



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Maine*

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one State Supported service in Maine:

- The **Downeaster** (5 daily round-trips Boston-Portland, of which 2 round-trips operate to/from Brunswick).

During FY18, Amtrak served the following Maine locations:

City	Boardings & Alightings
Brunswick	33,885
Freeport	12,474
Old Orchard Beach	15,572
Portland	178,661
Saco-Biddeford	48,095
Wells	56,898
Total Maine Station Usage:	345,585

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

Amtrak relies heavily on the cooperation of other railroads 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. Performance of the Maine service in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
Downeaster	MBTA and PanAm Railways	82.7%

"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 **33,984** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Maine. This is a 14% increase from FY17.

PRIIA Section 209 and Agreements

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 in Maine, by the deadline, and the services continued to run without interruption. Amtrak operates the **Downeaster** under contract with the State of Maine's Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA).

About the *Downeaster*

December 14, 2001 marked the inaugural run of the **Downeaster**, restoring passenger rail service between Boston and Portland after an absence of over 35 years. The service features five daily round-trips between Portland and Boston North Station, with eight intermediate stops: Woburn, Haverhill, Exeter, Durham-UNH, Dover, Wells, Saco, and in season, Old Orchard Beach.

In 2012, **Downeaster** service was extended to Freeport and Brunswick. This project was funded by state funding and by a \$35-million federal stimulus grant in 2010, for capital improvements. In 2016, NNEPRA opened its new train layover facility in Brunswick and added a third round trip between Brunswick and Boston. The \$13-million, 60,000-square-foot facility, which is longer than two football fields, allows the rail authority to service **Downeaster** passenger trains overnight. On November 12, 2018, two (2) additional round trips began serving Freeport and Brunswick on weekdays (5 round trips total), with one additional trip on weekends (4 round-trips total).

NNEPRA Projects

MBTA Track Improvement Project: The **Downeaster** MBTA Track Improvement Project added double track and replaced rail in Massachusetts on the portion of the **Downeaster** line owned by the MBTA. These improvements will help improve **Downeaster** reliability/on-time performance and set the stage for more **Downeaster** frequencies. The project was selected for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding under the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA's) High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) program and NNEPRA received approximately \$16 million in federal funds for the Project. The MBTA provided a match of about \$5.2 million. The project has been completed.

Royal Junction Siding: This project will eliminate a key bottleneck on the **Downeaster** route and will allow more efficient operation of passenger and freight trains north of Portland. The project includes construction of an approximately four-mile second track adjacent to the Pan Am Freight Mainline. The siding will begin approximately 1,000 feet east of Field Road in Falmouth, cross Woodville Road and Muirfield Road in Falmouth, as well as Longwoods Road (Route 9), Tuttle Road, and Greely Road in Cumberland. It will terminate just east of Royal Junction, located northeast of Greely Road. All construction work will be performed within Pan Am Railways' existing railroad right-of-way with no additional environmental impacts anticipated. A Categorical Exclusion (CE) worksheet has been prepared and has been submitted to the Federal Transit Administration for concurrence. Completion was expected late in 2018 or early in 2019.