**LIGHT RAIL TERMINOLOGY**

**Acela Express**

The Acela Expressis [Amtrak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtrak)'s [high-speed rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-speed_rail) service along the [Northeast Corridor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northeast_Corridor) (NEC) in the [Northeast United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northeast_United_States) between [Washington, D.C.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington,_D.C.), and [Boston](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boston) via 14 intermediate stops including [Baltimore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baltimore), [Philadelphia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philadelphia), and [New York City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City). Acela Express trains are the fastest [trainsets](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rail_terminology#T) in the [Americas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americas); the highest speed they attain is 150 mph (240 km/h) in revenue service.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela_Express#cite_note-NYTtimeli-8) Acela trains use [tilting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tilting_train) technology, which helps control lateral [centrifugal forces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centrifugal_force_(rotating_reference_frame)), allowing the train to travel at higher speeds on the sharply curved NEC without disturbing passengers.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela_Express#cite_note-tilt-9)Unlike the Japanese [Shinkansen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shinkansen), the French [TGV](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TGV), the Spanish [AVE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AVE), and the Chinese [CRH](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-speed_rail_in_China), Acela shares tracks with commuter and freight trains. However, aging infrastructure in many segments of NEC limits the train to an average speed in regular service considerably lower than its maximum speed.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela_Express#cite_note-NYT-1-Aug-2009-10)[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela_Express#cite_note-PhI-8Dec13-11)[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela_Express#cite_note-12)[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Bay Area Rapid Transit** (**BART**)

Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) is a [rapid transit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapid_transit) system serving the [San Francisco Bay Area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco_Bay_Area). The [heavy-rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heavy_rail) [public transit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_transit) and [subway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapid_transit) system connects [San Francisco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco) with cities in the [East Bay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/East_Bay_(San_Francisco_Bay_Area)) and suburbs in northern [San Mateo County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Mateo_County,_California). BART's rapid transit system operates five routes on 104 miles (167 km) of line, with [44 stations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Bay_Area_Rapid_Transit_stations) in four counties. With an average of 422,490 weekday passengers, 211,288 Saturday passengers, and 158,855 Sunday passengers in September 2014,[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bay_Area_Rapid_Transit" \l "cite_note-Monthly_Average_Exits.2F-7) BART is the [fifth-busiest heavy rail rapid transit system in the United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_rapid_transit_systems_by_ridership).

BART is operated by the [San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco_Bay_Area_Rapid_Transit_District), a special-purpose [transit district](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transit_district) that was formed in 1957 to cover San Francisco, [Alameda County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alameda_County), and [Contra Costa County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contra_Costa_County). The acronym is almost universally pronounced like the name "Bart" rather than spelled out. BART combines the aesthetics and carrying capacity of a metro system with the logistics and pricing model of [commuter rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commuter_rail). It is an alternative to highway transportation, especially to avoid congestion on the [San Francisco Bay Bridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Francisco_Bay_Bridge), which connects San Francisco to the East Bay suburbs and the city of [Oakland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oakland,_California). As of 2015[[update]](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bay_Area_Rapid_Transit&action=edit), the BART system is being expanded to [San Jose](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Jose,_California) with the consecutive Warm Springs and [Silicon Valley BART extensions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silicon_Valley_BART_extension).[[2]](#footnote-2)

**Detroit People Mover**

The Detroit People Mover is a 2.9-mile (4.7 km) [automated people mover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People_mover) system which operates on a single track, and encircles [Downtown](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Downtown_Detroit) [Detroit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit), [Michigan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michigan).[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit_People_Mover#cite_note-DPM-3)The [Woodward Avenue Light Rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woodward_Avenue_Light_Rail) line, tentatively named M-1 Rail, beginning construction in late July 2014, will serve as a link between the Detroit People Mover and [New Center Amtrak station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit_(Amtrak_station)) with its current service and proposed [SEMCOG Commuter Rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SEMCOG_Commuter_Rail), plus additional access to DDOT and SMART bus routes as part of a comprehensive network of [transportation in metropolitan Detroit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transportation_in_metropolitan_Detroit).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit_People_Mover#cite_note-SEMCOGrail-4)

The People Mover uses [UTDC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UTDC) [ICTS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intermediate_Capacity_Transit_System) Mark I technology and the cars are driverless. A [siding](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siding_(rail)) allows the system to be used in a two-way bypass manner when part of the circular track is closed.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**FrontRunner**

The FrontRunner is a [commuter rail](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commuter_rail_in_North_America) train operated by the [Utah Transit Authority](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utah_Transit_Authority) (UTA) that serves the [Wasatch Front](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wasatch_Front) from [Pleasant View](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pleasant_View,_Utah) in northern [Weber County](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Weber_County,_Utah) through [Ogden](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ogden,_Utah), [Davis County](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Davis_County,_Utah), [Salt Lake City](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_City), and [Salt Lake County](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_County,_Utah) to [Provo](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provo,_Utah) in central [Utah County](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utah_County,_Utah).[[4]](#footnote-4)

**MARTA (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority)**

The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority or MARTA [/ˈmɑrtə/](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Help:IPA_for_English) is the principal [rapid-transit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapid_transit) system in the [Atlanta metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlanta_metropolitan_area). It is [the eighth-largest rapid transit system in the United States by ridership](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_rapid_transit_systems_by_ridership). Formed in 1971 as strictly a bus system, MARTA operates a network of [bus routes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bus_route) linked to a rapid transit system consisting of 48 miles (77 km) of [rail track](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rail_track) with 38 [train stations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subway_station). MARTA operates almost exclusively in [Fulton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fulton_County,_Georgia), [Clayton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clayton_County,_Georgia) and [DeKalb](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DeKalb_County,_Georgia) counties, with bus service to two destinations in [Cobb County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cobb_County,_Georgia) ([Six Flags Over Georgia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Six_Flags_Over_Georgia) and the [Cumberland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumberland_(Atlanta)) Transfer Center next to the [Cumberland Mall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cumberland_Mall)) and a single rail station in Clayton County at [Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hartsfield-Jackson_Atlanta_International_Airport). MARTA also operates a separate [paratransit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paratransit) service for disabled customers. As of 2013[[update]](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Metropolitan_Atlanta_Rapid_Transit_Authority&action=edit), the average total daily ridership for the system (bus and rail) was 438,900 passengers.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_Atlanta_Rapid_Transit_Authority#cite_note-APTA-2)[[5]](#footnote-5)

**MAX Light Rail,** **or** **Metropolitan Area Express**,

MAX Light Rail, or Metropolitan Area Express, is a [light rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_rail) system consisting of five separate lines ([Blue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Blue_Line), [Green](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Green_Line), [Orange](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Orange_Line), [Red](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Red_Line), and [Yellow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Yellow_Line) lines) serving [97 stations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_MAX_Light_Rail_stations) in the [Portland metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portland_metropolitan_area) in Oregon. The system has had an average weekday ridership between 115,000 and 130,000 since Fiscal Year 2010.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Light_Rail#cite_note-ridership-1) It is owned and operated by [TriMet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TriMet) and began service in 1986.From its inception until 2004, about $3 billion was invested in light rail in Portland.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX_Light_Rail#cite_note-3)[[6]](#footnote-6)

**Metro Light Rail (Phoenix)**

Metro Light Rail (styled corporately as METRO) is a 23-mile (37 km)[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Light_Rail_(Phoenix)" \l "cite_note-extension-1) [light rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_rail) line operating in the U.S. state of [Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arizona). Part of the [Valley Metro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Valley_Metro_(Phoenix)) public transit system, it serves the cities of [Phoenix](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phoenix,_Arizona), [Tempe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tempe,_Arizona), and [Mesa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mesa,_Arizona). Construction began in March 2005; operation started December 27, 2008. The line had a weekday ridership of 43,827 in 2014, making it the [13th busiest light rail system in the country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_light_rail_systems_by_ridership).[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Light_Rail_(Phoenix)#cite_note-2)[[7]](#footnote-7)

**Metrolink (Los Angeles)**

Metrolink ([reporting mark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reporting_mark) SCAX) is a [commuter rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commuter_rail) system serving [Southern California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_California); it consists of seven lines and 55 stations operating on 388.2 miles (624.7 km) of rail network.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)#cite_note-Metrolink-Fact2014-1) It travels up to 79 miles per hour (127 km/h). The system operates in [Los Angeles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Angeles_County,_California), [Orange](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orange_County,_California), [Riverside](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Riverside_County,_California), [San Bernardino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Bernardino_County,_California), and [Ventura](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ventura_County,_California) counties, as well as [Oceanside](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceanside,_California) in [San Diego County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diego_County,_California).[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)#cite_note-Routes-3)[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)#cite_note-How2Ride-4) It connects with the [Los Angeles County Metro Rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro_Rail_(Los_Angeles_County)) system, the [San Diego Coaster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coaster_(commuter_rail)) commuter rail and [Sprinter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sprinter_(light_rail)) light rail services, and with [Amtrak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtrak)'s [*Pacific Surfliner*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Surfliner), [*Coast Starlight*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coast_Starlight), [*Southwest Chief*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southwest_Chief), and [*Sunset Limited*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunset_Limited) intercity rail services.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)#cite_note-5)The system, founded in 1991 as the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) and quickly adopting "Metrolink" as the marketing and user friendly moniker, started operation in 1992. Average weekday ridership rose to 42,265 in 2012,[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)" \l "cite_note-Metrolink-Fact2012-6) but had fallen slightly to 41,951 in the fourth quarter of 2014.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink_(Southern_California)#cite_note-Metrolink-Fact2014-1)[[8]](#footnote-8)

**Monorail (Las Vegas)**

The Las Vegas Monorail is a 3.9-mile (6.3 km) [monorail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monorail) [mass transit system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_transit_system) located adjacent to the [Las Vegas Strip](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Las_Vegas_Strip), in [Clark County, Nevada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clark_County,_Nevada), [United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States). It connects several large casinos in the unincorporated communities of [Paradise](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paradise,_Nevada) and [Winchester](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Winchester,_Nevada), and does not enter the City of [Las Vegas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Las_Vegas,_Nevada). It is owned and operated by the Las Vegas Monorail Company. Total annual ridership is currently about 4.2 million, down from a peak of 7.9 million in 2007.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Las_Vegas_Monorail#cite_note-3) The monorail is a registered [not-for-profit corporation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Not-for-profit_corporation), allowed under Nevada law since the monorail provides a public service.[[9]](#footnote-9)

**Pacific Surfliner**

The *Pacific Surfliner* is a 350-mile (560 km) passenger train operated by [Amtrak](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtrak), with funding from the [California Department of Transportation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_Department_of_Transportation) as part of the [Amtrak California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amtrak_California) network. The *Pacific Surfliner* serves the communities on the coast of [Southern California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_California) between [San Diego](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diego) and [San Luis Obispo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Luis_Obispo,_California). The service carried over 2.7 million passengers during [fiscal year](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiscal_year) 2013, a 2.5% increase from FY2012. Total revenue during FY2013 was [$](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/US_dollar)62,576,548, an increase of 6.8% over FY2012.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Surfliner#cite_note-Amtrak-ridership-1) The *Pacific Surfliner* was Amtrak's third-busiest service, and the busiest outside the [Northeast Corridor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northeast_Corridor).[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Surfliner#cite_note-Amtrak-ridership-1)The Los Angeles-San Diego portion of the *Pacific Surfliner* route was once served by the [Santa Fe Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atchison,_Topeka_and_Santa_Fe)'s [*San Diegan*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diegan_(train)) passenger trains until Amtrak took over operations. Initially there were three daily trips, but in 1976 the schedule was expanded. In 1988 the service was extended to [Santa Barbara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Barbara,_California), followed in 1995 with one trip a day going all the way to San Luis Obispo. As the name "San Diegan" no longer reflected the extent of the route, it was renamed the Pacific Surfliner in 2000.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific_Surfliner#cite_note-3) The route is named after the [Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atchison,_Topeka_and_Santa_Fe_Railway)'s [Surf Line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surf_Line).[[10]](#footnote-10)

**RTD Bus & Light Rail (Denver)**

RTD Bus & Light Rail (branded as TheRide) is a transit system in the [Denver, Colorado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denver,_Colorado) [metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Denver-Aurora_Metropolitan_Area). Operated by the [Regional Transportation District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_Transportation_District) (RTD), it currently runs 79 local, 16 express, 16 regional, 11 limited, and 5 skyRide bus routes plus some special services. It also includes 6 light rail lines with 46 stations and 47 miles (76 km) of track.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RTD_Bus_%26_Light_Rail#cite_note-RTDfacts-3)[[11]](#footnote-11)

**Sun Link (Tucson)**

Sun Link, also known as the Tucson Streetcar, is a single-line [streetcar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Streetcar) system in [Tucson, Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucson,_Arizona), United States that began service in July 2014.[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-AZPM_Opening-2)[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-KVOA_Opening-3)[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-Forbes2013-06Tucson-9) The system's 3.9-mile (6.3 km) route connects the Arizona Health Sciences Center (including [University Medical Center](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_Medical_Center_(Tucson,_Arizona))), the [University of Arizona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Arizona) campus, the Main Gate and 4th Avenue shopping and entertainment districts, downtown Tucson, the [Tucson Convention Center](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucson_Convention_Center), and the Mercado District under development west of [Interstate 10](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interstate_10_in_Arizona).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-FAQ-7)[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-barnes_01-10) The streetcar project's overall cost of $196 million was met through a combination of local funding sources and federal grants.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-fta_quarterly_0313-11)[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Link#cite_note-vitu_01-12)

**Trax**

TRAX is a [light rail](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_rail) system in the [Salt Lake Valley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_Valley) of [Utah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utah), in the [United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States), serving [Salt Lake City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_City) and many of its suburbs throughout [Salt Lake County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_County,_Utah). Its full official name is Transit Express,[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TRAX_(light_rail)#cite_note-trax-30) though this name is very rarely used. The system is operated by the [Utah Transit Authority](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Utah_Transit_Authority) (UTA). All TRAX trains are powered by overhead electrical wires.[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TRAX_(light_rail)#cite_note-uta_pr-31)As of 2013 TRAX has three lines in service. The [Blue Line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_Line_(TRAX)) provides service from [Downtown Salt Lake City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Downtown_Salt_Lake_City) to [Draper](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Draper,_Utah). The [Red Line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_Line_(TRAX)) provides service from the [University of Utah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Utah) to the [Daybreak Community](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daybreak_(community)) of [South Jordan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Jordan,_Utah). The [Green Line](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Line_(TRAX)) provides service from [Salt Lake City International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salt_Lake_City_International_Airport) to [West Valley City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Valley_City,_Utah).

All of UTA's TRAX and [*FrontRunner*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FrontRunner) trains and stations, streetcars and streetcar stops, and all fixed route buses are compliant with [Americans with Disabilities Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americans_with_Disabilities_Act_of_1990) and are therefore accessible to those with disabilities.[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TRAX_(light_rail)#cite_note-32) Signage at the stations, on the passenger platforms, and on the trains and streetcars clearly indicate accessibility options. Ramps on the passenger platform and assistance from the train operator may be necessary for wheelchair boarding on Blue Line trains. These ramps are not used on the Red or Green lines. In accordance with the [Utah Clean Air Act](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_smoking_bans_in_the_United_States#Utah) and UTA ordinance, "smoking is prohibited on UTA vehicles as well as UTA bus stops, TRAX stations, and *FrontRunner* stations".[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TRAX_(light_rail)#cite_note-33)[[12]](#footnote-12)

**Virginia Railway Express (VRE)**

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) ([reporting mark](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reporting_mark) VREX) is a [regional](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_rail)/[commuter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commuter_rail) rail service that connects the [Northern Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Virginia) suburbs to [Union Station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Station_(Washington,_DC)) in Washington, D.C., via two lines: the Fredericksburg Line from [Fredericksburg, Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fredericksburg,_Virginia), and the [Manassas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manassas,_Virginia) Line from [Broad Run/Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broad_Run/Airport_(VRE_station)) station in [Bristow, Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bristow,_Virginia). Service to Manassas began on June 22, 1992; the Fredericksburg service started on July 20, 1992. VRE is owned by the [Northern Virginia Transportation Commission](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Virginia_Transportation_Commission) and the [Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Potomac_and_Rappahannock_Transportation_Commission). The NVTC and PRTC are governmental entities that were created by the [Commonwealth of Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commonwealth_of_Virginia). Local governments (such as counties and cities) within each commission's geographic area are members of each commission.[[13]](#footnote-13)

**Washington Metro**

The Washington Metro, commonly called Metro and branded Metrorail,[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-Schrag_9-5) is the [rapid transit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rapid_transit) system serving the [Washington, D.C. metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_metropolitan_area) in the United States. It is administered by the [Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metropolitan_Area_Transit_Authority) (WMATA), which also operates [Metrobus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrobus_(Washington,_D.C.)) service under the Metro name.[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-6) Besides the District, Metro serves several jurisdictions in [Maryland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland) and [Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virginia). In Maryland, Metro provides service to [Montgomery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montgomery_County,_Maryland) and [Prince George's](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prince_George%27s_County,_Maryland) counties; in Virginia, to [Fairfax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairfax_County,_Virginia) and [Arlington](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arlington_County,_Virginia) counties and the independent cities of [Alexandria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexandria,_Virginia), [Fairfax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairfax,_Virginia) and [Falls Church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falls_Church,_Virginia). The system is currently being expanded into [Loudoun County, Virginia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudoun_County,_Virginia). The Metro service area is largely coextensive with the inner ring of the Washington metropolitan area. Opened in 1976, the network has grown to include six lines, 91 stations, and 117 miles (188 km) of [route](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_length_(transport)#Route_length).[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-About-7)[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-8)Metro is the [second-busiest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_rapid_transit_systems_by_ridership) rapid transit system in the United States in number of passenger trips, after the [New York City Subway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City_Subway).[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-apta-9) There were 215.3 million trips, or 727,684 trips per weekday, on Metro in fiscal year 2008.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-riders2008-10) In June 2008, Metro set a monthly ridership record with 19,729,641 trips, or 798,456 per weekday.[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington_Metro#cite_note-riders2008-10) Fares vary based on the distance traveled, the time of day, and the type of card used by the passenger. Riders enter and exit the system using a [stored-value card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stored-value_card) in the form of a paper [magnetic stripe farecard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magnetic_stripe_card) or a [proximity card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proximity_card) called [SmarTrip](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SmarTrip).[[14]](#footnote-14)

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1. Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acela\_Express [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bay\_Area\_Rapid\_Transit [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Detroit\_People\_Mover [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Ibid., https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/FrontRunner [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan\_Atlanta\_Rapid\_Transit\_Authority [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MAX\_Light\_Rail [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metro\_Light\_Rail\_(Phoenix) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metrolink\_(Southern\_California) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Las\_Vegas\_Monorail [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pacific\_Surfliner [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RTD\_Bus\_%26\_Light\_Rail [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TRAX\_(light\_rail) [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virginia\_Railway\_Express [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Ibid., https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Washington\_Metro [↑](#footnote-ref-14)