



cta®

**On Time
Clean, Safe
and Friendly Service**

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The Chicago Transit Authority operates the nation's second largest public transportation system.

On an average weekday, 1.3 million rides are taken on CTA, which serves Chicago and 38 suburbs.

CTA has 1,882 buses that operate over 129 routes and 1,932 route miles. Buses make about 21,362 trips a day and serve 12,200 posted bus stops.

On the rapid transit system, CTA's 1,150 rapid transit cars operate over seven routes and 222.6 miles of track. CTA trains make about 1,434 trips each day and serve 140 stations.

Chicago is one of the few cities in the world that has rapid transit service to two major airports. CTA's Blue Line 'L' can take riders to O'Hare International Airport in about 40 minutes from stations in the Dearborn subway downtown.

Orange Line trains, which operate clockwise on the Loop 'L' structure, make trips to Midway Airport in about 30 minutes. Riders traveling from one

airport to the other can change trains without paying any extra fare at the Clark/Lake station.

CTA also provides around-the-clock service on some of its routes. In the late night and early morning hours, major rapid transit routes and some of CTA's bus routes offer "Night Owl" service, much of it with connecting schedules and routing.

Chicago Transit Authority is an independent governmental agency created by state legislation. CTA began operating on Oct. 1, 1947, after it acquired the properties of the Chicago Rapid Transit Company and the Chicago Surface Lines. On Oct. 1, 1952, CTA became the sole operator of Chicago transit when it purchased the Chicago Motor Coach system.

The governing arm of CTA is the Chicago Transit Board. Valerie B. Jarrett currently serves as chairman. The board consists of seven members, four appointed by the mayor of Chicago and three by the governor of Illinois.

The mayor's appointees are subject to the approval of the governor and the Chicago City Council; the governor's appointees are subject to the approval of the mayor and the Illinois State Senate. CTA's day-to-day operations are directed by Frank Kruesi, president.

CTA generates revenue from farebox collections and also receives supplemental funding for operating expenses from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA).

The RTA was established in 1974 to oversee local transportation operators in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. Illinois state law requires the three RTA service boards - CTA, Metra (the suburban rail system), and Pace (the suburban bus system) to recover collectively at least 50% of operating costs from farebox and other system revenues. RTA provides public funding for the agencies' remaining operating expenses.

CTA FACTS AT A GLANCE

Area served by CTA Chicago and
38 suburbs
Service population 3.7 million
(based on 1990 census)

1998 Operating budget \$782.0 million
1998 Capital budget \$238.1 million

Ridership (unlinked trips, based on 1997 fiscal year)

Average weekday

Bus 0.88 million
Rail 0.41 million
Total system 1.29 million

Annual (1997)

Bus 287.6 million
Rail 130.0 million
Special services 1.2 million
Total system 418.8 million

Bus route miles 1,932
Bus miles traveled per day 203,913
Rail route miles 222.6
Rail miles traveled per day 170,471

CTA FACTS AT A GLANCE

Number of...

Buses	1,882
Bus routes	129
Bus stops	12,200
Rapid transit cars	1,150
Rapid transit routes	7
Rapid transit stations	140
Employee positions	11,290

Important transit dates in Chicago

Horse car service began	Apr. 25, 1859
Cable car service began	Jan. 28, 1882
First electric streetcars	Oct. 2, 1890
First rapid transit line	June 6, 1892
Loop Elevated opened	Oct. 12, 1897
First motor bus service	Mar. 25, 1917
Trolley bus service began	Apr. 17, 1930
State Street subway opened	Oct. 17, 1943
CTA became operating entity .	Oct. 1, 1947
Dearborn subway opened ...	Feb. 25, 1951
Last streetcar ran	June 21, 1958
Skokie Swift Service began .	Apr. 20, 1964
Expressway median operation:	
Congress (Eisenhower) ...	June 22, 1958
Dan Ryan	Sept. 28, 1969
Kennedy	Feb. 1, 1970
Rail service to O'Hare	Sept. 3, 1984
Rail service to Midway	Oct. 31, 1993