



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Rhode Island*

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates approximately 38 Northeast Corridor trains daily in Rhode Island:

- The high-speed **Acela Express** (daily Washington-Baltimore-Wilmington-Philadelphia-Newark-New York-New Haven-Providence-Boston)
- The **Northeast Regional** (daily Richmond-Washington-BWI-Baltimore-Wilmington-Philadelphia-Trenton-Newark-New York-New Haven-New London-Providence-Boston)

During FY18 Amtrak served the following Rhode Island locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings & Alightings</u>
Kingston	170,394
Providence	766,492
Westerly	44,398
Total Rhode Island Station Usage:	981,284

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

Amtrak relies heavily on the cooperation of other railroads in order 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 Rhode Island with each service’s host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
<i>Acela Express</i>	Metro-North Railroad	77.6%
<i>Northeast Regional</i>	CSX, Metro-North Railroad, and Norfolk Southern	79.6%

“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 **52,194** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Rhode Island. This is a 10.6% increase from FY17.

Stations

Kingston Station Capacity Expansion: Amtrak and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) completed work on a \$41-million improvement project at Kingston to improve train operations and passenger experience along this stretch of the Northeast Corridor, while also paving the way for long-term transit planning in the state.

The project included construction of two new high-level platforms, creating a safer, more efficient, and more accessible boarding process for all passengers. The project also features construction of a third track through Kingston to enable higher-speed **Acela Express** trains to safely bypass **Regional** trains stopped at Kingston. These improvements also could accommodate expanded commuter rail service in the future. The track improvements also will reduce congestion and minimize delays at a critical choke point in western Rhode Island, improving reliability and efficiency of the busy Northeast Corridor.

The project was funded jointly by a \$26.5-million High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program (HSIPR) grant through RIDOT; the remainder was provided by Amtrak, which managed design and construction.

Providence Station Improvements: In 2015, RIDOT upgraded the station's south entrance (downtown side) to enhance circulation for vehicles, buses, and taxis and to create an inviting, civic space at the station. Improved amenities for bicyclists, updated signage, and landscaping were completed early in 2016. Needed pedestrian enhancements were made along Gaspee Street and repairs to damaged concrete and limestone areas on the building's facade were completed. These improvements are being supported by approximately \$6 million in State and Federal Transit Administration funds.

With a \$3-million FRA HSIPR grant, RIDOT also will analyze a series of potential improvements to the station for future high-speed rail service, commuter service, and rail freight movements. Amtrak also partnered with the Department of Homeland Security at the station, where bollards to restrict vehicle access and exterior lighting were placed to enhance security.

Westerly Station ADA Improvements: ADA improvements are being planned for the Westerly Station in 2019 which will include upgrades to accessible boarding on the platform, accessible pathways from the street and parking, and upgrades to bathroom facilities.

Commuter Rail Service

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) has had a long partnership with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) for commuter rail service connecting Providence with Boston, beginning with just 5 daily round trips in 1988.

Providence: Service expanded over time with more trips, including a robust weekend schedule. There are now 16 Boston-Providence round trips and 10 Providence-T. F. Green-Wickford Junction round trips on weekdays. On weekends, there are 9 Boston-Providence Saturday round trips; 7 on Sundays.

T.F. Green Airport: In 2010, RIDOT and MBTA extended service south to the InterLink intermodal facility in Warwick. On November 14, 2011, MBTA expanded service to this location, better matching up with flight times.

Wickford Junction: Commuter service to South (Washington) County began with the opening of the Wickford Junction station in North Kingstown on April 23, 2012. All trains formerly terminating at T.F. Green now also serve Wickford Junction.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN RHODE ISLAND

