



# NEWS

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## **METRO BUS RIDERSHIP HITS HIGHEST POINT IN SIX YEARS; METRO RAIL RIDERSHIP AT AN ALL TIME HIGH**

With the completion of the Metro Red Line subway system to North Hollywood and the implementation of two new Metro Rapid bus lines, ridership on MTA's Metro system totaled more than 1.4 million boarding passengers on an average weekday in July.

Metro Bus ridership reached its highest point in more than six years averaging 1,253,931 boarding patrons during the month of July, compared to 1,041,045 carried in July 1999.

The recent bus ridership numbers represent the highest ridership on the Metro Bus system since May 1994.

The increase is due partly to the start-up of two new Metro Rapid bus lines serving the Wilshire/Whittier corridor and Ventura Boulevard in the San Fernando Valley. Ridership on the Whittier/Wilshire Metro Rapid line exceeds 50,000 average weekday boardings and is now the most heavily patronized MTA bus line in the region.

Equally impressive is the approximately 10,000 boarding passengers that are now using the new Metro Rapid Bus Line serving Ventura Boulevard from the Metro Red Line Universal City Station to Warner Center in the San Fernando Valley.

Overall, Metro Rail ridership also showed strong gains during the month of July totaling 208,425 average weekday boardings on the entire 59.4-mile system. The Metro Blue Line carried an average of 62,550 patrons, the Metro Green Line recorded 26,725 and the Metro Red Line averaged 119,150 weekday boardings in July.

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