

12 May 2021

**Passenger Transport Statistics (PT)**  
March 2021. Provisional data

**The number of passengers using public transport increases by 31.6% in March, as compared with the same month of 2020**

**The annual rate for city transport increases by 34.0% and for inter-city transport by 22.8%**

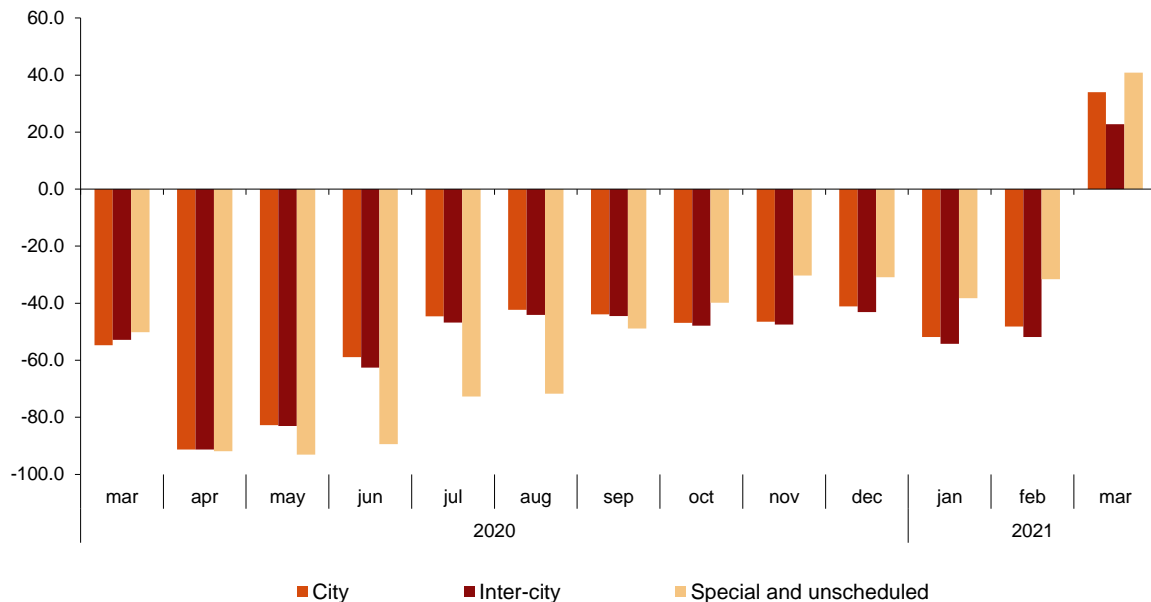
**Evolution of passenger transport**

More than 276.0 million passengers used public transport in March, 31.6% more than in the same month of 2020.

The annual rate for city transport increases by 34.0% and for inter-city transport 22.8%. Within the latter, it is worth noting the 27.3% rise in the bus transport.

**Passenger Transport by mode of transport.**

Annual rate. Percentage

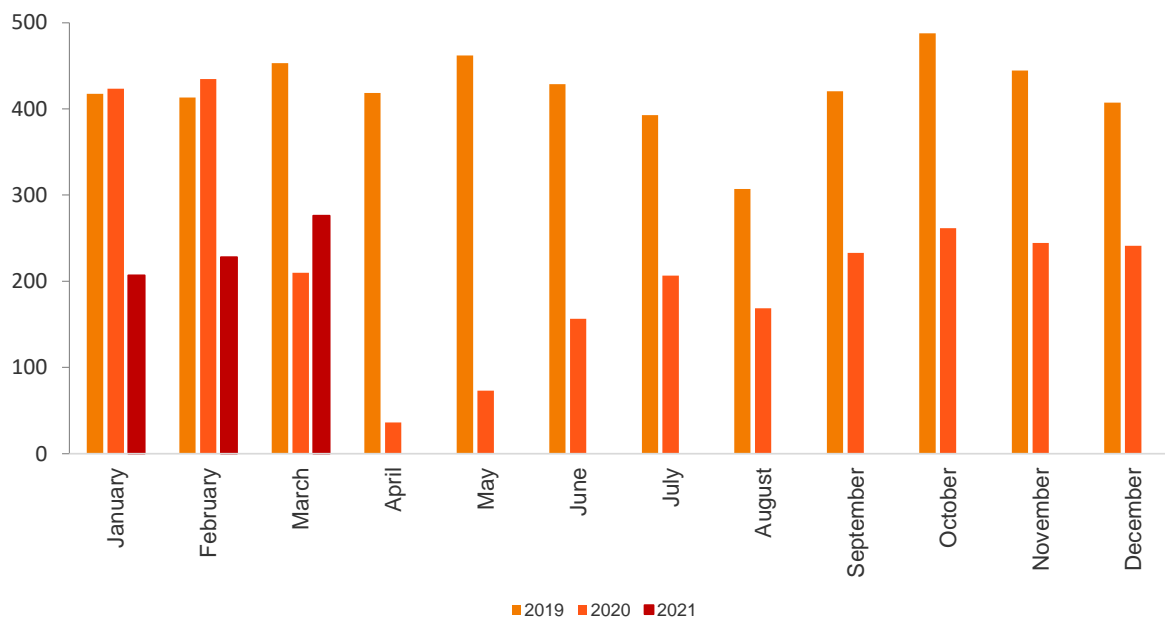


**Annual evolution of passenger transport by mode of transport**

	City	Inter-city	Special and unschedule
2020 March	-54.7	-52.9	-50.1
April	-91.3	-91.3	-91.9
May	-82.8	-83.1	-93.1
June	-58.9	-62.5	-89.4
July	-44.6	-46.8	-72.7
August	-42.3	-44.1	-71.7
September	-43.9	-44.5	-48.9
October	-46.9	-47.9	-39.8
November	-46.5	-47.5	-30.3
December	-41.2	-43.1	-30.9
2021 January	-51.9	-54.2	-38.2
February	-48.2	-51.9	-31.6
March	34.0	22.8	40.8

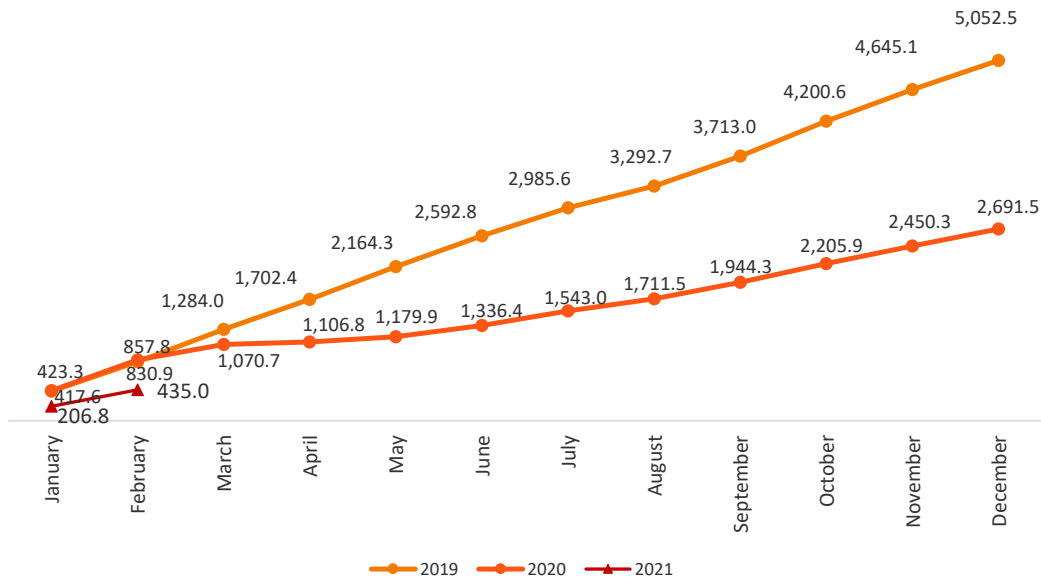
**Monthly passengers. Comparative 2019-2021.**

Millions.



In the first three months of 2021 the number of passengers has almost one third (-33.3%) compared to the same period last year.

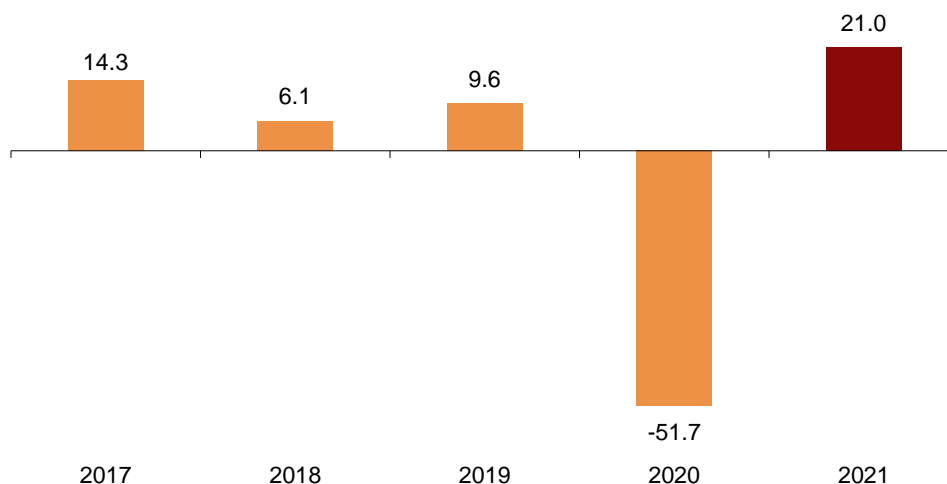
**Cumulative passengers. Comparative 2019-2020.**  
Millions.



**Evolution of the monthly rate**

The variation rate of the number of public transport passengers in March as compared with February was 21.0%. In order to contribute to the analysis and interpretation of data, the evolution of the monthly rate of public transport passengers in recent years is shown in the following chart.

**Evolution of the monthly rate of number of public passengers transport**  
**Month-on-month rate of March as compared with February**



## City transport

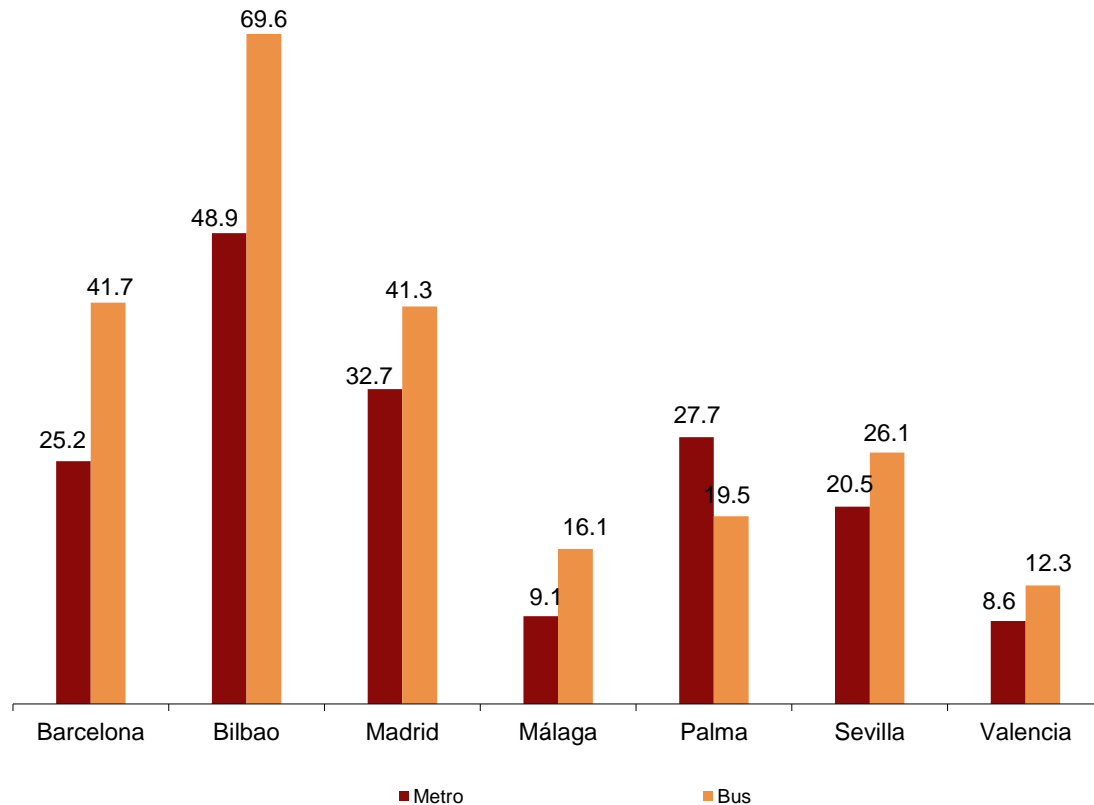
City transport was used by more than 168.8 million passengers in March, 34.0% more than in the same month of 2020.

Metro transport increased by 29.7% in annual rate. Bilbao's metro registered the highest increase (48.9%) and Málaga's metro shows the lowest increase (9.1%)

Among the cities with metro, the highest increase in bus transport was registered in Bilbao (69.6%) and the lowest increase in Valencia (12.3%)

### City transport passengers in cities with metro. March 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage



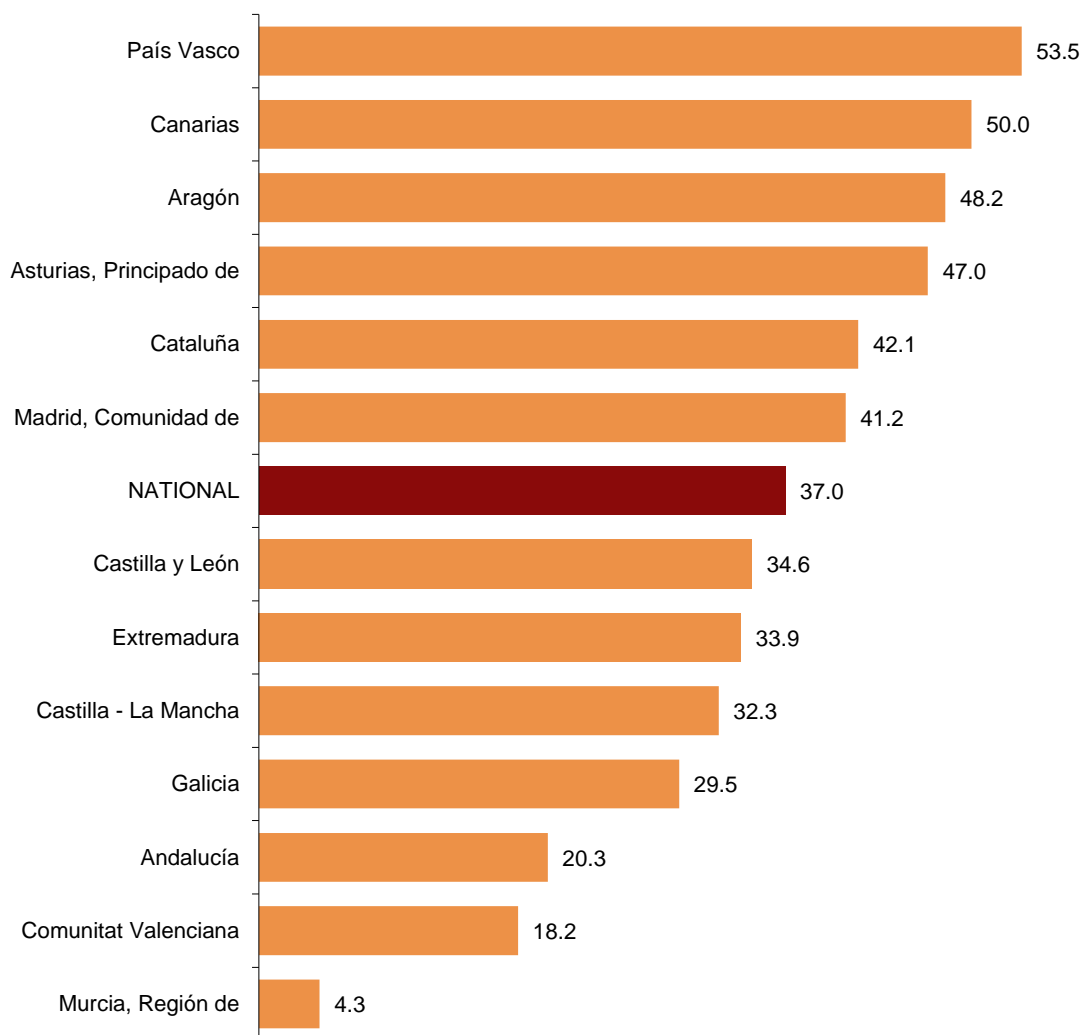
City transport by bus increased by 37.0% in March, as compared with the same month of 2020.

All the Autonomous Communities showed positive annual rates. The highest increases were showed in País Vasco (53.5%), Canarias (50.0%) and Aragón (48.2%).

In turn, Región de Murcia (4.3%), Comunitat Valenciana (18.2%) and Andalucía (20.3%) showed the lowest increases in bus transport.

### City transport by bus<sup>1</sup>. March 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage



<sup>1</sup> In order to maintain statistical secrecy, data of Autonomous Communities of Illes Balears, Cantabria, Comunidad Foral de Navarra and La Rioja, and the Autonomous Cities of Ceuta and Melilla are not separately published.

## Inter-city transport

More than 72.8 million passengers used inter-city transport in March, representing a 22.8% increase as compared with the same month of 2020.

By mode of transport, the bus transport increased by 27.3%, and the rail transport by 20.8%, whereas the air transport decreased by 30.6%, and the maritime transport by 10.4%.

Commuter transport increased by 32.0% by bus and by rail transport by 24.7%. Regional transport increased by 17.0% by bus while dropped by 5.4% by rail transport.

Finally, long distance transport decreased by 20.0% by bus by 25.8% by rail transport. Within the latter, AVE (high speed railway) decreased by 26.5%.

## Inter-city transport by mode of transport and distance. March 2021.

Annual rate. Percentage

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Annual rate %
<b>Bus</b>	38,704	
Local	28,993	27.3
Regional	9,350	32.0
Long-distance	361	-20.0
<b>Rail</b>	32,831	20.8
Local	30,582	24.7
Regional	1,326	-5.4
Long-distance	923	-25.8
AVE train	600	-26.5
Rest of long-distance rail	324	-24.4
<b>Air (domestic)</b>	956	-30.6
Mainland Spain	289	-52.4
Mainland-Rest of territory	411	-28.8
Inter-island	256	33.2
<b>Maritime (cabotage)</b>	313	-10.4

## Special and unscheduled transport

More than 34.4 million passengers used special and unscheduled transport in March, indicating an increase of 40.8% in annual rate.

The number of special transport passengers increased by 76.7%, reaching more than 31.0 million users. Within this, school transport increased by 97.0% and work transport did so by 30.6%.

Finally, unscheduled transport decreased by 50.9% as compared with the same month of 2020, with more than 3.3 million passengers.

## Revisions and data update

On the press release day, INE has updated PT data for the same month of the previous year. Results are available at INEBase.

## Methodological note

The purpose of the Passenger Transport Statistics (PT) is to provide monthly information regarding the number of passengers transported by city transport (bus and metropolitan), inter-city transport (road, rail, air and sea) and special and unscheduled bus transport.

Road transport is researched through a simple survey. For rail transport, the number of passengers is calculated using the information provided by the railway operators (RENFE and other autonomous companies). The information for air transport is provided by Civil Aviation, and for sea transport, the number of passengers disembarked is compiled using information from State Ports.

**Survey Type:** ongoing monthly.

**Population scope:** companies involved in passenger transport irrespective of their main activity.

**Geographical scope:** the whole country.

**Reference period of the results:** month.

**Reference period of the information:** month.

**Sample size:** Approximately 1,500 companies.

**Type of sampling:** stratified random sampling of companies, by Autonomous Communities, number of employees and type of transport.

**Collection method:** fill in a questionnaire by respondent using one of the following methods: internet (IRIA system), email, fax, telephone or post.

Further information is available in the methodology:

[http://www.ine.es/dynqs/INEbase/en/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica\\_C&cid=1254736176906&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576820](http://www.ine.es/dynqs/INEbase/en/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176906&menu=metodologia&idp=1254735576820)

And in the standardized methodological report:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30163>

INE's statistics are produced according to the European Statistics Code of Practice, that underlies the policy and strategy of the institution quality. For further information, take a look at the section [Quality at INE and Code of Practice](#) at INE Website

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For further information see **INEbase** – [www.ine.es/en](http://www.ine.es/en) Twitter: **@es\_ine**

All press releases at: [www.ine.es/prensa/prensa.htm](http://www.ine.es/prensa/prensa.htm)

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## Passenger Transport Statistics

March 2021

Provisional data

### 1. Passenger transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>BY TYPE OF TRANSPORT</b>	<b>276,044</b>	<b>31.6</b>	<b>-33.4</b>
City transport	168,829	34.0	-34.0
Inter-city transport	72,804	22.8	-37.8
Special and unscheduled transport	34,410	40.8	-18.2

### 2. City transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>CITY TRANSPORT</b>	<b>168,829</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>-34.0</b>
Metro	67,151	29.7	-35.2
Bus <sup>1</sup>	101,678	37.0	-33.2

<sup>1</sup> Including trams and funiculars



## 2.1 City transport in major cities with Metro

		Passengers transported (thousands)	% variation	
			Annual	Year-to-date average
Barcelona	City bus	12,984	41.7	-29.0
	Metro	21,857	25.2	-35.2
Bilbao	City bus	2,345	69.6	-17.3
	Metro	5,784	48.9	-23.8
Madrid	City bus	25,227	41.3	-37.5
	Metro	35,044	32.7	-35.4
Málaga	City bus	2,246	16.1	-38.6
	Metro	316	9.1	-46.1
Palma	City bus	1,936	19.5	-36.8
	Metro	83	27.7	-35.7
Sevilla	City bus	4,401	26.1	-35.7
	Metro	801	20.5	-45.1
Valencia	City bus	4,309	12.3	-46.0
	Metro	3,267	8.6	-44.8

## 2.2 Urban transport by bus by Autonomous Cities and Communities

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>NATIONAL</b>	<b>101,678</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>-33.2</b>
Andalucía	11,093	20.3	-37.3
Aragón	7,414	48.2	-25.7
Asturias, Principado de	1,826	47.0	-30.6
Balears, Illes	.	.	.
Canarias	4,468	50.0	-18.4
Cantabria	.	.	.
Castilla y León	3,780	34.6	-33.9
Castilla - La Mancha	1,122	32.3	-38.5
Cataluña	18,296	42.1	-28.3
Comunitat Valenciana	7,016	18.2	-42.7
Extremadura	655	33.9	-32.9
Galicia	3,523	29.5	-32.9
Madrid, Comunidad de	29,396	41.2	-37.4
Murcia, Región de	924	4.3	-48.6
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	.	.	.
País Vasco	5,453	53.5	-22.8
Rioja, La	.	.	.
Ceuta	.	.	.
Melilla	.	.	.

(.) Data not available due to statistical secrecy.

### 3. Inter-city transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>INTER-CITY TRANSPORT</b>	<b>72,804</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>-37.8</b>
Bus	38,704	27.3	-36.2
Local	28,993	32.0	-34.4
Regional	9,350	17.0	-39.3
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Inter-island	256	33.2	-41.7
Maritime (cabotage)	313	-10.4	-54.3

<sup>1</sup> Local rail includes all rail operators and regional and long-distance rail include only RENFE

### 4. Special and unscheduled transport

	Passengers transported (thousands)	Rate (%)	
		Annual	Year-to-date average
<b>SPECIAL AND UNSCHEDULED TRANSPORT</b>	<b>34,410</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>-18.2</b>
Special	31,035	76.7	5.1
School	24,026	97.0	6.9
Work	7,009	30.6	-0.6
Unscheduled	3,375	-50.9	-76.0