



Amtrak Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2018 *State of Wisconsin*

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one National Network train through Wisconsin:

- The **Empire Builder** (daily Chicago-Milwaukee-Portage-Wisconsin Dells-St. Paul/Minneapolis-St. Cloud-Minot-Havre-Spokane-Seattle/Portland)

Amtrak also operates one State Supported train through Wisconsin:

- The **Hiawatha Service** (approximately fourteen daily trips Milwaukee-Milwaukee Airport-Sturtevant-Glenview-Chicago)

During FY18 Amtrak served the following Wisconsin locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings & Alightings</u>
Columbus	11,414
La Crosse	26,157
Milwaukee	604,631
Milwaukee Airport	180,314
Portage	7,266
Sturtevant	82,813
Tomah	12,278
Wisconsin Dells	13,631
Total Wisconsin Station Usage:	938,504

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 Wisconsin with each service's host railroads and on-time performance (OTP) in FY18:

Service	Host Railroads	FY18 OTP
<i>Empire Builder</i>	BNSF, Canadian Pacific, and Metra	46.1%
<i>Hiawatha</i>	Canadian Pacific and Metra	96.7%

“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 **96,745** members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards program in Wisconsin. This is a 12.9% increase from 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 Wisconsin, by the deadline, and the services continued to run without interruption.

Amtrak MidwestSM Services

Amtrak operates the state-supported ***Hiawatha Service***, under contract with the states of Illinois and Wisconsin. With seven daily trains in each direction, the service is the highest ridership route in the Midwest. These trains are part of the five-state Amtrak MidwestSM network of services, including routes operated under contract for Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri with hubs at Chicago and St. Louis.



Charger Locomotives

Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, and Wisconsin partnered with California to procure a new fleet of locomotives for short-distance state-supported services. The Charger locomotive fleet was constructed by Siemens, sourcing parts from businesses large and small from all across the United States. Deliveries are complete and all 33 locomotives have been deployed on trains that serve more than 2.6 million Amtrak customers annually.

Expansion Planning and Service Improvements

Additional Chicago-Twin Cities Service: Amtrak conducted an analysis for the Minnesota and Wisconsin Departments of Transportation of potential ridership, revenue, and operating costs for a second, daily, state-supported round-trip between St. Paul-Minneapolis and Chicago, supplementing the existing ***Empire Builder*** service. The report also provided a “high-level” examination of capital start-up costs, such as equipment acquisition and infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate the new service.

This report, from May 2015, is available in its entirety at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/passengerrail/mn-chicago-study.html>. Amtrak will continue to work with both state DOTs to coordinate public outreach, as this prospective project moves into the design process.

Additional Hiawatha Frequencies: The Wisconsin and Illinois departments of transportation, in coordination with the Federal Railroad Administration, are completing an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Service Development Plan (SDP) to study increasing **Hiawatha Service** from seven to ten round-trips a day. The sponsors are performing additional analysis to further quantify potential impacts of the new service. Once that is complete, a final EA and SDP will be completed.

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.

At Columbus, Tomah, and Portage, Amtrak is completing accessibility improvements to address the non-ADA compliant components, accessible routes from the public right of way to the station and from the parking to the station, restrooms, ramps and stairs; lighting and signage, and modifying station entrances. Construction on each project will be completed in 2019.

AMTRAK ROUTES IN WISCONSIN

