



Amtrak in Maine Fiscal Year 2024



Amtrak is America's Railroad,[®] created by Congress to "provide efficient and effective intercity passenger rail mobility consisting of high quality service that is trip-time competitive with other intercity travel options." In FY 2024, the company's 22,000+ employees operated an average of almost 300 intercity trains per day along 47 permanent routes, serving a record 32.8 million passengers. Amtrak's network includes 524 regularly-scheduled stops across 46 states, 3 Canadian provinces, and Washington, DC. Partner-operated Thruway routes offer connecting service to additional communities, typically via bus.

Service & Ridership

In FY 2024, Amtrak operated an average of **10 intercity trains per day** on 1 permanent route serving Maine, with **448,131 total passengers** boarding or alighting in the state.¹ Service was provided via the following route:²

- **State-Supported Trains**

- ***Downeaster*** — Brunswick - Portland - Saco - Dover - Boston (*5 round trips daily*)

As a **State-Supported route**, the *Downeaster* is operated in partnership with the **Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA)**; created by the state of Maine). Outside the Boston-to-Washington Northeast Corridor (NEC), Section 209 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA) requires that short- and middle-distance Amtrak routes (i.e., those less than 750 miles in length) be State-Supported; in other words, sponsoring partners fund the majority of those routes' costs and make decisions about schedule, frequency, and other aspects of service. In FY 2024, NNEPRA funded a total of \$4.0 million in operating payments for the *Downeaster*, helping support a total ridership³ of 591,948.

Thruway Connections

Some Amtrak routes offer partner-operated **Thruway connecting service** and/or other interline connections to additional communities (including in Maine), via either bus or other modes of transportation. Many such services are sponsored by one or more of Amtrak's State-Supported partners, or by other public entities; these connections can be vitally important in certain markets. Tickets are purchasable through Amtrak; detailed, up-to-date information on available connections can be accessed via the booking tool on Amtrak.com.

Stations

During FY 2024, Amtrak intercity trains made scheduled stops at 6 locations in Maine:

¹ Total equals sum of all boardings and alightings at in-state stations.

² Not all stops shown. Note that certain frequencies may not serve every station listed.

³ Unlike state- / station-specific ridership, total *route* ridership equals sum of all boardings and alightings divided by two.



Station (Code)	Ridership (Ons + Offs)	Amtrak ADA Responsibility	Amtrak ADA Compliance	Amtrak ADA Investment ⁴
Brunswick (BRK)	92,463	None	N/A	—
Freeport (FRE)	37,897	None	N/A	—
Old Orchard Beach (ORB)	20,077	None	N/A	—
Portland (POR)	178,856	None	N/A	—
Saco (SAO)	60,119	None	N/A	—
Wells (WEM)	58,719	None	N/A	—
Total:	448,131	0/6	N/A	—

Importantly, Amtrak is working to ensure that its stations are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. Most Amtrak-served stations are decades old; many were served by other railroads before the company ever existed. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted in 1990, requires that U.S. stations be made accessible; in response, Amtrak developed an ADA Stations Program (ADASP) to bring station components for which the company is responsible into full ADA compliance. ADASP aims to ensure Amtrak provides the best possible service in the shortest possible timeframe; the program will ultimately invest a total of \$1.8 billion in 385 communities nationwide. All Amtrak-responsible work is targeted for completion by the end of FY 2029.

Detailed profiles of every permanent Amtrak station stop, including current information on accessibility, can be found on the Great American Stations website: <https://www.greatamericanstations.com>.

Additional Footprint

Amtrak trains are supported by a **state partner-contracted maintenance facility** in Brunswick (contractor-staffed), which services locomotives, non-powered cab cars (NPCUs), and passenger cars.

Additionally, Amtrak maintains a **crew base** in Brunswick.

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

Outside the NEC, most Amtrak trains must travel over other “host” railroads’ tracks—and hosts generally control dispatching decisions on the tracks that they own. By law, Amtrak trains are supposed to receive preference over freight trains (i.e., priority in dispatching), but many host-dispatched trains arrive late at their destinations, and many routes do not meet on-time performance (OTP) standards established by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)—affecting millions of passengers per year.

Listed below are the Amtrak routes that operate in Maine, along with each route’s major in-state host railroad(s) and full-route customer on-time performance (C-OTP)⁵ in FY 2024:

⁴ “Amtrak ADA Investment” describes Amtrak’s projected total investment in compliance work over the lifetime of ADASP.

⁵ C-OTP measures the proportion of customers traveling on a given route who arrive at their destinations on time. Suppose that passengers board a train scheduled to make two stops, and suppose that train is on time at the first stop, but arrives late at the second. If all passengers alight at the first stop, C-OTP for that train is 100%; if all passengers alight at the second stop, C-OTP is 0%.

Route	In-State Host(s)	C-OTP
<i>Downeaster</i>	CSX	81.7%

Procurement

Amtrak’s procurements are subject to “Buy America”-style domestic preference requirements, which the company is proud to meet or exceed. Nationally, Amtrak paid nearly \$4.5 billion for goods and services in FY 2024; 99% of that amount was spent domestically, and **\$2.3 million** went to vendors in Maine:

Community	Amount
Westbrook	\$1,300,336
Portland	\$402,458
Augusta	\$337,400
West Enfield	\$149,800
Belfast	\$81,091
South Portland	\$17,536
Lewiston	\$4,500
All Others < \$1k	\$570
Total ME Payments:	\$2,293,691

The single largest in-state payment category was **building and facility maintenance and services**.

Employment & Compensation

At the end of FY 2024, **41 Amtrak employees** worked in Maine, and the company had paid out a total of **\$3,738,693 in base wages and salary** in-state. Nationwide, Amtrak employed more than 22,000 active workers; total base wages and salaries for the year exceeded \$2.1 billion.

Current Amtrak Routes in Maine

