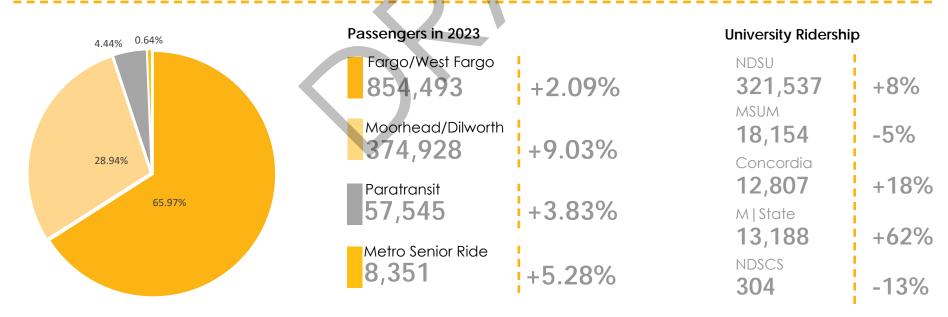
1,295,317

previous +4.1%

Change from year

Driver shortages have continued to affect MATBUS operations, however, MATBUS was able to extend previously shortened operating hours to 10:15pm. MATBUS has continued to see an increase in ridership since the Covid 19 pandemic.





+ / - Designates change from previous year

Sources in this section: MATBUS

Projects

Route and Service Changes - Due to Driver Shortage (January, 2022)

- □ MATBUS service end time was changed from 9:45 pm to 10:15pm
- Route 2C (Route 2 operating Monday-Friday 2:30pm-6:30pm) was discontinued
- □ Route 13 reduced to 60-minute service all day
- □ Route 15:00 trip during peak hours was discontinued
- □ Additional bus leaving the GTC at :30 on weekdays 10:30am 5:30pm
- Route 11 & 14 service increase; odd hours have two trips from 7:15am 5:45pm
- Route 13 returned to 30-minute service
- Route 36 discontinued (same service as Route 13)
- Route 18 no longer travels west on 47th street south, increasing the route's on-time performance

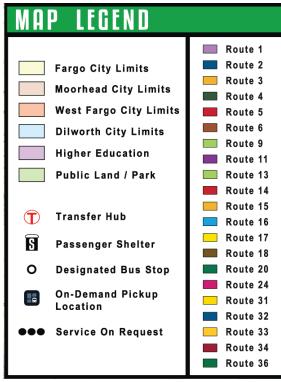
Marketing

- Promoted transit to new riders during Try MATBUS Week
- LinkFM service during the Street Fair, Scandinavian Festival, Frostival, Celtic Festival, Pangea, and Trollwood Mainstage Musical
- Offered 'Get Your Can on the Bus' promotion during Earth Week
- Educated college students at back to school events
- Participated in the Holiday Lights Parade
- Sponsored a RedHawks and Fargo Force game
- Holiday ridership campaign called 'Season of Giving' providing a free ride with the donation of a non-perishable food item
- Partnered with YWCA for 'stuff the bus'

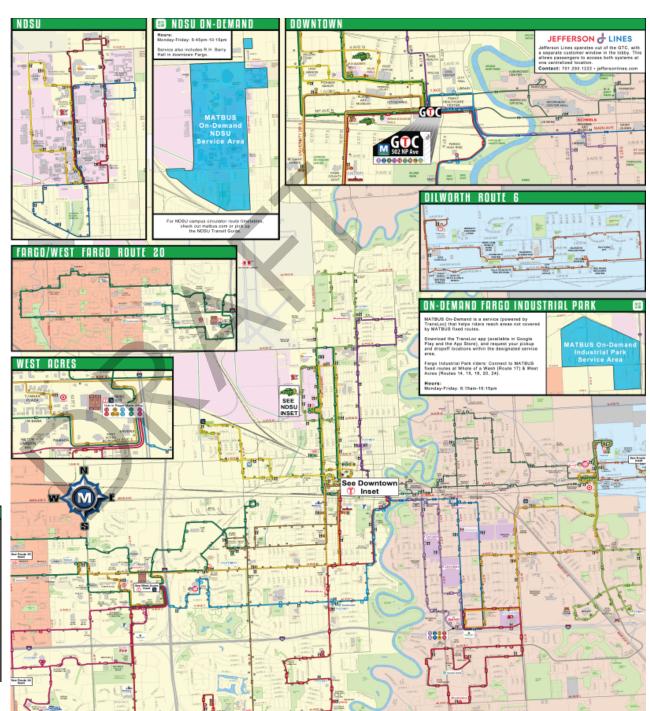
Studies

- Continued Transit Reorganization Study
- □ Updated Safety Plan in August 2023

Route Map







Inventory

Fleet

11 Moorhead - 35' - diesel

20 Fargo - 35' - diesel

2 Fargo - 35' - diesel-electric hybrid

6 Fargo - 40' - diesel-electric hybrid

Paratransit

3 Moorhead - Cutaway

11 Fargo - Cutaway

2 Fargo - Passenger Van

Valley Senior Service

4 Moorhead - Caravan

Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP)

Mode of Transit Service	Fatalities (total)	Fatalities (per 100 thousand VRM)	Injuries (total)	Injuries (per 100 thousand VRM)	Safety Events	Safety Events (per 100 thousand VRM)	System Reliability	
							VRM/failures	Maintenance within 10% of Scheduled Miles
Fixed Route Bus	0	0	0.6	0.13	1.4	0.29	9,000	90%
Demand Response (Senior Ride)	0	0	0	0	0.2	0.06	12,000	90%

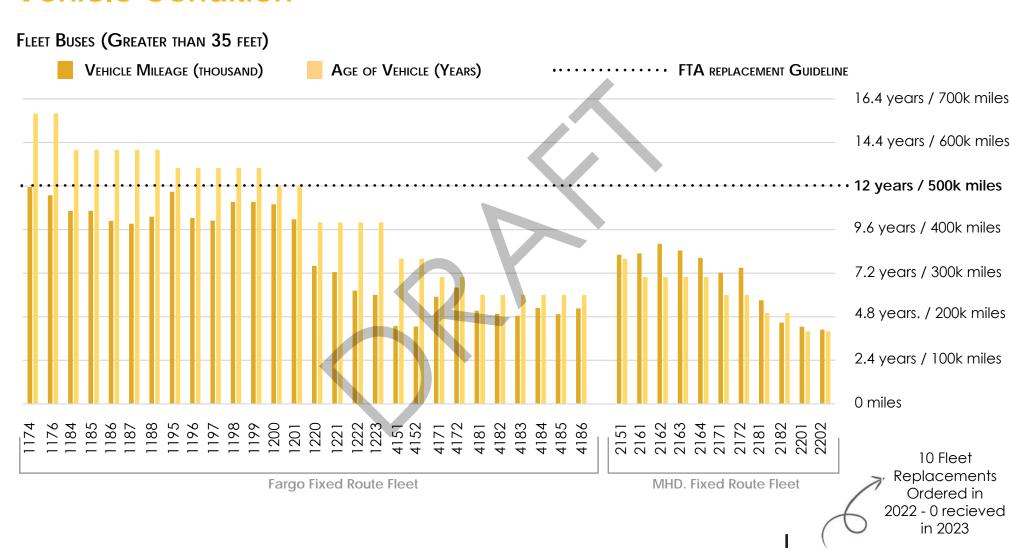
^{*2023} performance reported in 2024

Collisions

Preventable: 20 Unpreventable: 39 Major*: 3

*collision resulting in serious injury, fatality, or exeeds \$25,000 in damage

Vehicle Condition



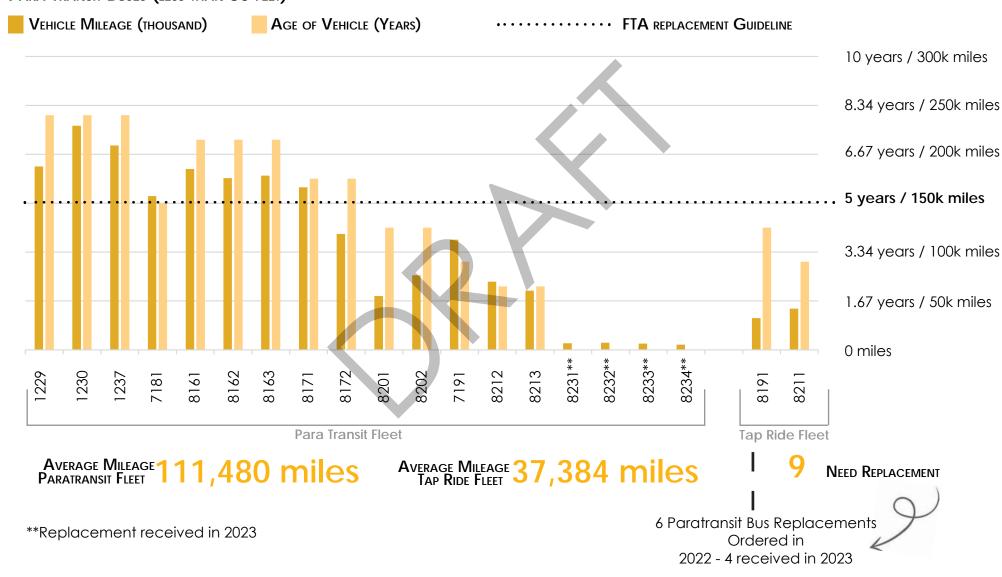
AVERAGE MILEAGE 340,580 miles

AVERAGE MILEAGE 284,340 miles

4 NEED REPLACEMENT

Vehicle Condition





ACRONYMS

ACS American Community Survey (U.S. Census Bureau)

ADT Average Daily Traffic

FAR Hector International Airport, Fargo

FM Fargo-Moorhead

FTA Federal Transit Administration
GTC Ground Transportation Center

MATBUS Metro Area Transit of Fargo-Moorhead

Metro COG Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments

MnDOT Minnesota Department of Transportation

MPA Metropolitan Planning Area

MPO Metropolitan Planning Organization

MSA Metropolitan Statistical Area (includes all of Cass County and Clay County)

MTG Metro Transit Garage

MTP Metropolitan Transportation Plan

NDDOT North Dakota Department of Transportation

NHS Non-Highway System

NPMRDS National Performance Management Research Data Set

TDP Transit Development Plan

TIP Transportation Improvement Program

TDM Travel Demand Model

TMA Transportation Management Area

TTTR Truck Travel Time Reliability (only applies to the National Highway System)

VMT Vehicle Miles Traveled

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES Community Profile:

https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/FARG038UR

https://www.bls.gov/lau/lamtrk23.htm

BIA (Building Industry Association Red River Valley) Summary of Building Permits Granted 2023

Freight:

https://www.fargoairport.com/december-2023-year-end-statistics/

greatamericanstations.com/stations/fargo-nd-far/

safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/crossings

Farqo-Moorhead Bike Map fmmetrocog.org/fmbikemap

Bike & Ped Count Report fmmetrocog.org/resources/planning/bicycle-pedestrian-planning

Hector International Airport Year-End Statistics fargoairport.com/december-2023-year-end-statistics/

Permits Plus issuu.com/homebuildersassociation/docs/permits_plus_issue_1_2023

Performance Measures fmmetrocog.org/resources/performance-measures

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) fmmetrocog.org/TIP



