



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2017

State of North Carolina

Amtrak-North Carolina partnership

- State grants help support the *Piedmont*, Charlotte-Raleigh
- State grants also help support the *Carolinian*, Charlotte-Raleigh-New York
- Over time, North Carolina has refurbished the vast majority of Amtrak stations in the state
- Over 153,000 North Carolina residents are members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards frequent user program

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates four National Network trains with stops in North Carolina:

- The *Crescent* (daily New York-Charlotte-Atlanta-New Orleans)
- The *Palmetto* (daily New York-Savannah via Fayetteville)
- The *Silver Meteor* (daily New York-Miami via Fayetteville)
- The *Silver Star* (daily New York-Tampa-Miami via Raleigh)

Amtrak also operates the following state-supported trains through North Carolina:

- The *Carolinian* (daily New York-Richmond-Raleigh-Charlotte)
- The *Piedmonts* (twice daily Raleigh-Charlotte)

During FY17 Amtrak served the following North Carolina locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Burlington	21,404
Cary	81,685
Charlotte	168,144
Durham	71,924
Fayetteville	49,976
Gastonia	1,345
Greensboro	111,187
Hamlet	4,376

High Point	30,818
Kannapolis	18,043
Raleigh	150,919
Rocky Mount	52,343
Salisbury	22,148
Selma-Smithfield	13,724
Southern Pines	7,065
Wilson	55,579
Total North Carolina Station Usage:	860,680

In addition to these regular, permanent stops, Amtrak trains, in connection with special events, served the North Carolina State Fair (659), Lexington (513), Spencer (2,002).

Procurement

Amtrak spent \$60,331,635 on goods and services in North Carolina in FY17. Most of this was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Charlotte	\$ 1,709,250
Laurinburg	\$ 1,242,218
Research Triangle Park	\$ 55,562,557

Employment

At the end of FY17, Amtrak employed 148 North Carolina residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in North Carolina were \$11,293,522 during FY17.

PRIIA Section 209 and State-Supported Services

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 North Carolina, by the deadline, and the services continued to run without interruption.

Amtrak operates the *Piedmont* service between Charlotte and Raleigh under contract with the State of North Carolina. All *Piedmont* equipment is newly refurbished and state-owned. The state also contracts with Amtrak to operate the *Carolinian*, which operates with Amtrak-owned equipment. The total trip time between Raleigh and Charlotte has been cut by 1 hour, 10 minutes, since 1990, due to on-going track and signal improvements over the state-owned North Carolina Railroad (NCR) between Selma and Charlotte. The third Charlotte-Raleigh round trip (a second *Piedmont* train) started service on June 5, 2010.

Connecting Service

In October 2012, Amtrak began two dedicated, connecting motor coach routes connecting eight eastern counties in North Carolina with Amtrak's *Palmetto* service in Wilson. Since that time, these two routes have experienced a steady growth in ridership from these communities.

North Carolina Volunteer Train Hosts

The NC Volunteer Train Host Association serves daily on the *Piedmont* and *Carolinian*, assisting passengers and providing information about services and points of interest in North Carolina.

North Carolina Train Station Attendants

North Carolina station attendants meet all trains at Burlington, High Point, Salisbury, Kannapolis, and Selma to assist passengers and answer travel questions.

Station Improvements

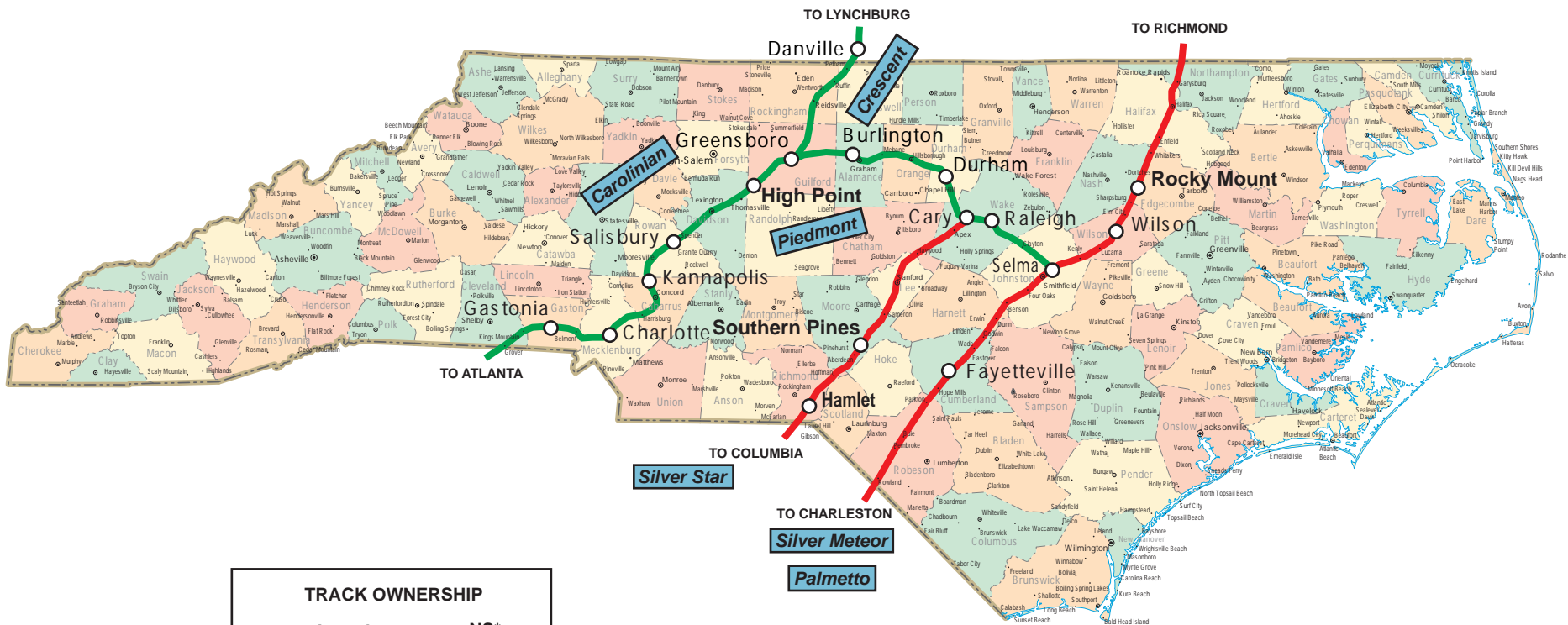
The State of North Carolina, in partnership with Amtrak and local governments, has taken the initiative to rebuild many of its historic train stations and build new ones. Recent planning and construction highlights include:

- **Amtrak and NCDOT** have jointly funded (50/50) the installation of Quik-Trak ticket machines in every North Carolina station with the exception of Gastonia.
- **Charlotte:** The Federal Railroad Administration, NCDOT, and the City of Charlotte have partnered to fund a new Charlotte Gateway Station adjacent to Charlotte's Uptown. A contract for preliminary track work for the new station will be let in 2018, with service at the new station site before 2024.
- **Hillsborough:** NCDOT, the Town of Hillsborough, and GoTriangle (regional transportation authority), are partnering to plan and construct a new train station. The project is fully funded and could be completed as early as 2021, if stakeholder concerns can be mitigated.
- **Lexington:** The City of Lexington received a USDOT TIGER planning grant and will complete an environmental document and preliminary track and station design in 2015. The City and NCDOT will closely coordinate with host railroads and pursue funding for additional design and construction.
- **Raleigh:** Construction on a new Union Station began in January 2016 and should be complete by January 2018. The new station would replace the existing one on Cabarrus Street, which was built by the Southern Railway in 1950 and used by Amtrak since 1986. The project is being funded by the City, NCDOT, and US Federal Railroad Administration.

FRA High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program

- **NCDOT:** In February 2010, the FRA announced that the NCDOT Rail Division had been awarded \$545 million for railroad improvements within the state. The NCDOT Piedmont Improvement Program used these funds for the following improvements which greatly improved the reliability of the service while also reducing trip time on the Raleigh to Charlotte corridor:
 - Constructed 27 miles of double track between Greensboro and Charlotte, completing continuous double track for this route;
 - Constructed 5 new high speed crossover locations between Greensboro and Charlotte to increase the number of locations where trains can quickly change tracks;
 - Constructed 2 new passing sidings between Raleigh and Greensboro, for a total of 5 miles of additional second track;
 - Realigned more than 30 railroad curves for increased operating speed;
 - Closed more than 40 at-grade roadway crossings;
 - Improved 12 at-grade roadway crossings with advanced signals for increased safety;
 - Constructed 13 new railroad bridges over or under highways;
 - Constructed over 13 miles of new or improved highways;
 - Expanded the Raleigh Maintenance Facility;
 - Constructed the new Charlotte Maintenance Facility;
 - Constructed extensive track work needed for the Raleigh Union Station;
 - Constructed station improvements in Burlington, Cary, High Point, and Kannapolis;
 - Added 5 locomotives, 2 cab control units, and 9 passenger cars to the Piedmont fleet; and
 - Constructed 3 new crossover locations on the CSX A-line between Weldon and Rocky Mount to improve rail traffic flow.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN NORTH CAROLINA



TRACK OWNERSHIP	
—	Amtrak
—	NS*
—	UP
—	BNSF
—	CSX
—	CP
—	CN
—	Other

*Selma-Charlotte state-owned, NS-operated