

Metro Systems Boardings Fall in December

(Jan. 13, 2004) The latest figures for average daily boardings on the Metro system show bus ridership fell 15 percent in December from pre-strike patronage, while boardings were down from 18 to 22 percent on the four Metro Rail lines.

"About half the decline in ridership is due to seasonal fluctuations and the rest is likely due to the strike," says Ed Muncy, director, Service Performance and Analysis. "And, as has happened following previous strikes, it could be months before we see a recovery in ridership levels and some riders won't return at all."

In September, average daily Metro Bus boardings stood at 1,114,382. In December, ridership showed a decline in average daily boardings of 168,696 to a low of 945,686.

Metro Red Line daily boardings dropped 18 percent from 112,021 in September to 92,137 in December – a 19,884 difference.

Daily boardings for the Metro Blue Line fell by 10,747 – a 14 percent decline from 74,306 in September to 63,659 in December.

The Metro Green Line saw an 18 percent ridership loss from 35,847 in September to 29,297 in December – a difference of 6,550.

Finally, Metro Gold Line average daily boardings dropped by 3,158 – 22 percent – from 14,573 in September to 11,415 in December.

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