



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2017

State of Alabama

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates two National Network trains through Alabama:

- The *Crescent* (daily New York-Atlanta-Birmingham-New Orleans)
- The *Sunset Limited* (tri-weekly Orlando-Mobile-New Orleans-Los Angeles)*

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

During FY17 Amtrak served the following Alabama locations*:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Anniston	4,255
Birmingham	42,512
Tuscaloosa	10,571
Total Alabama Station Usage:	57,338

*Rail service to Mobile and Atmore suspended 8/27/05.

Procurement

Amtrak spent \$6,937,048 on goods and services in Alabama in FY17. Most of this amount was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Albertville	\$ 2,798,942
Birmingham	\$ 3,193,447

Employment

At the end of FY17, Amtrak employed 13 Alabama residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Alabama were \$987,613 during FY17.

Station Improvements

- **Birmingham:** The city is nearing completion of a new intermodal center, which will cover a three-block area along Morris Avenue and which will be home to Amtrak, Greyhound, and the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority. The new facility will be built on the site of the former Louisville & Nashville station and the former transit authority complex. Construction of the new station is expected to be complete by early 2018. During this time, passengers and visitors will continue to enter the facility from the temporary entrance, located on 19th Street below the railroad overpass.

Connecting Service

Amtrak has partnered with Greyhound to provide connecting motor coach service from Mobile to New Orleans and to Jackson to connect with the *City of New Orleans*, and from Montgomery to Mobile and New Orleans to connect with the *Sunset Limited*. Amtrak also is partnering with Greyhound to provide connecting service from the *Crescent* to points from Meridian, Mississippi, west to Dallas.

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 Gulf Coast Working Group, led by FRA, concluded their work in May 2017 and submitted their findings to Congress, which included \$118 million in capital improvements. Amtrak supports the findings of this report. Negotiations remain underway between all of the parties necessary to restore service between New Orleans and Florida.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN ALABAMA

