Transit Crimes and Policing

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

What is street harassment?

Street harassment is unwanted interactions in public between strangers that are motivated by a victims gender, gender expression, or sexual orientation, race, ethnicity religious affiliation, weight, or (dis)ability.

Street Harassment & Public Transit

- Nationally, public transportation cases account for 20% of harassment incidents.[2]

STOP STREET HARASSMENT

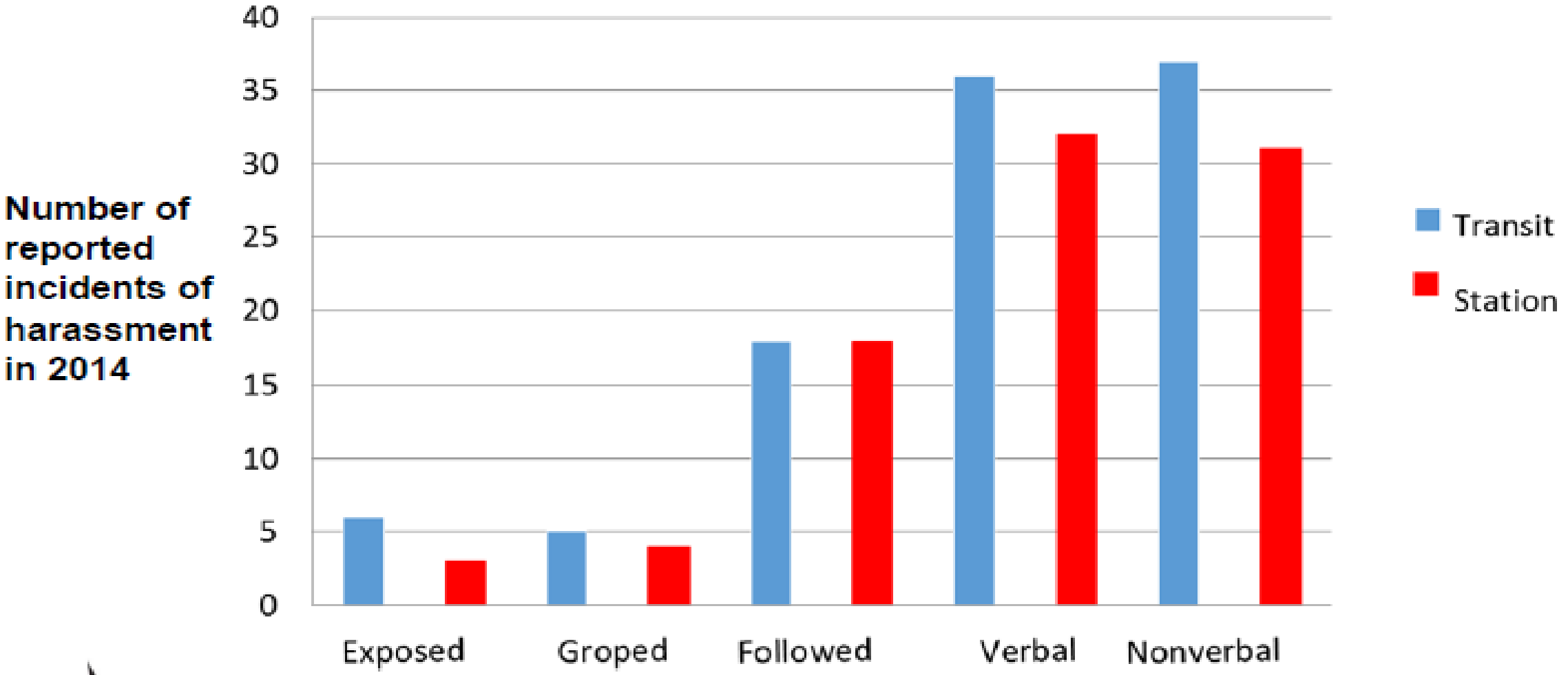
Metro Transit

Street Harassment video

- https://youtu.be/tUevV_Nsmzs-

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

Type of harassment experienced on Twin Cities public transportation according to data from *Hollaback!* 2014 survey[8]



Metro Transit

Metro Transit Customer Stories

Lindsay's Story (Aug 8, 2014)

"…he put his hand on my thigh and began rubbing up and down…the bus was full and NO ONE reacted…"[9]

Greta's Story (Apr 19, 2015)

"…I'm in constant fear when I'm only trying to get home from work. That shouldn't happen. .."[10]

CH's Story (July 4, 2013)

"…The driver didn't intervene, but she may have been frightened of him — I've noticed that harassers often escalate when a female driver reprimands them…"[11]

Metro Transit

Problem Solving

- SARA

Scan

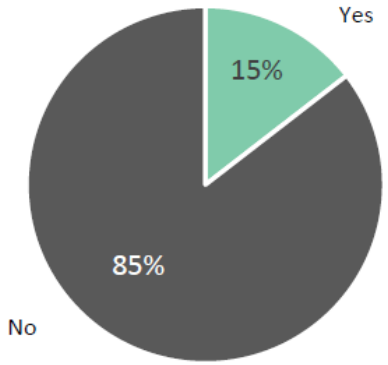
- New York
- Anecdotal Stories:
  - Native woman
  - Somali Muslim women
  - Trans gender women

Analysis

- Customer survey
- Crime Mapping

Customer Service Report- Bus

Experienced Unwanted Sexual Contact/Comments/Touching

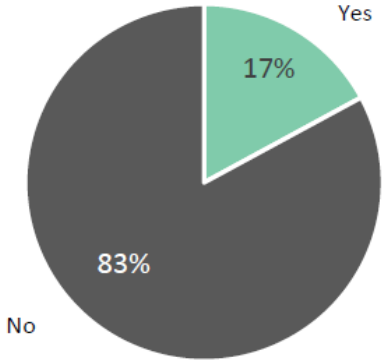


	Rush (n=1,440)	Non-Rush (n=1,729)	Weekday (n=2,127)	Weekend (n=993)
Yes	12%	14%	14%	*19%
No	88%	86%	*86%	81%

- In the past year, 15% of bus riders experienced unwanted sexual contact, comments or touching.
- Weekend riders are significantly more likely to report such experiences.

- Nearly one-fifth (17%) say that fear for their safety has kept them from using Metro Transit.
- Non-rush and weekend riders are significantly more likely to be deterred by this fear.

Fear for Safety/Security Stopped You from Using Metro Transit



	Rush (n=1,424)	Non-Rush (n=1,712)	Weekday (n=2,095)	Weekend (n=987)
Yes	13%	*17%	16%	*22%
No	*87%	83%	*84%	78%

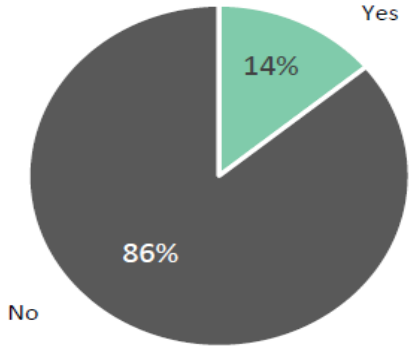
In the past year while using Metro Transit, have you ever experienced unwanted sexual contact, comments, touching and/or exposure?
Has fear for your safety and security every stopped you from using Metro Transit?
N=3,818/3,779

** Statistically significant difference between comparisons*

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

Customer Service Report-Light Rail

Experienced Unwanted Sexual Contact/Comments/Touching

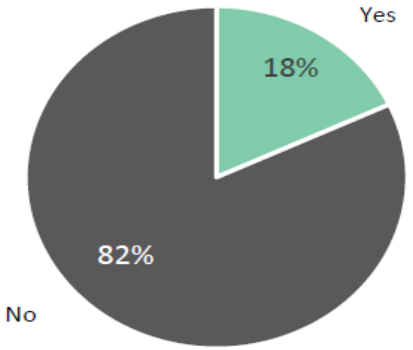


	Green Line (n=1,404)	Blue Line (n=1,582)	Weekday (n=1,911)	Weekend (n=1,074)
Yes	15%	14%	14%	14%
No	85%	86%	86%	86%

- Across lines and week parts, riders were equally likely to have experienced unwanted sexual contact or comments.

- Nearly one-fifth (18%) say that fear for safety has prevented them from using Metro Transit.

Fear for Safety/Security Stopped You from Using Metro Transit

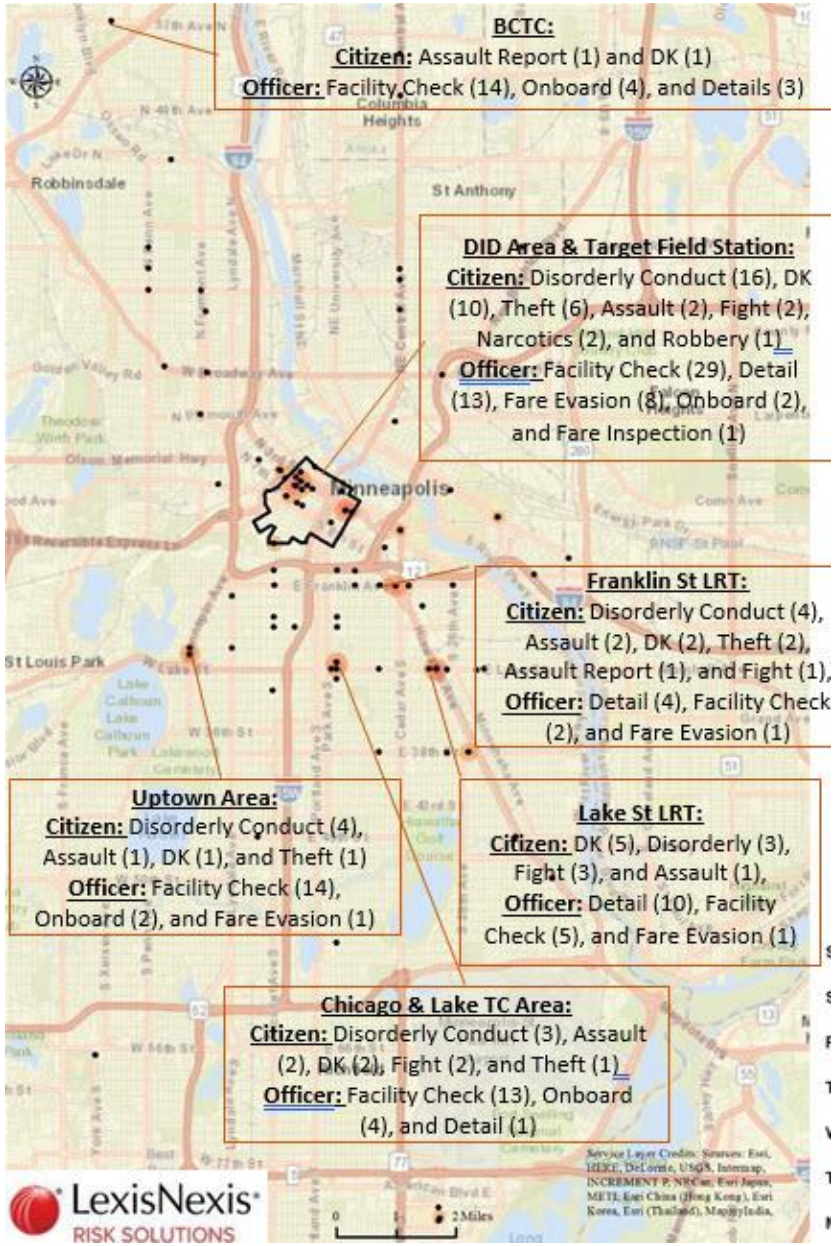


	Green Line (n=1,387)	Blue Line (n=1,573)	Weekday (n=1,894)	Weekend (n=1,065)
Yes	19%	17%	19%	18%
No	81%	83%	81%	82%

In the past year while using Metro Transit, have you ever experienced unwanted sexual contact, comments, touching and/or exposure?
Has fear for your safety and security every stopped you from using Metro Transit?
N=2,990/2,964

** Statistically significant difference between comparisons*

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council



- BCTC
- DID-Warehouse
- Franklin
- Lake ST
- Uptown
- Chicago Lake
- MOA

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

Responses

- Increase awareness
- Prioritize Investigative cases
- Directed patrol and Decoy operation
- Enhanced Crime victim service
- Text to TCC

Transportation Peer Efforts

Chicago Transit Authority[4]

Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority[6]

Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area Transit Authority[3]

New York City Metropolitan Transit Authority[5]

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority[7]

Metro Transit

Poster/PSA Campaign

Metro Transit

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

Directed and Decoy Patrol

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

TEXT TO TCC(Transit Communication Center)

See Something -Say Something !

Metro Transit
a service of the Metropolitan Council

Assessment

- Goal: Reduce occurrences and increase reporting of street harassment ,to aid victims hold perpetrators accountable.

- Increased reporting
- Arrests,Trespasses and Convictions
- Better victim services

Thank You

John M. Harrington

Chief of Police

Metro Transit Police Department

2425 Minnehaha Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-349-7201

john.harrington@metrotransit.org