



## Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2009 State of Minnesota

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### Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one long-distance train through Minnesota, the *Empire Builder* (daily Chicago-St. Paul/Minneapolis-Seattle/Portland).

During FY09 Amtrak served the following Minnesota locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Detroit Lakes	4,522
Red Wing	10,642
St. Cloud	11,952
St. Paul-Minneapolis (Midway Station)	133,674
Staples	6,269
Winona	24,886
<b>Total Minnesota Station Usage:</b>	<b>191,945</b>

### Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak expended \$7,665,972 for goods and services in Minnesota in FY09. Most of these expenditures occurred in these places:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hamel	\$ 4,767,221
St. Paul	\$ 1,432,249

### Employment

At the end of FY09, Amtrak employed 44 Minnesota residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Minnesota were \$3,620,473 during FY09.

### Station Improvements

Amtrak supports efforts by Ramsey County and the City of Saint Paul to restore passenger rail service to St. Paul Union Depot, which was opened in 1923 and closed to rail traffic in 1971. Amtrak has agreed in principle to begin service at Union Depot once necessary track work and other related investments are made. Union Depot is envisioned to be an intermodal facility that would include local transit, intercity bus, and commuter rail.

The Detroit Lakes depot was renovated in mid-2008, through a partnership between the White Earth Department of Transportation and Minnesota Department of Transportation. The White Earth tribe leases the building from BNSF Railway for service by White Earth Transit, Jefferson Bus Lines, and Amtrak. The \$575,000 project restored the depot to its original 1908 appearance.

The Staples Historical Society acquired the Northern Pacific depot, built in 1909, from the BNSF Railway and has begun an exterior stabilization project. The society’s goals are to restore the station as a focal point of community activity, to serve as a home for the society, and maintain the building’s role as a passenger rail station.

**State Partnership**

Amtrak continues to lend support and actively participate in efforts by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to develop a state passenger and rail freight plan, especially through involvement on the Minnesota Passenger Rail Forum and the Minnesota State Rail Plan Policy Advisory Committee.

**Stimulus Funding, Fiscal 2009**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) provided Amtrak with \$1.3 billion for capital investments, including \$446 million for security and life safety improvements and \$842 million for rebuilding and modernizing infrastructure and equipment. Included in the latter category is a Mobility First program, designed as an immediate-action program to reduce as many accessibility barriers as possible prior to Amtrak’s deadline of July 26, 2010, to bring stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Mobility First investments can include wheelchair lifts, connecting walkways, and designated parking spaces. Investments planned for Minnesota include:

Detroit Lakes	Mobility First	\$ 91,000
Red Wing	Mobility First	\$ 45,000
St. Cloud	Mobility First	\$ 113,000
St. Paul	maintenance facility upgrades	\$ 85,000
St. Paul	Mobility First	\$ 24,000
St. Paul	platform tactile edge	\$ 125,000
St. Paul	station security and life safety	\$ 2,465,000
Staples	Mobility First	\$ 98,000
Winona	Mobility First	\$ 81,000
<b>Total Minnesota ARRA funds:</b>		<b>\$ 3,127,000</b>