



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2016 State of Florida

Florida and the *Auto Train*

- In Fiscal 2016, the *Auto Train* carried over 238,000 passengers, removing over 130,000 vehicles from highways connecting Florida with the Northeast
- Accessibility improvements at the Sanford station were completed in 2015.

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates four National Network trains through Florida:

- The *Auto Train* (daily Lorton, Va.-Sanford, Fla.)
- The *Silver Meteor* (New York-Orlando-Miami)
- The *Silver Star* (daily New York-Orlando-Tampa-Miami)
- The *Sunset Limited* (tri-weekly Los Angeles-Orlando via New Orleans, Pensacola and Jacksonville)*

*Sunset Limited *service suspended east of New Orleans.*

During FY16 Amtrak served the following Florida locations*:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Deerfield Beach	24,524
DeLand	22,374
Delray Beach	13,180
Fort Lauderdale	42,684
Hollywood	26,069
Jacksonville	70,516
Kissimmee	37,773
Lakeland	20,475
Miami	65,975
Okeechobee	4,193
Orlando	138,359

Palatka	12,341
Sanford (Auto Train Station)	238,448
Sebring	16,416
Tampa	109,456
West Palm Beach	57,038
Winter Haven	21,684
Winter Park	28,205
Total Florida Station Usage:	949,710

(down 7.5% from FY15)

**Rail service to Chipley, Crestview, Lake City, Madison, Pensacola, Tallahassee suspended 8/27/05.*

Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak spent \$32,712,509 on goods and services in Florida in FY16. Most of this amount was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Atlantic Beach	\$ 8,861,780
Doral	\$ 2,111,163
Jacksonville	\$ 5,808,248
Medley	\$ 1,625,915
Orlando	\$ 1,314,047
Punta Gorda	\$ 1,391,621
Tallahassee	\$ 1,992,684

Employment

At the end of FY16, Amtrak employed 731 Florida residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Florida were \$54,797,201 during FY16.

Major Facilities

Amtrak operates the Hialeah maintenance facility in Miami, which services and performs light overhauls for Viewliner, Amfleet, and Heritage cars for single-level, National Network trains. The new Hialeah facility opened on April 20, 2012. Also, the Sanford maintenance facility services the Superliner-equipped *Auto Train*.

Amtrak's Southeast Business Line, which is responsible for Amtrak's operations in the Southeastern United States, is headquartered in Miami. Amtrak also has train and engine crew bases in Miami, Sanford and Jacksonville, an on-board service crew base in Hialeah, and contractor-operated commissaries in Hialeah and Sanford.

Auto Train

Amtrak's *Auto Train* service operates daily between Lorton, Virginia (outside of Washington, D.C.) and the *Auto Train* terminal off I-4 in Sanford, Florida. This unique service carries passengers and their vehicles on a 16½ hour overnight trip from Northern Virginia to Florida. Passengers ride in Superliner coaches and sleepers, while their vehicles are transported in auto carrier cars at the rear of the train and are delivered to them upon arrival at the Sanford terminal. During FY 2016, Amtrak's *Auto Train* carried 238,448 passengers and 130,578 vehicles.

Station Improvements

- **Miami:** Amtrak is currently negotiating lease arrangements with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for use of space in the Miami Intermodal Center. FDOT subsequently will transfer ownership of the facility to the Dade County Transit Division. The MIC is designed to bring Amtrak, Tri-Rail, Metro Rail, car rentals, and other transportation services together in one location, connected to Miami International Airport by people mover.
- **Orlando:** A new, 1,200-foot, island platform was constructed in conjunction with the new SunRail commuter operation. The platforms now serve three tracks, as opposed to the previous configuration serving two. Also, renovation of the station was completed and a dedication took place on June 29, 2015.
- **Winter Park:** A new station and dual platforms were dedicated in March 2014, replacing the aging and undersized former Atlantic Coast Line station, built in 1962. This new facility was constructed with federal and local funding in conjunction with the SunRail commuter operation.
- **Fort Lauderdale:** The renovation project to update the 1926 station was completed during 2014 and included weatherproofing, lobby and ticket counter renovations, and ADA-related improvements.

SunRail

Amtrak and Florida DOT entered into an agreement for periodic and heavy maintenance and for heavy repair of SunRail equipment at the Sanford maintenance facility. This allows Amtrak to fill some excess capacity at the facility, which also services Auto Train equipment. SunRail began commuter service through Orlando on May 1, 2014.

Service Restoration Update

In 2015 Amtrak conducted a ridership and revenue study for the Southern Rail Commission that outlined potential options for restoring service between New Orleans the Gulf Coast and Florida. Subsequently, the FAST Act of 2015 required Amtrak and the FRA to perform an analysis that was developed from the option the Southern Rail Commission chose to pursue from the previous study. That option was a daily, long-distance service between New Orleans and Orlando (with through service from Chicago) and a daily corridor service between New Orleans and Mobile.

In February 2016, Amtrak, in partnership with the Southern Rail Commission, operated a two-day inspection train from New Orleans to Jacksonville. The train made stops at all of the previously served stops with significant fanfare and political support at each location.

The study is expected to be complete before the end of 2016. Negotiations currently are underway between all of the parties necessary to restore service between New Orleans and Florida.



--Amtrak Government Affairs, summer 2011