



# Amtrak Fact Sheet, Fiscal Year 2016

## State of Wisconsin

### Amtrak-Wisconsin partnership

- *Hiawatha Service* – seven daily round trips, Milwaukee-Chicago
- Additional service is being studied
- Nearly 74,000 Wisconsin residents are members of the Amtrak Guest Rewards frequent user program

### Amtrak Service & Ridership

Amtrak operates one National Network train through Wisconsin, the *Empire Builder* (daily Chicago-Milwaukee-St. Paul-Seattle/Portland via Columbus, Portage, Wisconsin Dells, Tomah, and La Crosse); and the State Supported *Hiawatha Service*, seven daily round-trips, Milwaukee-Chicago.

During FY16 Amtrak served the following Wisconsin locations:

<u>City</u>	<u>Boardings + Alightings</u>
<a href="#">Columbus</a>	14,005
<a href="#">La Crosse</a>	26,619
<a href="#">Milwaukee</a>	597,134
<a href="#">Milwaukee Airport</a>	159,632
<a href="#">Portage</a>	7,786
<a href="#">Sturtevant</a>	76,987
<a href="#">Tomah</a>	13,083
<a href="#">Wisconsin Dells</a>	14,419
<b>Total Wisconsin Station Usage:</b>	<b>909,665</b>

(up 1.9% from FY15)

### Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak spent \$14,945,782 on goods and services in Wisconsin in FY16, most of which in:

<u>City</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Brownsville	\$ 1,781,959
Glendale	\$ 2,321,310
Milwaukee	\$ 2,625,396
Oak Creek	\$ 5,538,818

## Employment

At the end of FY16, Amtrak employed 60 Wisconsin residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Wisconsin were \$4,656,091 during FY16.

## 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.

The State of Wisconsin, in partnership with the State of Illinois, funds the operation of seven daily, round-trip *Hiawatha Service* trains between Milwaukee and Chicago. With seven frequencies in each direction daily, the service is the most heavily used Amtrak route in the Midwest.

## 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* National Network train. The report also provided a “high-level” examination of capital start-up costs, such as equipment acquisition and infrastructure improvements needed to accommodate the additional frequency of 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 environmental assessment/impact process.

**Additional Hiawatha Frequencies:** Three more daily round-trips are in preliminary discussions. This would allow for a total of ten daily trains in each direction.









## Station Improvements

**Improving ADA Accessibility:** Amtrak completed projects to improve path of travel from the public right-of-way to the train platform, restrooms, and signage at Columbus. Construction work, as part of Amtrak’s nationwide Americans with Disabilities Act compliance plan, is projected in FY17 at Portage and Tomah.

- **Columbus:** Amtrak partnered with Wisconsin DOT, CP Rail, and local businesses to rehabilitate the parking lot and walkway areas around the Columbus station. This work was supplementary to the ADA improvements mentioned above.
- **Milwaukee Intermodal Station:** Work was completed in summer 2016 on a new mezzanine over the tracks, with escalators and elevators that connect to new, ADA-compliant platforms.

# AMTRAK ROUTES IN WISCONSIN

**TRACK OWNERSHIP**

 Amtrak	 NS
 UP	 CP
 BNSF	 CN
 CSX	 Other

