



Wave Card Utilization and Performance Report

Orange County Transportation Authority | May 2026



Wave Status through April 2026

Wave launched publicly on October 15, 2025, following pilot and soft launch activity in August 2025.

61%

Total boardings associated with Wave and open payments in April

255K+

Active transit accounts

400+

Retail locations

12%

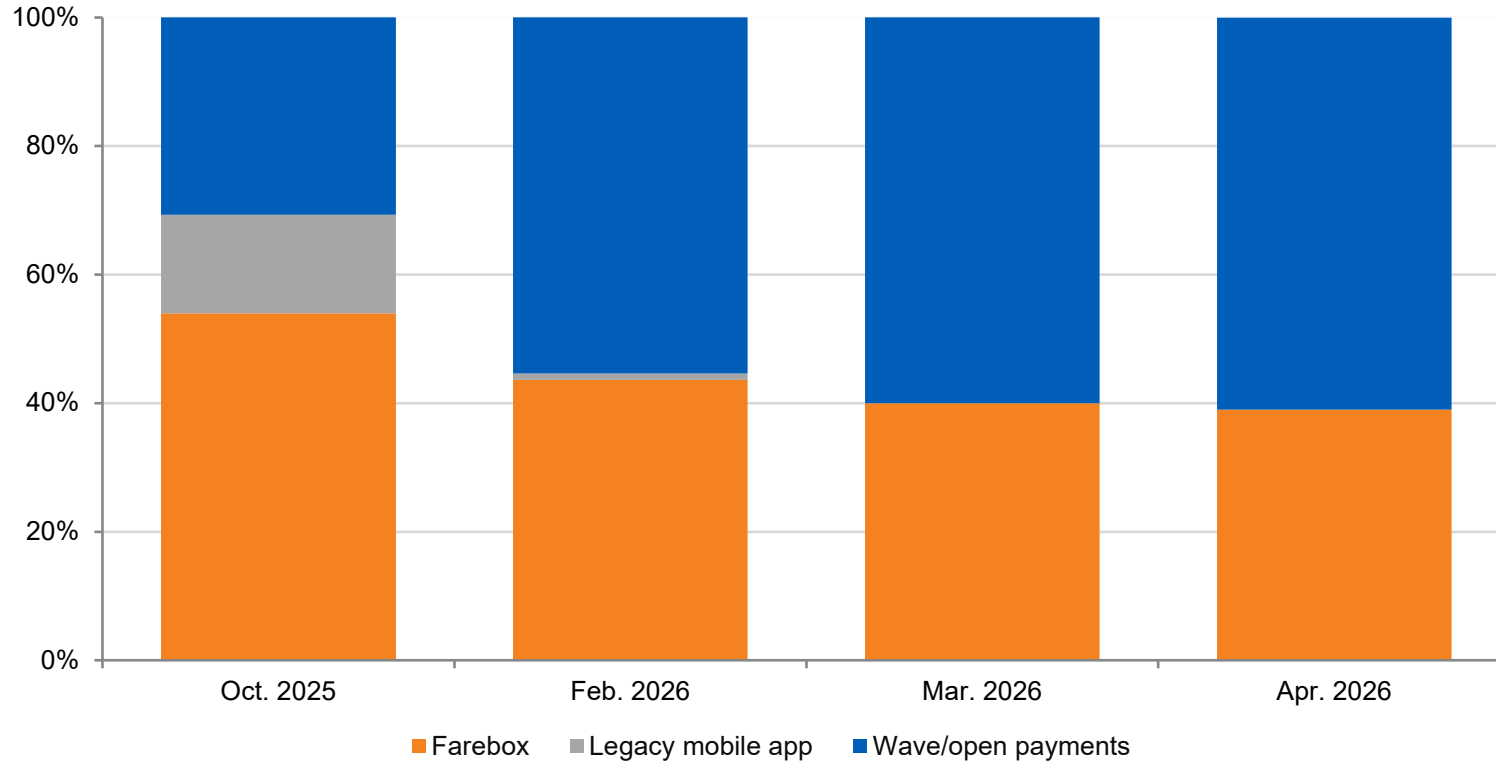
Magnetic stripe usage in April



- Physical and virtual Wave cards now account for most fare activity
- Legacy mobile application phased out in March 2026
- Magnetic stripe passes phased out in April 2026
- Cash option remains available
- Fare capping, free two-hour transfers, autoload, and balance protection continue to support the customer transition



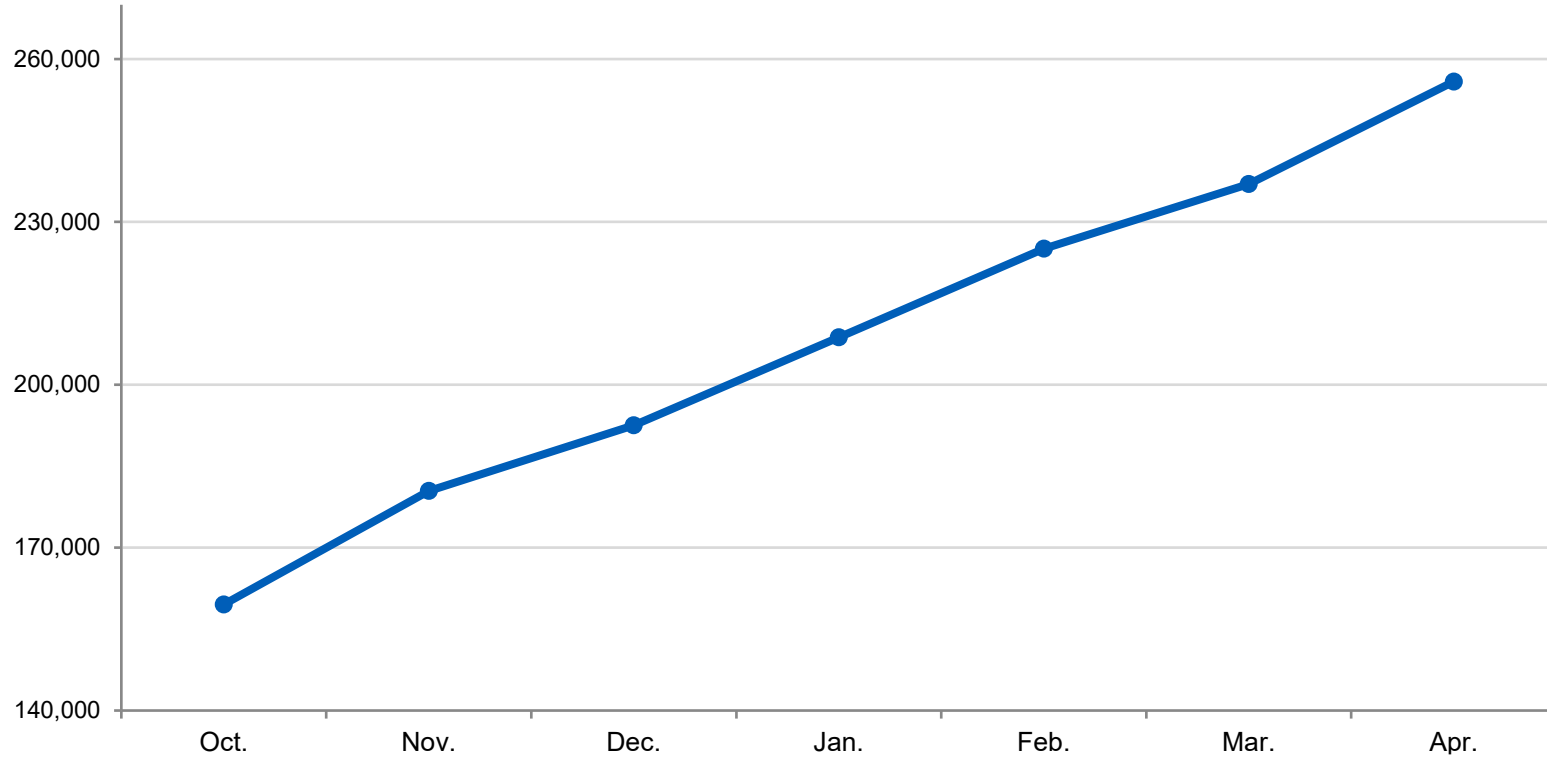
Fare Media by Boardings



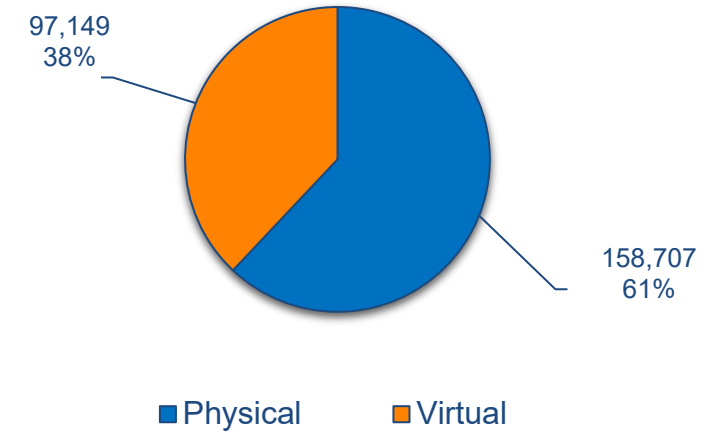
- Farebox
 - Cash
 - Magnetic Stripe Passes
 - Non-Cash (Transfer Rides)
- Legacy Mobile Application
- Wave
 - Physical cards
 - Virtual cards
 - Open Payments
- April 2026 Data
 - Wave (61%)
 - Farebox (39%)



Active Transit Accounts Growth



Active Transit Accounts





Program Milestones and Next Steps

Upcoming work focuses on new farebox deployment, system acceptance, and expanded reporting



Future analysis will expand to include:

- Boardings by fare category and institutional program
- New accounts, retail activity, cash, wave, and open payment usage
- Customer use of fare capping and free two-hour transfers



Questions?