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## **L.A. Metro System Ridership Remains Strong, Metro Orange Line Hits New Record**

- All bus and rail lines report year-over-year boarding increases

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) today announced that bus and rail ridership has remained strong on a year-over-year basis despite the continued reduction in local gasoline prices, with the Metro Orange Line reaching another ridership record and the Metro Gold Line logging a 30 percent increase in ridership.

At 27,987 average weekday boardings for September, the San Fernando Valley's popular Metro Orange Line reached the highest boardings since the line opened in October 2005. Average weekday boardings on the Metro Gold Line reached 25,511 in September, which is more than a 30 percent increase compared with September 2007. Metro's subway and Blue Line both experienced a nearly 10 percent increase in boardings, and Metro Green Line boardings grew by almost 12 percent. Metro directly operated bus boardings jumped 6.3 percent during the same year-over-year period.

Specific line by line ridership figures are:

<b>Line</b>	<b>Sept. 2007 (Average Weekday Boardings)</b>	<b>Sept. 2008 (Average Weekday Boardings)</b>	<b>Change</b>
Metro Orange Line	25,618	27,987	+9.25%
Metro Red/Purple Line	136,355	149,699	+9.79%
Metro Green Line	40,576	45,346	+11.75%
Metro Gold Line	19,579	25,511	+30.3%
Metro Blue Line	77,834	84,917	+9.1%
Directly Operated Bus Lines	1,179,359	1,253,620	+6.3%

The increases come in spite of the recent reductions in the price of gasoline, which have retreated from all-time highs earlier this year.

The increased ridership is a strong indication that L.A.'s public transit system continues to be a low-cost transportation solution for more Angelenos faced with a troubled economy. The fare to ride Metro bus and rail lines is only \$62 a month, or \$744 a year.

The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) last week reported that a person living in Los Angeles could save \$856 per month, or \$10,268 per year by taking public transit instead of driving based on current gas prices and parking rates. APTA's report reveals how much a person can save by taking public transportation and living with one less car in his or her household.

For additional information about Metro and its transportation services, visit [WWW.METRO.NET](http://WWW.METRO.NET). For transit trip planning assistance over the phone, call 1-800-COMMUTE.

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**Editors Note:** "Metro" should be used when referring to this agency.