

Appendix 1 - Insights on Transport Network Use

The content in this Appendix is extracted from the Economic-Transport Insights Report published produced by the Combined Authority Research and Intelligence team. The full report is available online together with a link to a regularly updated dashboard with the latest available data, available here:

[Full Report](#)

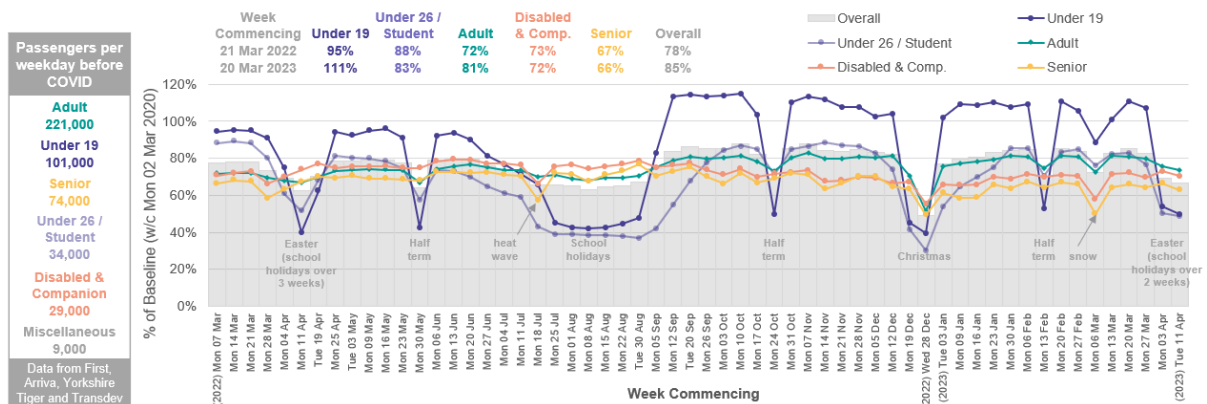
[COVID-19 economic & transport recovery monitor - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/COVID-19-economic-transport-recovery-monitor)

[Dashboard](#)

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiNTA5ZjIzZWQtdm90ZGZGNiLTIINmQtNWZmZmQ0ZDBkMjRlRiliwidCI6IjM0ZTkzYmZjLWVlbnYtNDM0NS1hNGZILTgwNWl2N2U0ODBiMCI6ImMiOj9>

Since the end of January, up until Easter bus patronage has been relatively stable

The chart below shows weekday bus use relative to pre-pandemic conditions. A table compares the last full week in March 2023 against the last full week in March 2022, these are comparable weeks in that there were no significant holiday or weather-related impacts. Patronage since the end of January has been stable in normal weeks, with dips for holidays and snow, rather than exhibiting further recovery.

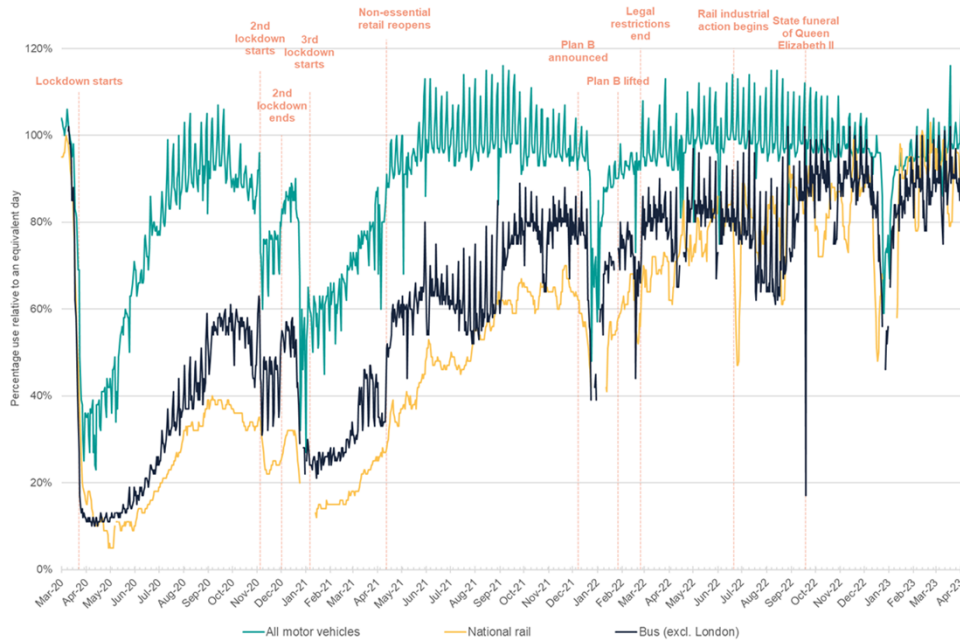


Note - Baseline period is week commencing Mon 02 Mar.

Source: Bus operators electronic ticket machine data, passenger boarding locations in West Yorkshire. First, Arriva, Yorkshire Tiger and Transdev account for over 90% of bus services in West Yorkshire. Graph shows First, Transdev and Yorkshire Tiger data. Data is for weekdays excluding bank holidays, with ticket types assigned to broad cohorts.

National transport usage remains stable

In the weeks before Easter, national road use by all motor vehicles remained around 100% of pre-pandemic levels. Bus use outside London remains around 80 to 90% on weekdays with weekend usage spikes, exceeding 100% on several Sundays. Rail use remains around 85 to 95%.

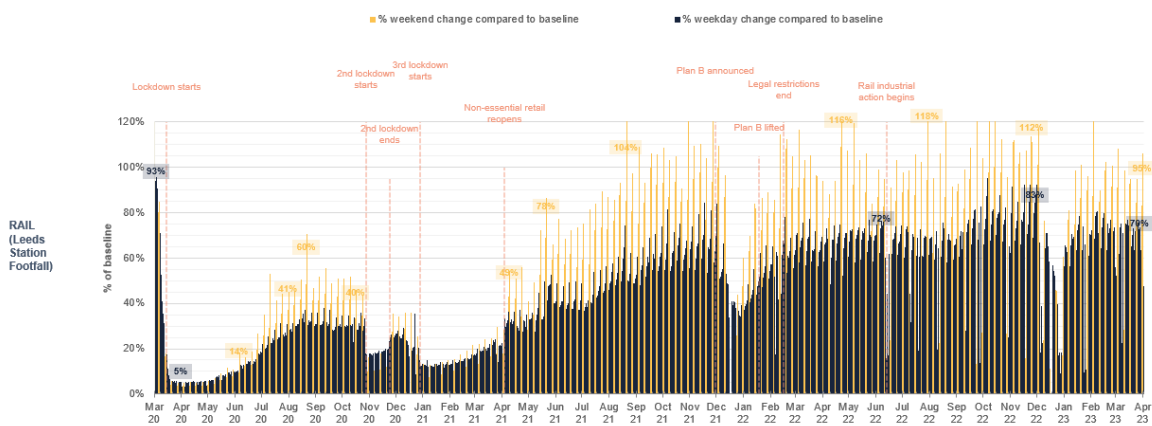


Note - Bus (excluding London) is expressed as the percentage of the equivalent day of the third week of January 2020. Motor vehicle use (cars, light and heavy vehicle goods) is expressed as the percentage of the equivalent day in the first week of February 2020.

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/transport-use-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic>

Weekday footfall at Leeds station back to 70% of pre-pandemic levels following March rail strikes

Average weekday footfall at Leeds railway station returned to 70% of pre-pandemic levels following rail strikes in March. Weekend footfall count remains at similar level to previous month.

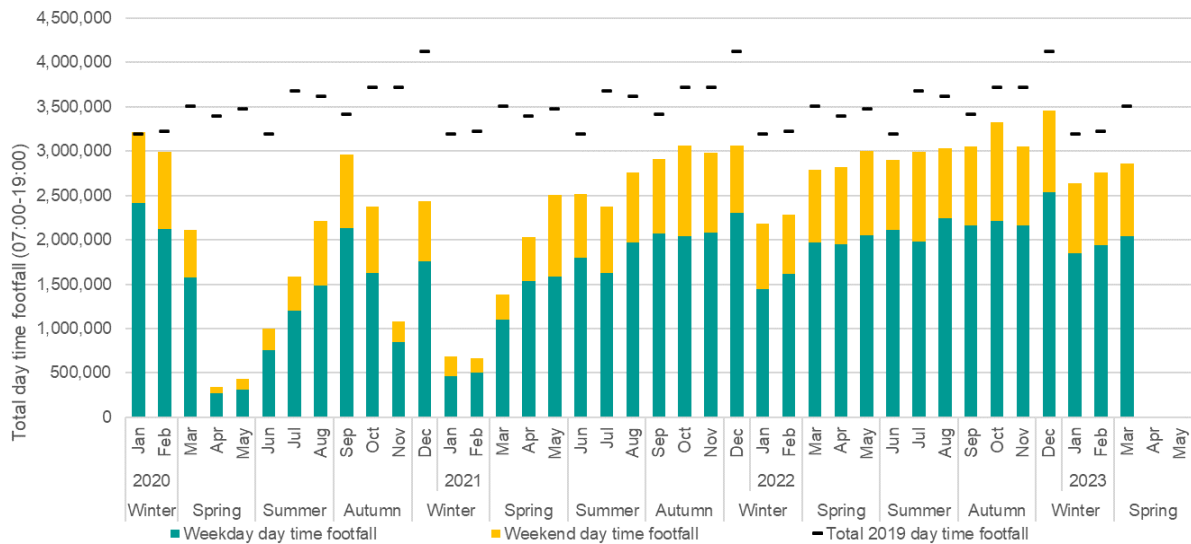


Baseline period is Monday 2nd - Friday 6th March 2020 (weekdays) and 29th Feb -1st March and 6th-7th March (weekends)

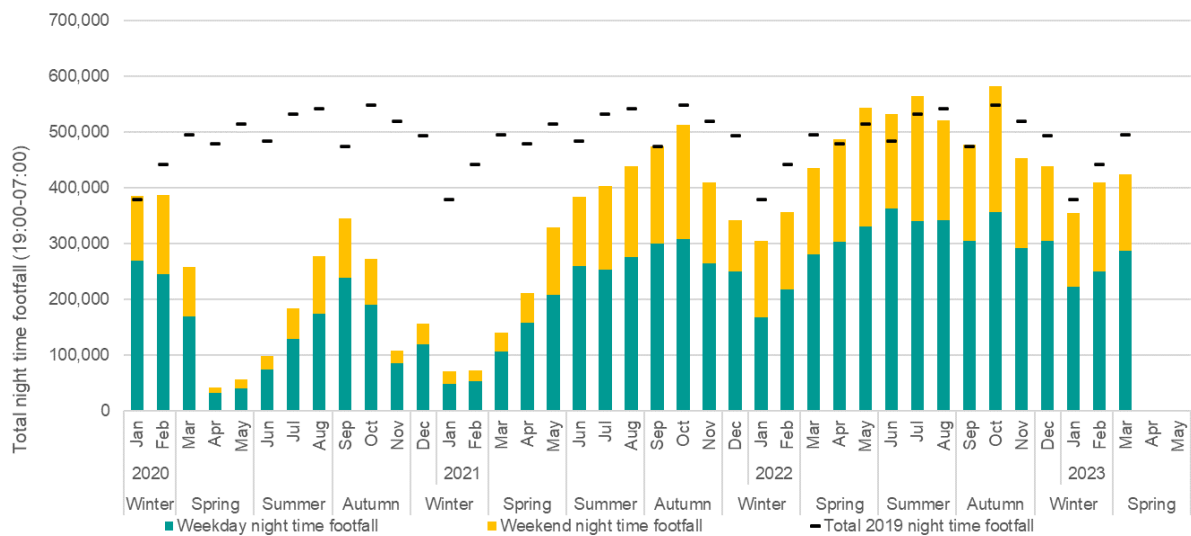
Source: Leeds Rail Station Footfall - Network Rail

March night-time footfall also remains lower than pre-pandemic levels and lower than the same time last year

Leeds city centre day time footfall remains suppressed relative to pre-pandemic; in March 2023 footfall was 22% lower than in March 2019, having not reached 2019 levels since the pandemic began. This is also reflected in the wider UK trend where there is a 0.9% decrease in retail activity between February and March probably due to wet weather. The higher prices of goods because of the cost-of-living crisis is also a factor in the reduced levels of footfall compared to 2019 in Leeds city centre and the UK. There is a slight increase between March 2023 and March 2022 showing a slightly improved situation.



Leeds city centre night time footfall in March 2023 remains 17% below the equivalent pre-pandemic month (March 2019) and was lower than March 2022. Weekday night time footfall increased between February and March 2023. Weekday night time footfall also increased slightly in March 2023 in comparison to March 2022.



Source: Leeds City Council