



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Mississippi*

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak serves Mississippi with two National Network trains:

- The **City of New Orleans** (daily Chicago-Memphis-Jackson-New Orleans)
- The **Crescent** (daily New Orleans-Meridian-Birmingham-Atlanta-Charlotte-Charlottesville- New York)

During FY18 Amtrak served the following Mississippi locations*:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings & Alightings</u>
Brookhaven	4,004
Greenwood	13,907
Hattiesburg	8,685
Hazlehurst	1,326
Jackson	44,645
Laurel	3,924
Marks*	622
McComb	4,770
Meridian	9,090
Picayune	2,119
Yazoo City	3,185
Total Mississippi Station Usage:	96,278

*Service began 5/4/18.

Service to Bay St. Louis, Biloxi, Gulfport, and Pascagoula via the **Sunset Limited suspended 8/27/05.

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.

Listed below are the Amtrak services that operate in Mississippi with each service's host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
<i>City of New Orleans</i>	Canadian National	45.8%
<i>Crescent</i>	Norfolk Southern	31.3%

“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 **25,347** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Mississippi. This is a 12.7% increase from FY17.

New Station

Local, state, and Federal officials gathered on May 4, 2018, to dedicate the new station facility in Marks, with the arrival of the northbound ***City of New Orleans***. Marks is located between Memphis and Greenwood. An ADA-compliant platform and shelter were built to support passenger service for the community.

Connecting Service

In August 2014, Amtrak partnered with Greyhound to provide connecting motor coach service from Mobile, Biloxi, Gulfport, and Hattiesburg to New Orleans and Jackson to connect with the ***City of New Orleans***.

Service Restoration Update

In 2015, Amtrak conducted a ridership and revenue study for the Southern Rail Commission that outlined potential options for restoring service between New Orleans the Gulf Coast and Florida. Subsequently, the FAST Act of 2015 required Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to perform an analysis that was developed from the option the Southern Rail Commission chose to pursue from the previous study. That option was a daily, long-distance service between New Orleans and Orlando (with through service from Chicago) and a daily corridor service between New Orleans and Mobile.

In February 2016, Amtrak, in partnership with the Southern Rail Commission, operated a two-day inspection train from New Orleans to Jacksonville. The train made stops at all the previously served stops with significant fanfare and political support at each location.

The Gulf Coast Working Group, led by the FRA, concluded their work in May 2017 and submitted their findings to Congress, which included \$118 million in capital improvements. Amtrak supports the findings of this report. While negotiations remain underway between the parties necessary to restore service between New Orleans and Florida, there is a strong desire to establish multiple frequency corridor service between New Orleans and Mobile utilizing the CRISI Grant Program with matching support from the states.