## Colorado

### Amtrak's Contributions to Colorado

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earnings supported by Amtrak in Colorado</th>
<th>Employment supported by Amtrak in Colorado</th>
<th>Value added* supported by Amtrak in Colorado</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$20,805,000</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>$15,078,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### State Snapshot

- **Number of Stations**: 9
- **Number of Local Riders****: 123,004
- **Local Revenue****: $13,076,636
- **Number of Rail Passenger Miles****: 74,473,597

**Routes:** *Southwest Chief, California Zephyr*

### Population and Amtrak Ridership Growth 2011-2016

- Population, 8.25%
- Ridership, 22%

### Glenwood Springs, CO (GSC)

The station opened in 1904 with services run by a predecessor of the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad. The station has been renovated numerous times, most recently in 1990. In September 2003, the Glenwood Railway Museum opened in the old Ladies’ Waiting Room. Today the museum occupies about one-third of the station while Amtrak occupies the other two-thirds. The station currently serves the *California Zephyr* route. In 2016, 46,818 passengers passed through the station and provided revenue valued at $3,602,855.

### Amtrak's Effect on Tourism and Broader Economy

- **Emission reductions from traveling by Amtrak trains vs. traveling by car**: $376,000
- **Cost savings from the lower risk of traveling by train vs. traveling by car**: $3,090,000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tourist spending generated from Amtrak passengers</th>
<th>$1,200,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of tourists that utilize Amtrak services</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of total riders that are tourists</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal taxes generated for Colorado from tourist spending</td>
<td>$143,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State taxes generated for Colorado from tourist spending</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local taxes generated for Colorado from tourist spending</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Value Added - enhancement a company or business gives its product or service before providing it to customers (value of the final outputs from Amtrak minus the value of the inputs such as raw materials).
** Local riders are defined as riders that boarded or alighted an Amtrak train in the state. May include out of state passengers transferring trains in the state.
*** Rail Passenger Mile - passenger rail miles are determined by multiplying the total number of passengers by the total number of miles traveled.
Colorado is served by two long-distance Amtrak routes, the *California Zephyr* and *Southwest Chief*. There are nine stations in the state. The *California Zephyr* route offers access to tourist destinations such as Glenwood Springs, Glenwood Canyon and Winter Park Ski Resort. Colorado’s rail plan reports that “The Chicago-to-Denver portion of the route accounts for the largest percentage of ridership at 9 percent and frequently sells out during the peak summer months.” (p. 3-40)

Denver is the state’s busiest station. Statewide, ridership is up 22 percent over the last five years. An estimated 59 percent of the population lives within 30 miles of an Amtrak station. Among Amtrak riders in the state, 15 percent report that they would not have made the trip but for the availability of Amtrak service. The service provides important mobility and access needs for a number of residents. Recognizing the important role that Amtrak plays in many economies across the state, the Colorado Legislature passed a bill in 2014 to create a station commission to oversee the state’s efforts to preserve and expand service on the *Southwest Chief* through Colorado.

Amtrak spent nearly $14 million in Colorado as part of its operating expenses in FY16.

### Profile of Amtrak Customers

**Travel Mode Preference if Amtrak Unavailable**

- Would drive if Amtrak unavailable: 45%
- Would fly if Amtrak unavailable: 37%
- Would use the bus if Amtrak unavailable: 15%
- Would not travel if Amtrak Unavailable: 5%

**Percent of Riders who Would Not Travel if Amtrak was Unavailable**

- Colorado, 15%
- United States, 8%

**Income Distribution of Amtrak Travelers in Colorado**

- $< 25k: 10.9%
- $25k - $49.9k: 24.0%
- $50k - $74.9k: 21.7%
- $75k - $99.9k: 14.9%
- $100k - $149.9k: 14.9%
- $150k+: 13.7%