

# Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 **State of South Carolina**

### **Amtrak Service & Ridership**

Amtrak operates five National Network trains through South Carolina:

- The Auto Train (daily Lorton-Sanford)\*
- The *Crescent* (daily New York-Atlanta-New Orleans via Greenville)
- The *Palmetto* (daily New York-Savannah via Charleston)
- The *Silver Meteor* (daily New York-Miami via Charleston)
- The *Silver Star* (daily New York-Tampa-Miami via Columbia)

\*The Auto Train does not discharge passengers in South Carolina. It does stop in Florence for a crew change and servicing.

During FY18 Amtrak served the following South Carolina locations:

<u>City</u>	<b>Boardings &amp; Alightings</b>	
<u>Camden</u>	3,161	
<u>Charleston</u>	61,710	
<u>Clemson</u> *	0	
<u>Columbia</u>	29,805	
<u>Denmark</u>	3,230	
<u>Dillon</u>	5,841	
<u>Florence</u>	40,465	
Greenville	12,172	
<u>Kingstree</u>	10,450	
<u>Spartanburg</u>	3,870	
Yemassee	9,740	
Total South Carolina Station Usage:	180,444	

\*Closed 5/23/16 for adjacent highway project; Amtrak expects to resume service when the project is complete.

#### **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 South Carolina with each service's host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
Auto Train	CSX	70.9%
Crescent	Norfolk Southern	31.3%
Palmetto	CSX	57.9%
	CSX, Florida Department of	
Silver Meteor	Transportation, and Florida Central Rail	43.6%
	Corridor	
	CSX, Norfolk Southern, Florida	
Silver Star	Department of Transportation, and	37.6%
	Florida Central Rail Corridor	

"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 **59,912** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in South Carolina. This is a 12.2% increase from FY17.

#### Stations

<u>Charleston</u>: The Charleston Area Rapid Transit Authority (CARTA) has begun construction on a new intermodal facility, located next to the current station owned by CSX and used by Amtrak. It will house Amtrak, intercity and local bus service, and taxis. The project is being managed by the CARTA and is expected to be finished by the end of 2018. The existing station was built in 1956 by the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and is now owned by CSX. It replaced the former Union Station in Charleston, which burned in 1947, and an earlier North (Charleston) Station.

<u>Camden:</u> Amtrak invested \$2.48 million for ADA and state-of-good repair improvements in 2015 to restore the former Seaboard Air Line station, which was built in 1937. The Amtrak work included the station and canopy roofs, doors, windows, sidewalks, signage, waiting room, rest rooms, new exterior lighting, and resurfacing the parking lot. At the same time, the City resurfaced and street-scaped the driveway and installed new lighting leading to the parking lot. The station was rededicated on November 17, 2016.

## AMTRAK ROUTES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

