

From: VTA Board Secretary
Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 2:18 PM
To: VTA Board of Directors
Subject: From VTA: March 2026 Ridership Memo

VTA Board of Directors:

Attached is a memorandum from Nauni Singh, Chief Operating Officer, regarding VTA ridership for March 2026.

If you have any questions, please reply to this e-mail.

Thank you,

Office of the Board Secretary
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
3331 North First Street, Building B
San Jose, CA 95134-1927
Phone **408-321-5680**



Date: May 1, 2026
Current Meeting: NA
Board Meeting: May 7, 2026

BOARD MEMORANDUM

TO: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Board of Directors

THROUGH: Carolyn M Gonot, General Manager/CEO *Carolyn M Gonot*

FROM: Naunihal (Nauni) Singh, Chief Operating Officer *Naunihal Singh*

SUBJECT: VTA Ridership – March 2026

Policy-Related Action: NA

Government Code Section 84308 Applies: No

INFORMATION ITEM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

To present the monthly bus and light rail ridership performance of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority.

STRATEGIC PLAN/GOALS:

The report is an information item only.

BACKGROUND:

VTA ridership report is routinely produced following each month. This report is for the month of March 2026.

CLIMATE IMPACT:

The report is an information item and will have no impact on climate change.

DISCUSSION:

March 2026 total monthly system ridership was 2,545,239, an increase of 199.1% compared to March 2025. The total monthly bus ridership was 2,124,341, an increase of 187.4% compared to March 2025. The total monthly light rail ridership was 420,898, an increase of 276.6% compared to March 2025. The average weekday system ridership for March 2026 increased by 11.5%. Calendar year-to-date system ridership (bus and light rail) was 7,040,812, an increase of 29.9% compared to CY 2025.

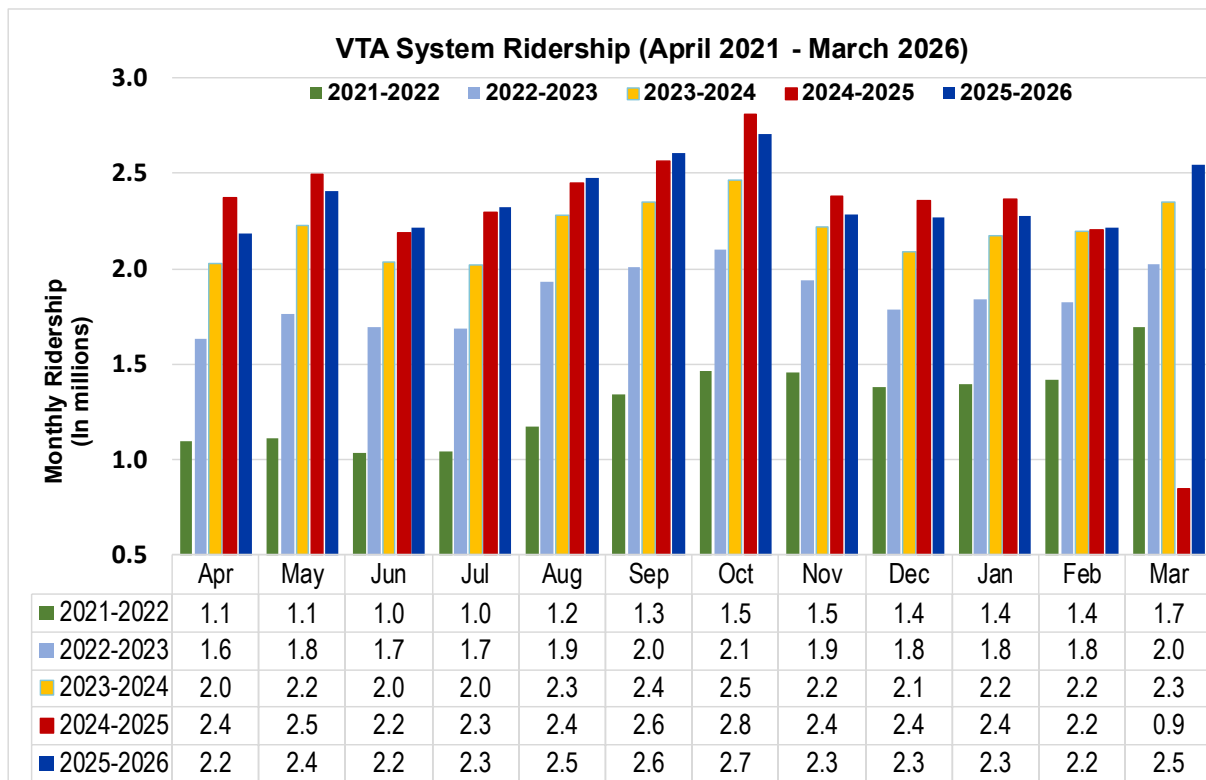
March 2025 had service disruptions for most of the month causing high differences when compared to March 2026 with normal service. Average ridership in March 2025 was derived from the few days operated.

Special Events: There were no events at the Levi's Stadium in March 2026. The NVIDIA GTC Conference was held at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center from March 16–19, 2026.

VTA Ridership	Monthly			Calendar Year-to-Date		
	Current (Mar 2026)	Prior year (Mar 2025)	Percent Change	Current (Jan'26-Mar'26)	Prior year (Jan'25-Mar'25)	Percent Change
Bus	2,124,341	739,149	187.4%	5,839,442	4,572,841	27.7%
Average Weekday	79,358	72,103	10.1%	75,389	74,644	1.0%
Average Saturday	45,646	43,015	6.1%	44,267	36,921	19.9%
Average Sunday / Holiday	39,176	35,127	11.5%	36,747	36,274	1.3%
Light Rail	420,898	111,774	276.6%	1,201,370	845,273	42.1%
Average Weekday	15,597	13,078	19.3%	14,700	13,966	5.3%
Average Saturday	9,873	9,099	8.5%	10,640	6,810	56.2%
Average Sunday / Holiday	7,657	7,558	1.3%	9,782	6,497	50.6%
System	2,545,239	850,923	199.1%	7,040,812	5,418,114	29.9%
Average Weekday	94,955	85,181	11.5%	90,089	88,610	1.7%
Average Saturday	55,519	52,114	6.5%	54,907	43,731	25.6%
Average Sunday / Holiday	46,833	42,685	9.7%	46,529	42,771	8.8%

Note: March 2025 had service disruptions for most of the month. Averages in March 2025 were derived from the few days operated.

The system ridership (Bus and light rail) in millions for 2021-2026 (rolling 12 months) is presented in the chart below:



Note: April 2021 through the next two-year period was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The boardings per total hour and boardings per revenue hour for bus and rail for March 2026 are shown in the table below:

	Boardings per Total hour ¹			Boardings per Revenue hour ²		
	March 2026	March 2025	Percent Change	March 2026	March 2025	Percent Change
Bus	16.3	14.9	9.8%	17.4	15.8	9.9%
Light Rail	29.6	26.9	10.0%	31.7	28.9	9.7%

Total hours – Includes revenue hours and deadhead hours (hours that a vehicle travels when out of revenue service). ² Revenue hours - Scheduled hours of service available to passengers for transport on the routes. Includes recovery/layover time.