



# Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Alabama*

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## Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one National Network train through Alabama:

- The **Crescent** (daily New York-Washington-Charlottesville-Charlotte-Atlanta-Birmingham-New Orleans)

During FY18, Amtrak served the following Alabama locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings &amp; Alightings</u>
<a href="#">Anniston</a>	3,833
<a href="#">Birmingham</a>	40,585
<a href="#">Tuscaloosa</a>	10,228
<b>Total Alabama Station Usage:</b>	<b>54,646</b>

## Host Railroads

Amtrak relies heavily on the cooperation of other railroads in order to operate routes using tracks that are not owned or controlled by Amtrak. Host railroads are statutorily required to provide Amtrak trains "preference" over freight transportation. However, on time performance on most host railroads is poor and continues to decline largely due to hosts ignoring their statutory responsibilities.

Listed below are the Amtrak services that operate in Alabama with each service's host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

<b>Service</b>	<b>Host Railroads</b>	<b>FY18 OTP</b>
<b><i>Crescent</i></b>	Norfolk Southern	<b>31.3%</b>

"On-time performance" represents the percentage of stations at which the train arrives within 15 minutes of the scheduled arrival time.

## Amtrak Guest Rewards

At the end of FY18, there were **27,089** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Alabama. This is a 15% increase from FY17.

## Station Improvements

Birmingham: The city dedicated its new intermodal center in 2018. It covers a three-block area along Morris Avenue and serves as the home to Amtrak, Greyhound, and the Birmingham-Jefferson County Transit Authority. The new facility was constructed on the site of the former Louisville & Nashville station and the former transit authority complex. Other construction continues, to bridge the existing railroad structure to the new terminal. During this time, Amtrak passengers will continue to use a temporary passageway between the old and new structure.

## 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.

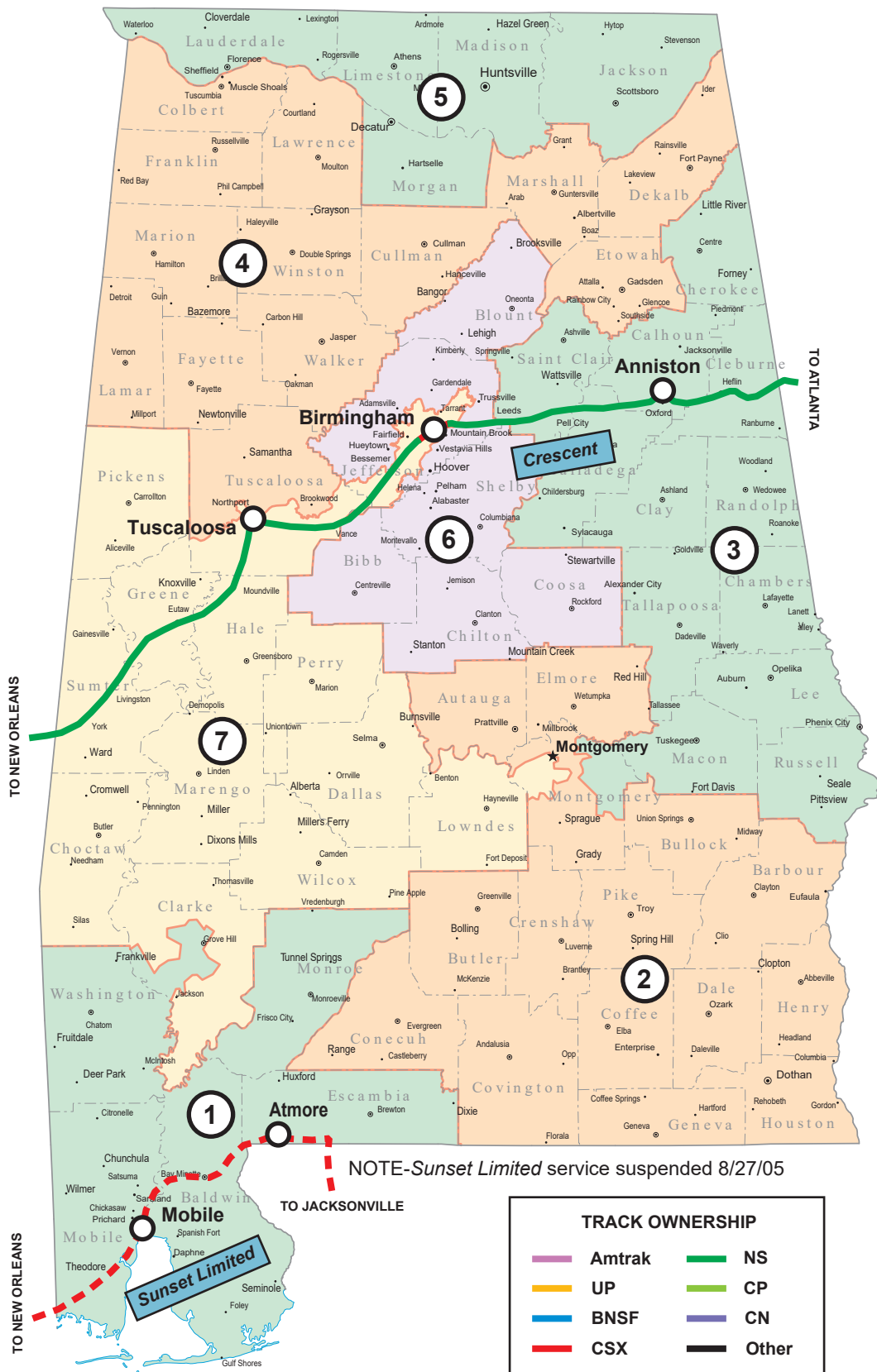
## Service Restoration Update

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. While negotiations remain underway between all of the parties necessary to restore service between New Orleans and Florida, there is a strong desire to establish multiple frequency corridor service between New Orleans and Mobile utilizing the CRISI Grant Program with matching support from the states.

# AMTRAK ROUTES IN ALABAMA



① Congressional District