

Fare Citations Annual Report

July 15th 2023

The MBTA's fare evasion response is governed by M.G.L. c. 159, § 101 as amended in 2021. The statute eliminates the potential for criminal sanctions for fare evasion and directs the MBTA to adopt regulations addressing the issuance of written warnings and citations and the collection of fines. The statute further calls for the MBTA, with the Office of Performance Management and Innovation ("OPMI"), to publish an annual report that includes, but is not limited to, data on warnings and citations issued during the preceding twelve months. OPMI must issue guidelines relative to the data that is to be contained in the annual report.

These legislative changes will increase the MBTA's transparency and accountability in how fare citations are issued. The fare evasion annual report will cover the calendar year, with the first report being issued by July 15, 2023. The annual report will be released with data available within the current fare enforcement system, which relies on direct observation of fare payment and paper-based forms. In the future, fare collection and verification technology will enable the MBTA to publish a more robust annual report with additional metrics.

Annual Report Metrics

There were 0 written warnings or citations issued for fare evasion or fraudulent use of a reduced fare credential in calendar year 2022. The following data will be available when warning and citation issuance resumes:

- Number of citations issued by:
 - Citation type & Fine Amount
 - Fraudulent use of a reduced fare credential
 - Fare evasion
 - Issuer
 - MBTA Transit Police
 - MBTA Inspector
 - Time and day type
 - Location
 - Demographic characteristics of recipient
 - Race
 - Age
 - Sex
 - Town of recipient's home address
- Number and percent of citations resolved
 - Number and percent of citations paid
 - Number and percent of citations appealed, including requests for financial hardship waivers
 - Number of written appeals
 - Number of hearings held
 - Number of successful appeals