



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Connecticut*

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates approximately 55-60 trains daily in Connecticut. This includes

- The high speed **Acela Express** (daily Washington-Baltimore-Wilmington-Philadelphia-Newark-New York-New Haven-Providence-Boston)
- The **Northeast Regional** (daily Richmond-Washington-BWI-Baltimore-Wilmington-Philadelphia-Trenton-Newark-New York-New Haven-New London-Providence-Boston)
- The **Springfield Shuttle** (daily Washington-New York-New Haven-Wallingford-Meriden-Berlin-Hartford-Windsor Locks-Springfield)
- The **Vermont** (daily Washington-Philadelphia-New York-New Haven-Berlin-Springfield-Essex Junction-St. Albans)

During FY18, Amtrak served the following Connecticut locations:

City	Boardings & Alightings
Berlin	16,219
Bridgeport	90,174
Hartford	150,611
Meriden	16,495
Mystic	28,017
New Haven	697,603
New Haven State Street *	117
New London	161,111
Old Saybrook	67,501
Stamford	416,315
Wallingford	9,555
Windsor	11,091
Windsor Locks	18,333
Total Connecticut Station Usage:	1,683,142

*Service began 6/18

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

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 Connecticut with each service’s host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
<i>Acela</i>	Amtrak and Metro North	77.6%
<i>Northeast Regional</i>	Amtrak and Metro North	79.6%
<i>Springfield Shuttle</i>	Amtrak and Metro North	69.5%
<i>Vermonter</i>	Amtrak, Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Metro North, New England Central Railroad	61.3%

“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 **55,448** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Connecticut. This is a 15% increase from FY17.

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, and the services were not interrupted.

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). 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. Electric and diesel locomotives are serviced there. 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 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 contributed \$400,000 in services toward the \$4.4 million project, which was finished in 2015.

Connecticut River: The Connecticut River Bridge, between Old Saybrook and Old Lyme, carries Amtrak and Shore Line East trains. Opened in 1907, it is the oldest movable bridge between New Haven and Boston. Many key elements of the bridge have reached the end of their design life and speeds on the bridge are restricted to 45 mph. Amtrak plans to replace the bridge and has completed the Preliminary Design work. It is now performing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and will be seeking Federal Railroad Administration approval. The new design and configuration of a replacement bridge will aim to improve reliability and offer higher speeds for Amtrak and Shore Line East trains. Amtrak will progress Final Design over the next year and will work to identify funding sources for construction.

New Haven-Springfield High-Speed Corridor Improvements

The New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) rail program, led by Connecticut, included design and construction of additional rail capacity on Amtrak-owned infrastructure between those cities. This included track and signal improvements, as well as construction of new station facilities.

Over the last three work seasons, Amtrak managed the installation of new underground signal and communications cables over the line and installing a second set of new tracks along the entire length of the 62-mile corridor (which was single-tracked). This double-tracking will support the increased number and frequency of daily commuter trains run by ConnDOT. Amtrak's existing service was not altered by this new service. **CTrail** trains operate together with Amtrak trains on the rail line to provide seamless service.

The **CTrail** Hartford Line passenger rail service launched on June 16, 2018 and operates 17 round-trips between New Haven and Hartford each weekday with 12 of those roundtrips trains continuing on to Springfield at speeds up to 110 mph, cutting travel time between Springfield and New Haven to as little as 81 minutes. On weekends, a total of 13 roundtrip trains will operate between New Haven and Hartford, with 9 of those trains continuing onto Springfield. Also, there is direct or connecting service to New York City and multiple frequencies to Boston or Vermont (via Springfield). New stations are also planned at North Haven, Newington, West Hartford and Enfield.

The NHHS Rail Program is a key and necessary component of a broader New England passenger rail vision developed by the Governors in the Northeast.

The vision calls for a significant expansion of intercity passenger rail service across New England and the Northeast linking into the high-speed Northeast Corridor spine. New passenger rail service would serve key Northeast markets:

- Washington-New Haven-Springfield-White River Junction-Essex Junction, with future service to Montreal
- Boston-Springfield-Vermont-Montreal
- Boston-Springfield-New Haven along the Inland Route
- New Haven-Hartford-Springfield service expansion
- Boston-Portland-Brunswick, on the ***Downeaster*** corridor
- New service connecting Boston and Concord, NH

Many of these new services operate over the NHHS corridor. As a result, upgrade of the NHHS corridor to accommodate the planned increases in service is a pre-condition to this regional service expansion. Connecticut is working closely with Massachusetts and Vermont to coordinate the planning and funding for the Program and implementation of the vision for New England.

Stations

Several new stations were built as part of the project. Prior to the launch of the new ***CTrail*** Service Amtrak trains began serving the new Wallingford station on November 6, 2017. New platforms and pedestrian overpass went into service at Meriden on November 17, 2017.

On Tuesday, October 23, 2018 Conn DOT hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new ***CTrail*** Hartford Line Berlin Station. The fully-completed Berlin Station features amenities aimed at providing a high-quality passenger experience, including high-level platforms, an overhead pedestrian bridge, overhead canopies, an automatic snow melting system, a passenger information display system, electric vehicle charging station, and bicycle racks. The station includes a 235-space surface parking lot for use by Hartford Line passengers and the public.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN CONNECTICUT

