



## Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2011 State of Connecticut

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### Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates approximately 46 trains daily in Connecticut. These include *Acela Express*, *Regional*, and *Vermont* (Washington, D.C.-New Haven-St. Albans, Vt.) services along the coast, and *Vermont* and *Springfield Shuttle* services between New Haven, Hartford, and Springfield, Mass.

During FY11 Amtrak served the following Connecticut locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
<a href="#">Berlin</a>	23,465
<a href="#">Bridgeport</a>	76,653
<a href="#">Hartford</a>	173,554
<a href="#">Meriden</a>	34,582
<a href="#">Mystic</a>	23,091
<a href="#">New Haven*</a>	740,902
<a href="#">New London</a>	165,819
<a href="#">Old Saybrook</a>	65,937
<a href="#">Stamford</a>	385,069
<a href="#">Wallingford</a>	15,583
<a href="#">Windsor</a>	10,269
<a href="#">Windsor Locks</a>	15,503
<b>Total Connecticut Station Usage:</b>	<b>1,730,427</b>
	(up 3.7% from FY10)

\*New Haven is the 11th busiest station in the national Amtrak System.

### Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak placed orders valued at \$46,953,866 for goods and services in Connecticut in FY11. Much of this amount was in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Branford	\$ 1,000,343
Bridgeport	\$ 23,466,256
Danbury	\$ 3,189,663
Hartford	\$ 4,208,109
Middletown	\$ 3,129,884

Plainville	\$ 4,989,460
Southbury	\$ 1,027,507
Wilton	\$ 1,099,610

## Employment

At the end of FY11, Amtrak employed 666 Connecticut residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Connecticut were \$55,163,243 during FY11.

## Contract Commuter Services

Amtrak operates the daily Shore Line East (SLE) commuter service between New Haven and New London for the Connecticut Department of Transportation (ConnDOT). The agreement to operate this service has been extended to June 30, 2013. In 2007, the Connecticut legislature directed ConnDOT to implement a three-phase expansion plan starting in 2008, to include introduction of weekend service, service extensions to New London, and upgrading SLE stations for full, bi-directional service. Weekend service to Old Saybrook began in June 2008 with eight round-trips. In May 2010, four additional round-trips were extended to New London. Current weekday operations consist of 16 trains between New Haven and Old Saybrook and 10 between New Haven and New London. In 2010, SLE carried over 585,000 passengers.

## Major Facilities

Amtrak owns and operates a rail yard in New Haven where routine maintenance and equipment repair take place. It services both electric and diesel locomotives.

There are several moveable bridges along the Northeast Corridor in southeastern Connecticut. Three of these bridges—Thames, Niantic, and Connecticut River, built circa 1907-1919—have needed varying levels of repair or replacement to improve reliability and decrease the chance of a failure that will shut off either train or boat traffic. In recent years, both Thames and Niantic have been prone to operating failures and unreliability. Thames needed emergency repairs in 2004 to keep it in operation. Connecticut River has some serious structural deficiencies that need to be addressed, and a feasibility study is planned to determine whether to repair or replace the bridge.

During Fiscal 2005, Amtrak awarded a \$59.8-million contract to Cianbro Corporation of Pittsfield, Maine, for the rehabilitation of the Thames River Bridge, located between New London and Groton. The entire project cost \$76 million. In a 10-day process, the existing 1919 bascule lift portion of the bridge was removed and a new vertical lift segment installed in its place. This required a four-day closure of the railroad at New London in June 2008. In February 2010, a \$20 million stimulus program contract was awarded to Liberty-Alpha Joint Venture for painting and for steel repairs on the four approach spans on the Thames River. This project was completed in December 2010.

A contract to replace the 102-year-old Niantic River Bridge between East Lyme and Waterford was awarded to Cianbro-Middlesex Joint Venture VII in February 2010. The new bridge will improve

reliability, reduce the chances of operational failure, and help minimize train and river traffic delays. The new trunnion-bearing bascule bridge will replace the existing rolling-girder-type bascule bridge. The project includes the replacement of portions of East Lyme's Niantic Bay Overlook Walkway and associated beach replenishment. Completion of the \$125-million project is scheduled for May 2013.

A contract to replace a 76-foot, two-track bridge in East Lyme over the Miamicock (Pattagansett) River was awarded in August 2009 to the Cardi Corporation, for \$14 million. This work, using ARRA stimulus funds, was completed in July 2011.

A contract to replace two bridges (East and West Harbor) in Stonington was awarded in October 2009, with a cost of \$21 million. This work, also using ARRA stimulus funds, is to be completed during November 2011.

### **New Haven-Springfield High-Speed Corridor Improvements**

Connecticut received a federal High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) grant in 2009, providing \$40 million to construct 10.5 miles of second track between Meriden and Newington, along with track realignment, rehabilitation of existing freight sidings, and improvements to grade crossings and signal systems. Connecticut received another federal High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) grant in October 2010, providing \$120 million toward a total project cost of \$480 million for New Haven-Springfield improvements. With a reduced amount received for the second grant, ConnDOT revised the scope of work to, New Haven to Hartford. A third grant of \$30 million was received in 2011 which will allow an additional 5.8 miles of double track north of Hartford Station.