



Metropolitan Transit Authority — facts and figures

The Metropolitan Transit Authority, The Met, was established on July 1, 1983.

The Met is responsible for running Melbourne's public transport system. This system is made up of integrated tram, train and bus networks.

Fares are based on a 'neighbourhood' system. Under this system there are 10 neighbourhood or local regions in the metropolitan area. The tickets are multi-modal, based on the number of neighbourhoods transversed, and travel time rather than the mode of transport used.

Annual revenue from ticket sales is in the order of \$180 million.

The Met employs some 12,000 staff.

Occupations include: drivers, conductors, guards, technicians, administrators, computer operators/programmers, maintenance crews, fitters, cleaners and many others.

More than 400,000 people travel on The Met each day.

An average of \$520 million is spent each year on maintaining services.

Over \$200 million is usually spent each year upgrading vehicles and other equipment used to provide services.

The Met network covers 6063 square kilometres spread over 339 different routes.

Each year 2267 million passenger kilometres are travelled. Met vehicles travel 150 million kilometres.

Customer Information Numbers

■ Transport Information Centre (TIC): 617 0900

TIC handles approximately 1500 public enquiries a day. TIC provides information on all Met services and fares.

■ Disabled Persons Advisory Line: 610 7482

This service provides assistance and information to enable people with disabilities to easily use the system.

■ Transit Police District: 629 2126

Transit Police District was introduced in 1987. It

is responsible for security on public transport vehicles and property.

■ The Met Shop: enquiries 617 0900

On August 18, 1988 The Met launched its first Met Shop. The shop is centrally located, 103 Elizabeth Street, City, to enable commuters to easily purchase periodical tickets, collect timetables and up-to-date transport information. The shop also sells The Met's exclusive range of leisure products including bags, windcheaters, T-Shirts and postcards all reflecting the character of Melbourne.

Tram . . .

The first tram operated in Melbourne on November 11, 1885. Unlike today's electric trams it was a cable car.

The first tram ran from Spencer Street, in the city, to Richmond.

The first electric tram was commissioned in 1889. It ran along 'Tram Road', Box Hill to Doncaster and was a four wheel cross bench car.

Seating on these cars went the width of the tram which meant the conductor had to walk along the side board on the outside of the tram.

There are four different types of trams currently in use:

W series: (wooden trams). These trams were built from 1923-1956 and there are 321 in use today. The W series tram can seat 48 people, with a total capacity of 150 passengers.

Z series: (modern trams with seated conductors). Built from 1975-1984, there are 229 currently in use. This tram can carry up to 125 people, seating 45.

A series: (modern trams with roving conductors). This type of tram has been built since 1984, 70 are in use today. The A series can seat 42 people and carry up to 120.

Trams are serviced regularly: W series — every 100 hours. Z series 1 & 2, Z3 series and A series — every 10,000 kilometres.

The Met has approximately 623 trams in operation. Approximately 502 trams are in use each day.

On most weekdays about 390,000 passenger trips are made by tram.

Each year approximately 113 million passenger trips are made on trams.

The Met's tram network runs on 230 kilometres of double track. The network comprises of 42 routes.

Light Rail...

Light Rail was introduced on November 20, 1987.

Melbourne currently has two Light Rail lines; East Brunswick to St Kilda and Exhibition Buildings to Port Melbourne.

Approximately 31,500 passenger trips are made on Light Rail each day.

Melbourne's Light Rail vehicles can carry up to 180 people.

Light Rail vehicles have been built since 1984. The Met has two prototypes in service and delivery of 130 on order has commenced.

A Light Rail vehicle's maximum speed is 72 kilometres per hour and maximum acceleration is 1.2 metres per second.

A Light Rail vehicle is 23.5 metres long, 2.6 metres wide and 2.2 metres high.

Train...

The first passenger train ran from Flinders Street Station to Sandridge (Port Melbourne) on September 12, 1854. It was Australia's first steam train and was operated by the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company. The journey took 10 minutes.

The steam train was built in Australia in July 1854. It took 10 weeks to build and had 30hp capacity with a maximum speed of 40km.

Flinders Street Station was opened in 1854. Work began on the existing buildings in 1905 and finished in 1910. Redevelopment began in 1983.

The Met's train fleet consists of three different types of vehicles:

■ The rebuilt Harris

(Air-conditioned, former blue train.) These trains were built in 1982 and there are three currently in use.

■ Hitachi

(The first silver train) built from 1972-1979. Fifty eight are in use.

■ Comeng

(Air-conditioned silver train) built from 1981 onwards. The Met has 84 in use and 11 more to be delivered.

Prior to the electrification of Melbourne's rail system, Tait cars were used. The Tait car is more commonly known as the 'red rattler', the last of which was phased out in 1984.

In 1981 Melbourne's underground loop was opened.

The first test bore for The Loop was sunk in 1961 and excavation work started in 1971.

The Loop services five stations; Museum, Parliament, Flagstaff, Flinders Street and Spencer Street.

The Loop consists of 12 kilometres of track. It has four circular tunnels each 5.95 metres in diameter. Each tunnel is 3.2 kilometres long. The depth of the tunnels vary from 20 to 40 metres below the surface.

A total of 900,000 cubic metres of earth was removed in The Loop's construction, 300,000 cubic metres of concrete poured and 30,000 tonnes of steel reinforcement used.

Trains using The Loop travel at a maximum speed of 60 kilometres per hour.

On an average weekday 589 trains travel through The Loop, 450 on Saturdays.

The Met operates 212 stations in total, servicing 15 lines.

There are some 940 kilometres of track.

Approximately 2120 signals are used to direct Melbourne's trains.

The Met's fleet consists of 145 trains.

The fleet operates on approximately 800 kilometres of single overhead cable.

On an average weekday 320,000 passenger trips are made.

Each year 92 million rail passenger trips are made.

Metrol, a highly advanced computer system monitors train movements.

Bus...

On January 3, 1925, Government buses were introduced in to Melbourne's public transport system. The first Government bus travelled along Latrobe Street to Elsternwick Station.

The first bus was a Tilling Stevens Petrol Electric, seating 32 people.

The Met's newest bus, the M.A.N. bus seats around 40. They are fully automatic, equipped with power steering and air-conditioned.

There are 335 Met buses and 1,000 privately contracted buses in operation.

Currently 20 articulated buses are in operation. An articulated bus can seat approximately 67 passengers and carry up to 120.

On an average weekday 292,000 passenger trips are made by bus.

Each year 86 million passenger trips are made.

Met buses cover about 13 million kilometres each year and private buses about 42 million kilometres.