



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2008 State of Michigan

Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak serves Michigan with three daily *Wolverine Service* round-trips on the Chicago-Battle Creek-Ann Arbor-Detroit-Pontiac route. Amtrak also operates the *Blue Water* (daily Port Huron-East Lansing-Chicago) and the *Pere Marquette* (daily Grand Rapids-Chicago) corridor services through Michigan.

During FY08 Amtrak served the following Michigan locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Albion	1,817
Ann Arbor	148,594
Bangor	3,710
Battle Creek	57,264
Birmingham	19,714
Dearborn	75,840
Detroit	59,973
Dowagiac	2,919
Durand	9,310
East Lansing	51,012
Flint	26,134
Grand Rapids	57,465
Holland	40,463
Jackson	27,902
Kalamazoo	119,121
Lapeer	7,473
New Buffalo	3,297
Niles	19,286
Pontiac	16,546
Port Huron	14,115
Royal Oak	30,362
St. Joseph/Benton Harbor	8,521
Total Michigan Station Usage:	800,838

Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak expended \$13,647,481 for goods and services in Michigan in FY08. Most of this money was spent in the following locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Clarkston	\$ 2,051,768
Detroit	\$ 1,309,925
Pontiac	\$ 5,947,493
Rockford	\$ 1,142,092

State-Assisted Services

The State of Michigan supports the operations of two daily train services, the *Blue Water* (Port Huron-East Lansing-Chicago), and the *Pere Marquette* (Grand Rapids-Chicago). Ridership on the *Blue Water* increased 7.0% over FY07 to 136,538 passengers. Ridership on the *Pere Marquette* reached 111,716 in FY08, a 6.6% increase over FY07.

Facilities

In Niles, Amtrak operates an engineering department branch that maintains the 97-mile track segment between Kalamazoo and Porter, Indiana. Amtrak employees maintain the track for high-speed service and are continuing work on increasing speeds along this segment.

Station Improvements

- The City of Jackson received a \$250,000 state grant to fund a renovation of their historic depot.
- Ground was broken for a new station in New Buffalo along the Amtrak-owned (*Wolverine/Blue Water*) line. The station relocation will allow for a doubling of daily service to the community. The New Buffalo stop will be relocated from the CSX (*Pere Marquette*) line during FY09. The new station will be in a more attractive, downtown location.
- Amtrak is assisting the cities of Troy and Birmingham with the planned relocation of the Birmingham station (serving both communities) to a joint, mixed-use development. The new station will be intermodal in nature, with suburban bus and airport coach service available. Amtrak provides engineering consulting services free of charge to communities pursuing new or improved station projects.

Capital Projects

The 97-mile segment between Kalamazoo and Porter, Indiana, on the Detroit-Chicago route, is the longest stretch of track Amtrak owns outside of its Washington-New York-Boston Northeast Corridor. The Federal Railroad Administration has designated the Detroit-Chicago corridor as a high-speed corridor.

Amtrak has partnered with the FRA and the State of Michigan to develop a radio-based train communication system, called the Incremental Train Control System (ITCS). It is currently in high-speed revenue service on Amtrak-owned track in Michigan and works to prevent train-to-train collisions, train overspeed conditions, and protect on-track roadway workers.

The ultimate goal of this high-speed project is to reduce the total Detroit-Chicago travel from the current 5½ hours to 3½ hours. In January 2002, 90 mile-per-hour service began on a segment of the Amtrak owned right-of-way; and part of that segment was increased to 95 mph on September 19, 2005.

Additional speed increases to 100 mph and ultimately 110 over portions of the Amtrak-owned line are planned.

Expansion Planning

Amtrak has been conducting a study of the feasibility of establishing commuter-type rail service between Ann Arbor and Detroit, with several intermediate stops. Results of the study, to determine ridership, revenue, the local operating contribution, and required capital upgrades, will be provided to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, which requested the study.