



# Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2016

## State of Connecticut

### Amtrak-Connecticut partnership

- Connecticut contributes to the cost of *Shuttle* and *Northeast Regional* services on the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield line, as well as the *Vermont*
- The state is leading a major upgrade of the Springfield line, to be done in 2016
- Over 128,000 Connecticut residents are members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards frequent user program

### Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates approximately 46 trains daily in Connecticut. These include *Acela Express*, *Regional*, and *Vermont* (Washington, D.C.-New Haven-St. Albans, Vt.) services along the coast, and State Supported *Vermont* and *Springfield Shuttle* services between New Haven, Hartford, and Springfield, Mass.

During FY16 Amtrak served the following Connecticut locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
<a href="#">Berlin</a>	16,332
<a href="#">Bridgeport</a>	83,211
<a href="#">Hartford</a>	138,682
<a href="#">Meriden</a>	17,735
<a href="#">Mystic</a>	25,704
<a href="#">New Haven</a>	642,471
<a href="#">New London</a>	158,700
<a href="#">Old Saybrook</a>	62,269
<a href="#">Stamford</a>	401,548
<a href="#">Wallingford</a>	9,377
<a href="#">Windsor</a>	9,167
<a href="#">Windsor Locks</a>	17,053
<b>Total Connecticut Station Usage:</b>	<b>1,582,249</b>
	(down 5.9% from FY15)

## Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak spent \$36,272,915 on goods and services in Connecticut in FY16. Much of this amount was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Branford	\$ 4,167,177
Danbury	\$ 2,701,989
Guilford	\$ 4,304,266
New Britain	\$ 2,940,345
Plainville	\$ 10,903,724
Rocky Hill	\$ 5,546,136
Wilton	\$ 1,386,471

## Employment

At the end of FY16, Amtrak employed 703 Connecticut residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Connecticut were \$60,804,117 during FY16.

## PRIIA Section 209

The Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-432) required, by October 2013, an equitable arrangement of cost sharing between Amtrak and state or public agency partners that provide funding for short-distance, intercity train services. Agreements were reached with all parties, including Connecticut, by the deadline, and the services continued to run without interruption.

## Contract Commuter Services

Amtrak operates the daily Shore Line East (SLE) commuter service between New Haven and New London under an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT). Current weekday operations consist of 20 trains between New Haven and Old Saybrook and 13 between New Haven and New London.

## Major Facilities

Amtrak owns and operates a rail yard in New Haven where routine maintenance and equipment repair take place. It services both electric and diesel locomotives.

There are several moveable bridges along the Northeast Corridor in southeastern Connecticut:

**Thames River:** Replacement of the bridge between New London and Groton was completed in 2008, at a cost of \$76 million. The previous 1919 bascule lift bridge was replaced with a new vertical lift bridge. Another project to paint and make steel repairs to the four approach spans was completed in 2010, using \$20 million in stimulus funding.

**Niantic River:** Construction of a new bridge was completed in 2013. This was one of Amtrak's most complex capital projects in recent years, involving replacement of a two-track, electrified, moveable bridge while rail traffic continued. The new bridge has improved reliability, reduced the chances of operational failure, and helped minimize train and river traffic delays. The new trunnion-bearing bascule bridge replaced the old rolling-girder-type bascule bridge. The project included the replacement of portions of East Lyme's Niantic Bay Overlook Walkway, replenishment of the beach with 76,000 cubic yards of sand, and increased parking at a local park for expanded beach access.

In 2014, Amtrak and the Town of East Lyme partnered to complete the second portion of the Niantic Bay Overlook Walkway. Amtrak agreed to contribute \$400,000 in services toward the \$4.4 million project. Construction began in September 2014 and was completed in 2015.

**Miamicock (Pattagansett) River:** Replacement of a two-track, fixed-span bridge in East Lyme was completed in 2011.

**Stonington Harbor (East and West):** Replacement of two bridges was completed in 2012.

### **New Haven-Springfield High-Speed Corridor Improvements**

The New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) rail program, led by Connecticut, includes design and construction of additional rail capacity on Amtrak-owned infrastructure between those cities. This includes restoring 16 miles of second track that was removed in the early 1990s and construction of station facilities. It is funded by \$191 million in federal grants through the High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) program and \$272 million in state bonds.

Over the last two work seasons, Amtrak has been managing the installation of underground signal and communications cables over the entire 60-mile line. This upgrade will support increased rail traffic and subsequent addition of second track. Current funding and work will allow an increase in service from 6 daily round-trips to 17 by 2017. The states are seeking additional funds for improvements to allow 25 round-trips.

