



Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2008 State of Minnesota

Amtrak Service & Ridership

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

During FY08 Amtrak served the following Minnesota locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
Detroit Lakes	4,659
Red Wing	10,584
St. Cloud	14,206
St. Paul-Minneapolis (Midway Station)	147,791
Staples	8,606
Winona	26,351
Total Minnesota Station Usage:	212,197

The *Empire Builder* is Amtrak's most popular long-distance train, with 554,266 passengers carried in FY08. This represents an increase of 9.8% over FY07.

Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak expended \$6,795,795 for goods and services in Minnesota in FY08. Most of these expenditures occurred in these places:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hamel	\$ 4,554,556
St. Paul	\$ 1,476,041

Employment

At the end of FY08, Amtrak employed 43 Minnesota residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Minnesota were \$3,547,313 during FY08.

Stations

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.