



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2023 State of Minnesota

Amtrak Service & Ridership

At the end of FY 2023, Amtrak operated two trains per day in Minnesota, as part of the following routes:

- **Long Distance**
Empire Builder (daily Chicago-St. Paul-Seattle/Portland)

Stations Served

During FY 2023, Amtrak trains served the following locations in Minnesota.

City (Code)	Ridership
Detroit Lakes (DLK)	4,182
Red Wing (RDW)	5,609
St. Cloud (SCD)	8,169
St. Paul-Minneapolis (MSP)	77,597
Staples (SPL)	5,931
Winona (WIN)	10,847
Total Minnesota Station Usage:	112,335

Amtrak maintains the Great American Stations website (<https://www.greatamericanstations.com/>), which includes detailed profiles of every Amtrak station. Information available includes a brief history of each station, a review of what organization or organizations are responsible for the various portions of each facility, a list of routes serving each station, contact information for the appropriate Amtrak representative for that station, and relevant local community links.

Host Railroads & On-Time Performance

Amtrak relies heavily on the cooperation of other railroads to operate routes using tracks that Amtrak does not own or control. Host railroads are statutorily required to provide Amtrak trains “preference” over freight transportation. However, on-time performance (OTP) 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 Minnesota with each service’s host railroads and customer OTP in FY 2023:

Service	Host Railroad (s)	FY23 OTP
<i>Empire Builder</i>	BNSF, Canadian Pacific Kansas City, Metra	51%

Customer OTP measures what proportion of customers arrive at their destination on time. For *Acela* trains, the margin is within 10 minutes of the schedule and the margin is 15 minutes for all other trains. Thus, if a

train is 16 minutes late to its final stop, and all its riders are headed for that stop, then even if the train is on time at every intermediate stop, customer OTP would be 0%, reflecting the passengers' experience.

Amtrak Guest Rewards

At the end of FY 2023, there were approximately 16.7 million members of *Amtrak Guest Rewards* (AGR), with 98,659 members listing an address in Minnesota. For more information about AGR, please see: <https://www.amtrak.com/guestrewards/home>.

Procurement

In FY 2023, Amtrak procured goods and services worth \$3.71 billion, and 99.0% of that figure was sourced from firms headquartered domestically. In Minnesota, Amtrak spent \$73,700,669 broken down in the following locations:

City	Amount (\$)
Hamel	64,597,385
Minneapolis	6,563,282
Plymouth	205,069
Rochester	414,885
Shakopee	102,547
St Cloud	150,060
St Paul	1,187,192

Employment & Wages

At the end of FY 2023, Amtrak employed 22,642 people, including 41 Minnesota residents. Total FY 2023 wages were \$2.21 billion, of which Minnesota residents earned \$4,053,592.

Additional Information

Service Expansion and Improvements

Chicago-Twin Cities Service (TCMC): The TCMC project was awarded a Restoration and Enhancement grant to support the first few years of operating funding for the start-up of the service, and a Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement grant for \$31.7 million to complete infrastructure improvements on the host railroad. Amtrak and the states of Minnesota and Wisconsin each contributed financially to equate to \$53 million. Service should begin in FY 2024. In 2023, TCMC received an FRA CIDP grant award to study additional frequencies once the service is launched.

Northern Lights Express (NLX): A joint powers board of counties between Minneapolis and Duluth continue to spearhead an effort to establish intercity passenger rail between the two cities. As proposed, NLX service would operate on 152 miles of existing railroad right-of-way with four daily roundtrips. Amtrak has been retained by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to provide advice on advancing this project and continues to provide outreach support to policymakers and the public to build support. In FY 2023 the Minnesota legislature appropriated \$197 million toward passenger rail expansion in the state, including for NLX. NLX has received CIDP funding to study additional frequencies on the route.

Milwaukee-Madison-Eau Claire-Twin Cities

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation received a CIDP grant for new rail service between Milwaukee and the Twin Cities in Minnesota via Madison and Eau Claire.

Station Improvements

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that stations in the intercity rail transportation system be made readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. In response, Amtrak developed an ADA Stations Program to bring the stations it serves (and for which it has ADA responsibility) into compliance with ADA requirements and to provide the best possible service to passengers with disabilities in the shortest timeframe and most integrated and efficient way possible.

Detroit Lakes: Amtrak is currently in the design stages to provide a new platform, accessible walkways to the public right-of-way, and new lighting and signage for the platform and walkways. Construction will commence in FY 2025 and be completed in FY 2027.

Winona: Amtrak is in the design phase for a new ADA-compliant passenger boarding platform at Winona in coordination with track upgrades necessary to accommodate additional train frequencies as part of the Chicago-Twin Cities project.

Red Wing: Amtrak is currently in the design stages to provide a new platform, accessible walkways to the public right-of-way, and new lighting and signage for the platform and walkways. Construction will commence in FY 2025 and be completed in FY 2027.

Staples: Amtrak has plans to modify the station to ensure ADA compliance by FY 2026. This will include providing an accessible route from the public right of way to the platform, constructing a new platform with associated ramps, stairs, railings, and signage, and providing platform city identifier signs.

St Cloud: Amtrak is currently in the design stages to provide a new platform, accessible walkways to the public right-of-way, and new lighting and signage for the platform and walkways. Construction will commence in FY 2024 and be completed in FY 2026.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN MINNESOTA

