


[Home](#)
[CEO Hotline](#)
[Viewpoint](#)
[Classified Ads](#)
[Archives](#)
[Metro.net \(web\)](#)

Resources

[▶ Safety](#)
[▶ Pressroom \(web\)](#)
[▶ Ask the CEO](#)
[▶ CEO Forum](#)
[▶ Employee Recognition](#)
[▶ Employee Activities](#)
[▶ Metro Projects](#)
[▶ Facts at a Glance \(web\)](#)
[▶ Archives](#)
[▶ Events Calendar](#)
[▶ Research Center/Library](#)
[▶ Metro Classifieds](#)
[▶ Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

[▶ 30/10 Initiative](#)
[▶ Policies](#)
[▶ Training](#)
[▶ Help Desk](#)
[▶ Intranet Policy](#)

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Recent Survey Indicates High Job Satisfaction Among Public Transit Workers

- Almost 2,500 employees responded to survey

By NED RACINE, Editor

(April 15, 2008) A recent survey of approximately 2,500 public transportation employees found almost three-quarters of the respondents stating they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with their jobs.

The survey was conducted in Dec. 2007 and Jan. 2008 by TransitTalent.com, a website that describes itself as "The Career Hub for Public Transportation."

Although top executives were the largest group of respondents (20 percent), responses were received from workers in many fields, ranging from accounting to safety.

While 72.3 percent said they were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with their jobs, 41.8 percent said they were "very satisfied." Less than five percent (4.8 percent) responded that they were "not satisfied."

The most widely chosen factor in job satisfaction was "challenging work," followed by "work/life balance" and "public service." Interestingly, only 4.9 percent listed "pay" as their most important consideration in job satisfaction.

The path respondents took to their public transportation careers seemed to rely more on chance than planning. The survey reported that 70.6 percent of the public transportation workers found their way to the industry through "accidental" circumstances rather than long-term planning. Less than 12 percent planned to work in public transportation during their school years.

The survey was conducted by sending an email invitation and survey link to approximately 10,200 people, most of whom work for American Public Transportation Association member organizations. Invitations were also sent to members of the American Bus Association and the United Motorcoach Association.