

**Subway
Ridership
Hits New
High as
All Rail
Boardings
Approach
250,000**



Welcome Aboard: Train Operator Porfirio Gomez at Hollywood/Highland Metro Rail Station
PHOTO BY GAYLE ANDERSON

By ED SCANNELL

(July 13, 2001) – Ridership on the Metro Red Line continued its record-setting trend in June with average weekday boardings of 150,025.

That's a rise of 15,350 – the highest month-to-month increase except for growth produced by new segment openings – since the Metro Red Line began service in January, 1993.

Combined Metro Rail ridership closed in on the quarter-million mark in June, with average weekday boardings of 244,325. The Metro Blue Line notched 64,550 average weekday boardings; the Metro Green Line, 29,750.

"The Metro Blue and Green lines have been running at or near capacity for quite some time," said Ashok Kumar, MTA data analyst. "The big story here is the Metro Red Line."

"We believe rising gasoline prices fueled much of the increase in Metro Red Line ridership from April to May," he said. "June brought little relief at the pump, and now we're also seeing the impact of the tourist season, which just got underway."

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