



To: Chicago Transit Authority Board
From: Jeremy Fine, Chief Financial Officer
Re: Financial Results for February 2019
Date: April 10, 2019

I. Summary

CTA's financial results are unfavorable to budget for February and year-to-date by \$0.9 million and \$3.9 million, respectively, due to significantly lower-than-average ridership during the January 2019 polar vortex and lower reduced fare reimbursements from the State.

Ridership for the month was 34.6 million and was 0.2 million lower than budget. Ridership was 0.5 million less than February 2018. Ridership year-to-date was lower than budget and prior year by 3.0 million and 3.5 million, respectively. The ridership loss over the prior year to date was due to relatively low gas prices, cold weather, and competition from rideshare services such as Uber and Lyft. The loss was partially offset by a prior year snow event during the month of February, resulting in a positive impact year over year.

II. Cash & Liquidity

The chart below highlights CTA's cash position at February 2019 compared to February 2018.

	February 2019	February 2018	Increase (Decrease)
Unrestricted Cash	\$ 114,424	\$ 117,012	\$ (2,588)
Damage Reserve	57,382	78,225	\$ (20,843)
Funds Owed by RTA	309,467	342,034	\$ (32,567)
Trust Portfolio Assets	467,511	524,987	\$ (57,476)
Total Cash and Receivables	\$ 948,784	\$ 1,062,258	\$ (113,474)

CTA's total cash/receivables balance was equal to \$0.9 billion. Unrestricted cash was \$2.6 million lower than the prior year due to the timing of cash receipts and invoice payments particularly related to capital reimbursements from the State. The Damage Reserve fund was \$20.8 million lower than last year due to an increase in settlement payments throughout 2018. Funds owed by the RTA were approximately \$309.5 million which was \$32.6 million less than the prior year due to the timing of payments from the State. CTA continues to work closely with the RTA to monitor their receivable balance owed; Trust Portfolio Assets represents bond proceeds held in Trust for funding capital projects and making required debt service payments and therefore goes down when payments are made.

III. Revenue

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Fare & Pass Revenue	\$ 43,416	\$ 161	\$ 529	\$ 86,652	\$ (2,048)	\$ (1,466)

- Fare and pass revenue for February was \$0.2 million favorable to budget and \$0.5 million favorable to prior year due to higher-than-anticipated pass revenue. The average fare for the month was \$1.25 per ride and was \$0.01 higher than budget and \$0.03 higher than the prior year.
- Year-to-date fare and pass revenue was \$2.0 million unfavorable to budget and \$1.5 million unfavorable to prior year due to lower ridership during January 2019's extreme cold weather. The average fare for the year was \$1.27 per ride and was \$0.02 higher than budget and \$0.04 higher than the prior year.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Reduced Fare Subsidy	\$ 1,180	\$ (1,180)	\$ -	\$ 2,360	\$ (2,360)	\$ -

- Reduced Fare Subsidy was less than budget for the month and year-to-date by \$1.2 million and \$2.4 million, respectively, based on expected reimbursements from the State.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Advertising, Charter, Concession	\$ 3,320	\$ 30	\$ 157	\$ 6,546	\$ 2	\$ 182

- Advertising, Charter and Concessions Revenue was slightly higher than budget for the month and year-to-date and \$0.2 million higher than prior year-to-date due to an increase in the advertising revenue minimum guarantee in 2019.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Investment income	\$ 275	\$ 50	\$ (45)	\$ 540	\$ 234	\$ 94

- Investment income was \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million higher than budget for the month and year-to-date, respectively, due to higher short-term market rates.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Other Revenue	\$ 3,374	\$ (235)	\$ (488)	\$ 7,350	\$ 136	\$ (364)

- Other Revenue for the month was unfavorable to budget and prior year by \$0.2 million and \$0.5 million, respectively, primarily due to lower than anticipated non-capital grant and rental revenues. Year-to-date, other revenue was favorable to budget by \$0.1 million due to higher than anticipated non-capital grant revenue in January. Other revenue was unfavorable to prior year-to-date by \$0.4 million primarily due to lower non-capital grant, rentals, and BAB subsidy revenues.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Total System Generated Revenue	\$ 51,566	\$ (1,174)	\$ 154	\$ 103,448	\$ (4,036)	\$ (1,555)

- Total System-Generated Revenue was \$1.2 million lower than budget for the month due to lower reduced fare revenue. Year-to-date, total system-generated revenue was lower than budget by \$4.0 million due to lower fare and reduced fare revenues. It was less than prior year-to-date by \$1.6 million due to lower fare revenue.

IV. Expenses

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Labor	\$ 85,024	\$ 42	\$ (179)	\$ 178,217	\$ (152)	\$ (3,727)

- Labor expense was on par with budget for the month and \$0.2 million unfavorable year-to-date due to harsh weather conditions resulting in higher overtime. Negotiated union contract increases that took effect in February 2018 contributed to higher expenses compared to prior year-to-date.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Material	\$ 6,531	\$ (8)	\$ 602	\$ 13,574	\$ (352)	\$ 1,809

- Material expense was on par with budget for the month and \$0.4 million unfavorable year-to-date due to additional costs related to 2019 weather conditions. Material expense was \$0.6 million and \$1.8 million favorable to February 2018 and prior year-to-date, respectively, due to cost containment measures.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Fuel	\$ 3,512	\$ 131	\$ (660)	\$ 7,141	\$ 355	\$ (805)

- Fuel for Revenue Equipment expense was \$0.1 million favorable to budget in February primarily due to a decrease in the price of diesel fuel. Higher fuel prices account for the unfavorable variance to the prior year-to-date.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Power	\$ 2,998	\$ 54	\$ (256)	\$ 6,393	\$ 56	\$ (807)

- The Electric Power for Revenue Equipment expense was on par with budget for the month. Year-to-date, expenses were \$0.8 million unfavorable to prior year, primarily due to the harsher weather this year.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Provision for Injuries & Damages	\$ 625	\$ -	\$ (625)	\$ 1,250	\$ -	\$ (1,250)

- The Provision for Injuries & Damages expense is budgeted monthly in 2019 and was budgeted quarterly in 2018.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Purchase of Security Services	\$ 1,263	\$ 346	\$ 124	\$ 2,745	\$ 473	\$ 45

- Purchase of Security Services was \$0.3 million favorable to budget for the month and \$0.1 million favorable to prior year. Year-to-date, expenses were \$0.5 million favorable to budget and on par with prior year due to the timing of invoices.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Other Expenses	\$ 23,938	\$ (318)	\$ (618)	\$ 47,310	\$ (226)	\$ 1,349

- The \$0.3 million and \$0.2 million unfavorable variances to budget for the month and year-to-date, respectively, were mainly due to the timing of contractual services invoices. The other expense category includes the pension obligation bond expense, utilities, maintenance contracts, services, and other expenses.

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 123,890	\$ 248	\$ (1,612)	\$ 256,629	\$ 154	\$ (3,386)

- Operating Expenses were \$0.2 million favorable to budget for the month due to the timing of invoices for security services and a decrease in the price of diesel fuel. The unfavorable variance to prior year-to-date was due primarily to higher labor from contractual wage increases.

V. Recovery Ratio

Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Recovery Ratio	51.17%	(1.20)		49.34%	(2.02)	

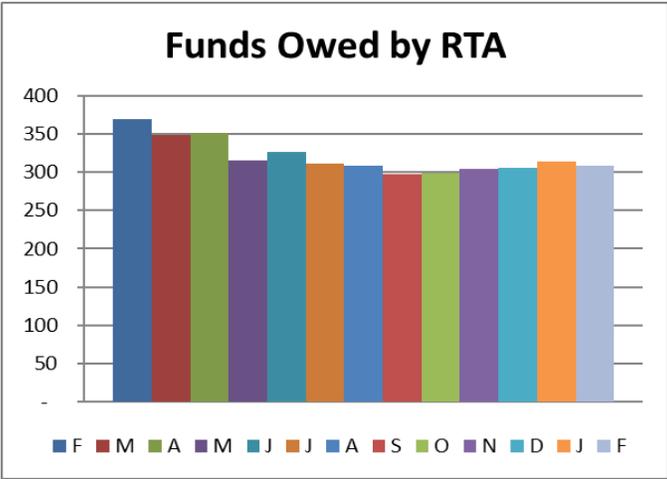
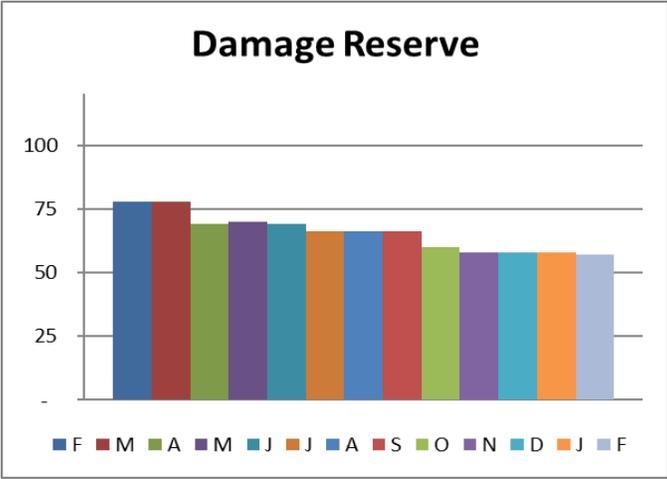
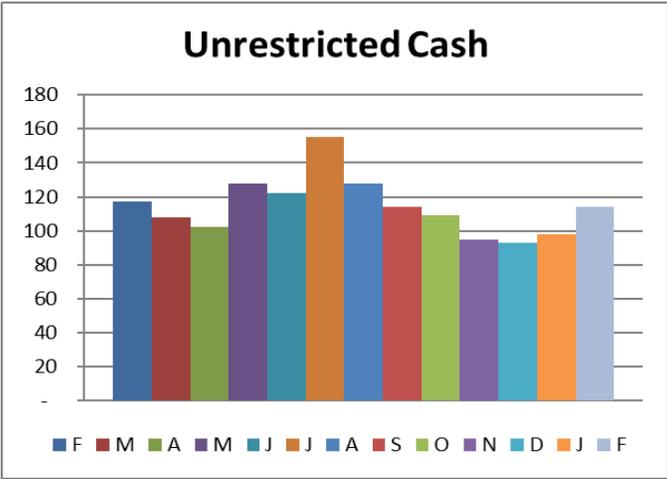
- Recovery Ratio, which measures the percentage of operating expenses CTA funds from internally generated revenues, was 51.17% for the month. This was unfavorable to budget by 1.20 percentage points for the month. Year-to-date, the recovery ratio was 49.34%, which was unfavorable to budget by 2.02 percentage points but is on target to meet the RTA required recovery ratio of 54.75% for the year.

VI. Ridership

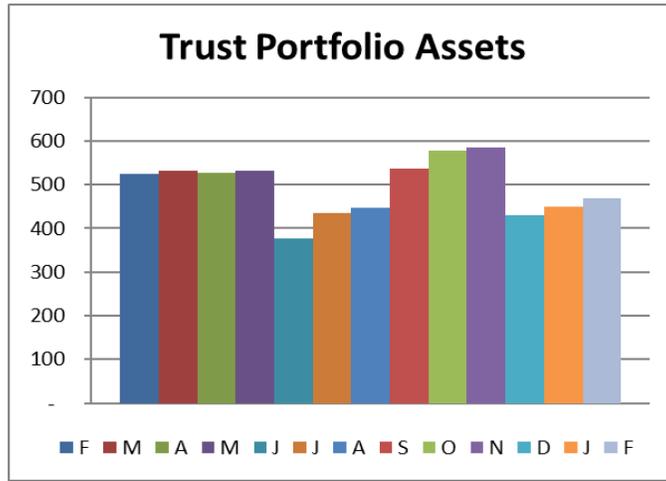
Category	Current Month			Full Year		
	Actual	Variance to	Variance to	Actual	Variance to	Variance to
	Feb-19	Budget Feb-19	Prior Year Feb19 vs. Feb18	2019	Budget 2019	Prior Year 2018
Bus	18,279	(16)	(252)	35,733	(1,511)	(1,991)
Rail	13,407	(155)	(164)	26,542	(1,199)	(1,217)
Rail to Rail Transfers	2,950	(27)	(37)	5,884	(252)	(273)
Total	34,636	(199)	(453)	68,158	(2,962)	(3,481)

- Ridership for the month of February was 34.6 million and was lower than budget and prior year by 0.2 million and 0.5 million, respectively.
- Calendar adjusted ridership was down 1.3% from prior year due to relatively low gas prices, cold weather, and competition from rideshare services such as Uber and Lyft.
- Ridership for the year-to-date was 68.2 million and was 3.0 million lower than budget and 3.5 million lower than the prior year-to-date.
- Calendar adjusted ridership was down 4.8% from the prior year-to-date.
- More details on ridership can be found in the February Ridership Report.

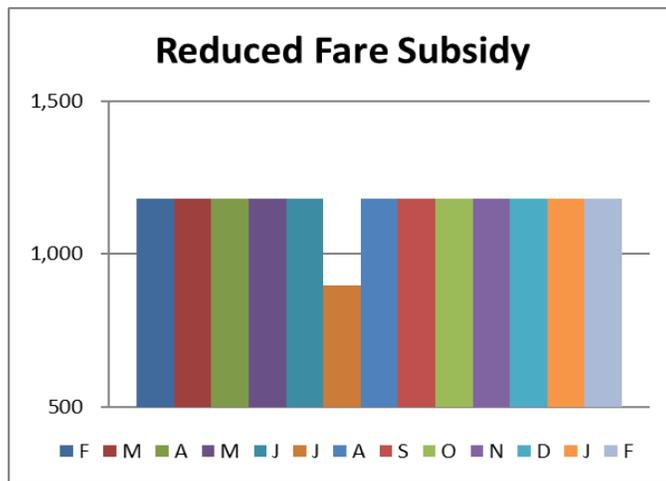
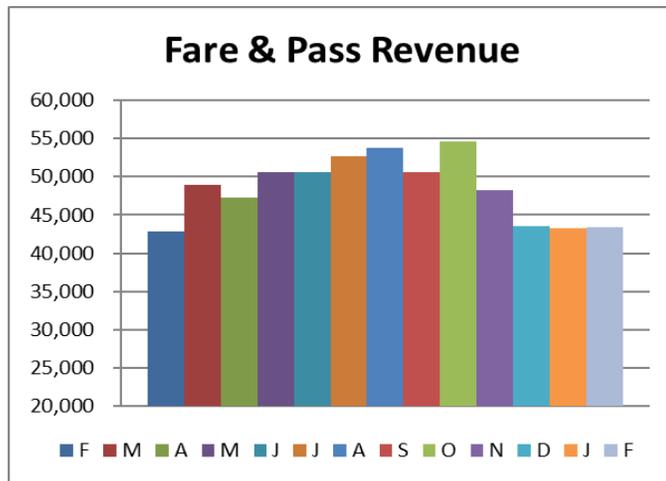
Cash & Liquidity



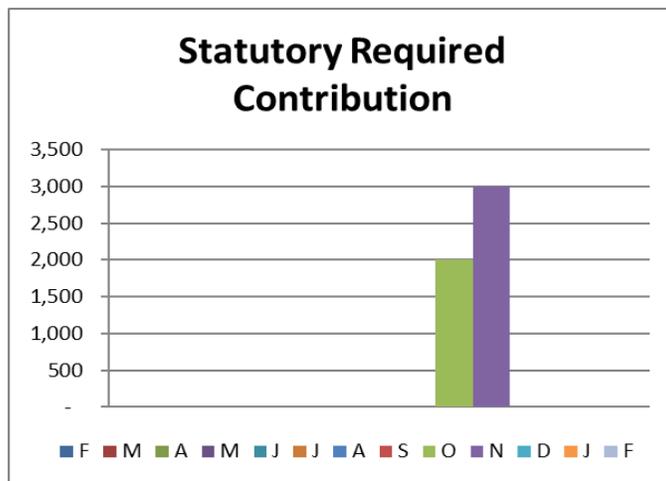
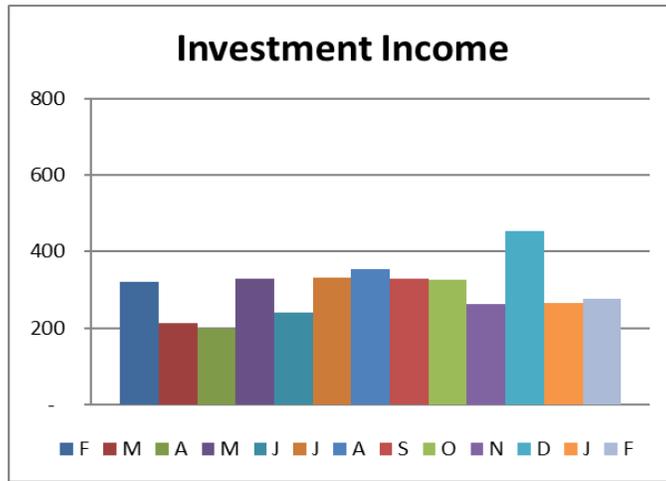
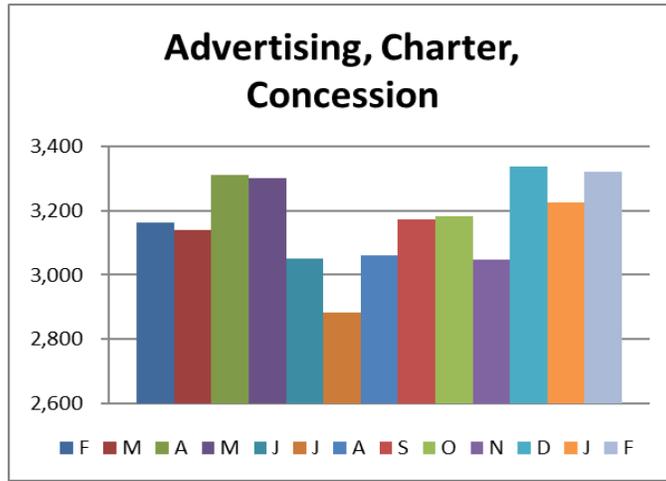
Cash & Liquidity Cont'd



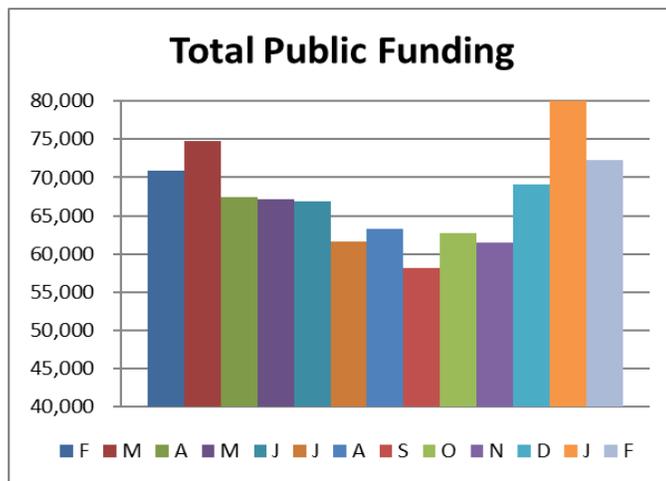
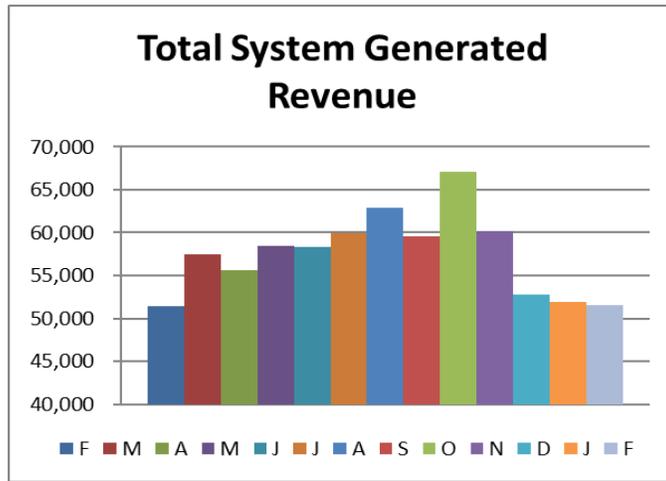
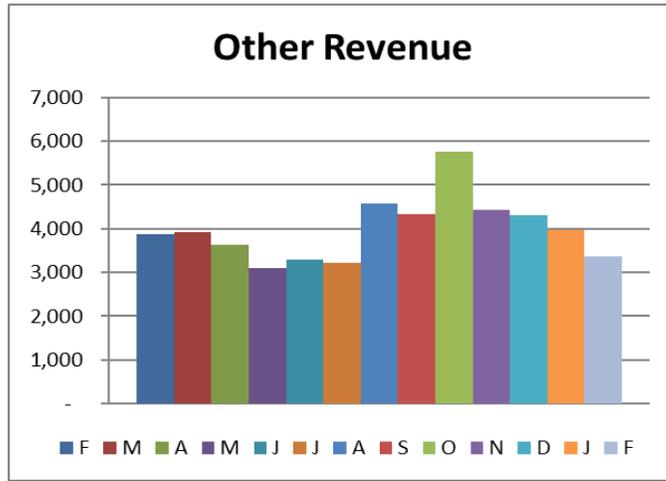
Revenue



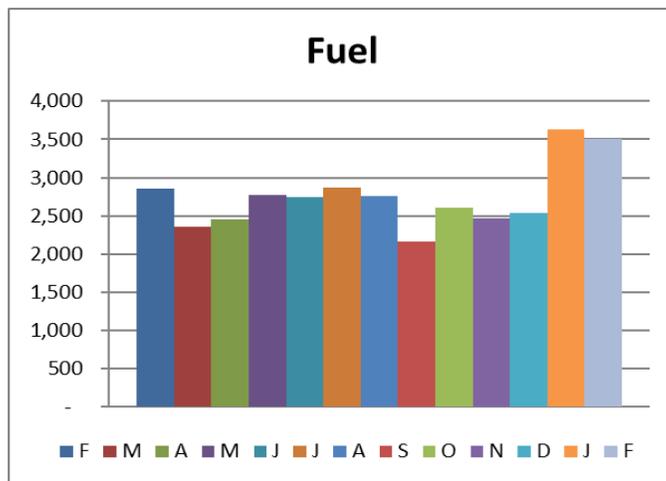
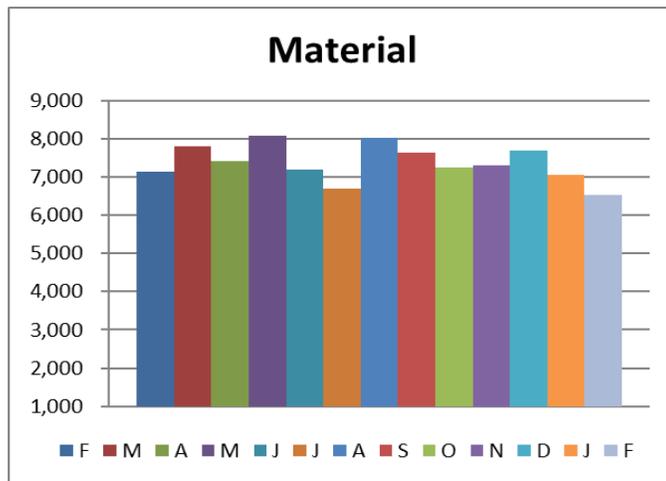
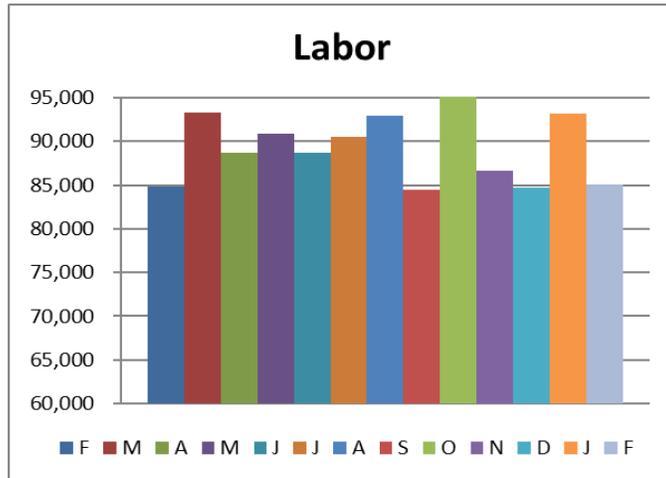
Revenue Cont'd



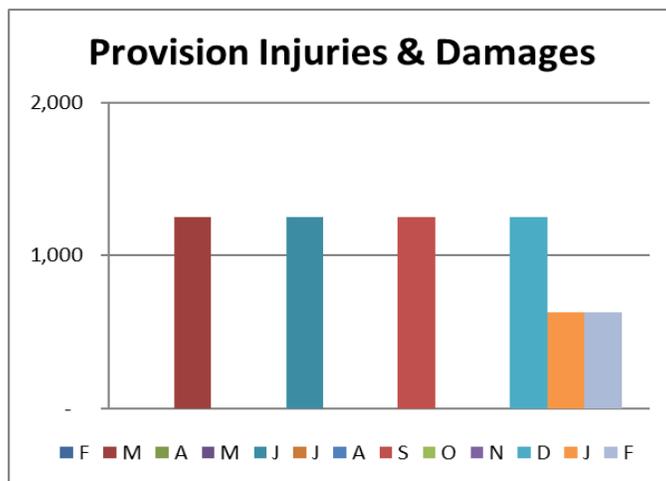
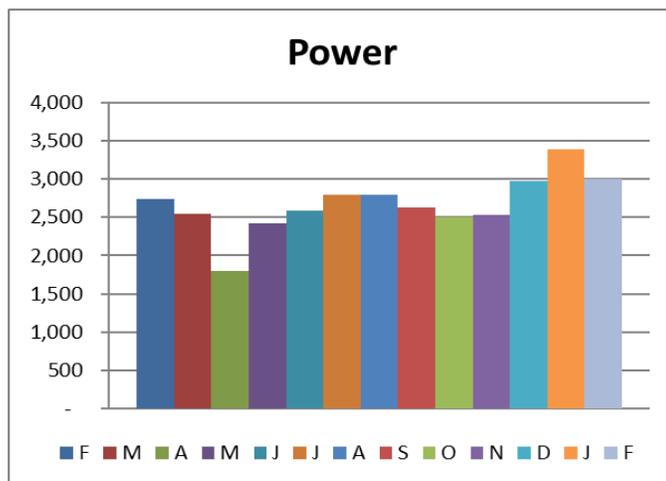
Revenue Cont'd



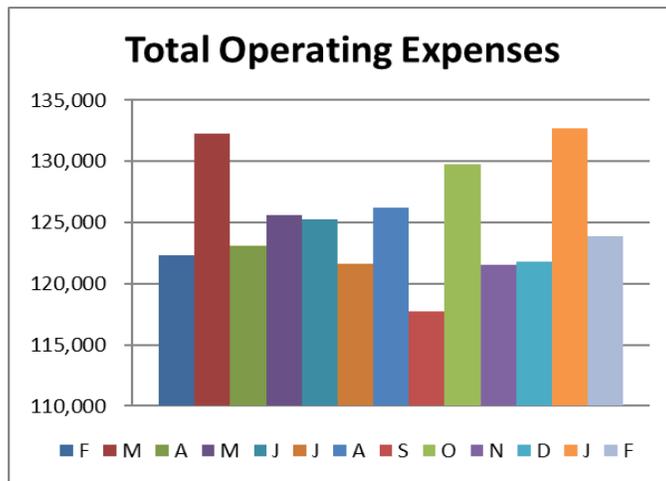
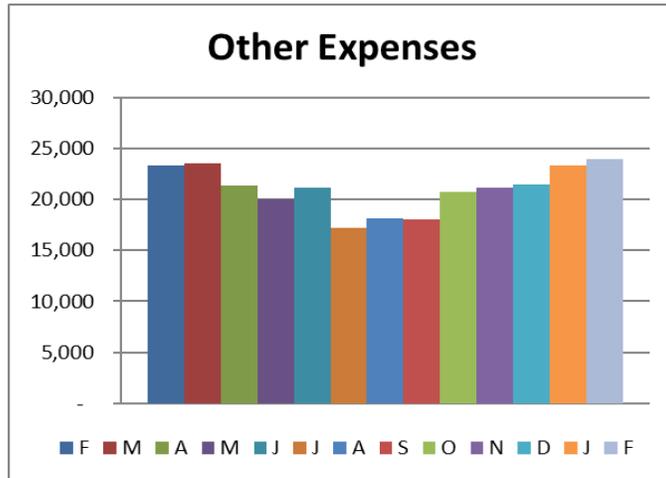
Expenses



Expenses Cont'd



Expenses



Cash	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19
Unrestricted Cash	117	108	102	128	122	155	128	114	109	95	93	98	114
Damage Reserve	78	78	69	70	69	66	66	66	60	58	58	58	57
Funds Owed by RTA	370	348	352	316	327	312	308	297	299	305	306	314	309
Trust Portfolio Assets	525	531	527	532	376	434	447	537	578	586	430	449	468

Revenue	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19
Fare & Pass Revenue	42,887	48,965	47,335	50,568	50,533	52,640	53,714	50,594	54,595	48,219	43,510	43,236	43,416
Reduced Fare Subsidy	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	895	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180	1,180
Advertising, Charter, Concession	3,163	3,139	3,309	3,301	3,050	2,883	3,061	3,171	3,181	3,048	3,336	3,226	3,320
Investment Income	320	213	198	330	241	332	353	328	327	262	453	265	275
Statutory Required Contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	3,000	-	-	-
Other Revenue	3,862	3,915	3,635	3,109	3,293	3,230	4,586	4,345	5,765	4,434	4,314	3,976	3,374
Total System Generated Revenue	51,412	57,412	55,658	58,488	58,296	59,980	62,895	59,618	67,048	60,143	52,794	51,882	51,566
Total Public Funding	70,865	74,834	67,466	67,151	66,938	61,622	63,329	58,121	62,728	61,417	69,030	80,857	72,323

Expenses	Feb-18	Mar-18	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19
Labor	84,844	93,329	88,722	90,888	88,719	90,462	92,918	84,405	95,214	86,658	84,653	93,193	85,024
Material	7,133	7,791	7,424	8,075	7,196	6,706	8,031	7,640	7,237	7,312	7,680	7,043	6,531
Fuel	2,852	2,360	2,453	2,768	2,750	2,875	2,765	2,165	2,601	2,473	2,535	3,629	3,512
Power	2,741	2,545	1,799	2,414	2,585	2,796	2,793	2,630	2,508	2,531	2,977	3,395	2,998
Provision Injuries & Damages	-	1,250	-	-	1,250	-	-	1,250	-	-	1,250	625	625
Purchase of Security Services	1,387	1,410	1,409	1,455	1,551	1,558	1,560	1,573	1,460	1,437	1,299	1,482	1,263
Other Expenses	23,320	23,562	21,318	20,039	21,183	17,206	18,157	18,076	20,756	21,149	21,430	23,373	23,938
Total Operating Expenses	122,277	132,247	123,123	125,639	125,234	121,602	126,224	117,739	129,776	121,560	121,824	132,740	123,890