

News Release



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AMTRAK RIDERSHIP GROWTH CONTINUES IN FY 2013 March sets record as single best month in history of railroad

WASHINGTON – [Amtrak](#) ridership increased in the first half of FY 2013 (Oct. 2012 – March 2013) and March set a record as the single best month ever in the history of America’s Railroad®. In addition, October, December, and January each set individual monthly records.

Rebounding strongly from service disruptions caused by Superstorm Sandy and other severe weather, Amtrak ridership grew 0.9 percent in the first six months of FY 2013 as compared to the same period the prior year. In all, 26 of 45 routes posted ridership increases and Amtrak expects to end the fiscal year at or above last year’s record of 31.2 million passengers.

“The continued ridership growth on routes across the country reinforces the need for dedicated, multi-year federal operating and capital funding to support existing intercity passenger rail services and the development of new ones,” said Amtrak President and CEO Joe Boardman.

Northeast Corridor ridership took a significant hit from Superstorm Sandy, is seeing a solid recovery and is predicted to show gains for the full fiscal year despite being down 1.2 percent for this six-month period. Ridership on state-supported and other short distance routes is up 2.7 percent and long-distance ridership grew 0.5 percent.

Routes with notable ridership growth in the first six months of FY 2013 include:

[Palmetto](#) (+10.5 percent), [Coast Starlight](#) (+10 percent), [Illini/Saluki](#) (+9.8 percent), [San Joaquin](#) (+8.9 percent), [Piedmont](#) (+8.6 percent), [Wolverine](#) (+8.2 percent), [Vermont](#) (+6.7 percent), [Carolinian](#) (+6.3 percent), [Keystone Service](#) (+5.2 percent), [Springfield Shuttles](#) (+5.2 percent), [Downeaster](#) (+4.8 percent), [Pacific Surfliner](#) (+4.3 percent), and [Pennsylvanian](#) (+4.3 percent).

Amtrak®

Amtrak is America’s Railroad®, the nation’s intercity passenger rail service and its high-speed rail operator. A record 31.2 million passengers traveled on Amtrak in FY 2012 on more than 300 daily trains – at speeds up to 150 mph (241 kph) – that connect 46 states, the District of Columbia and three Canadian Provinces. Amtrak operates intercity trains in partnership with 15 states and contracts with 13 commuter rail agencies to provide a variety of services. Enjoy the journey® at [Amtrak.com](#) or call 800-USA-RAIL for schedules, fares and more information. Join us on [facebook.com/Amtrak](#) and follow us at [twitter.com/Amtrak](#).

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Amtrak Ridership

Northeast Corridor	March FY13			October-March FY13		
	Ridership			Ridership		
	FY13	FY12	% change vs. FY12	FY13	FY12	% change vs. FY12
<i>Acela Express</i>	306,319	314,024	-2.5	1,617,371	1,674,255	-3.4
<i>Northeast Regional</i>	721,776	708,105	+1.9	3,858,971	3,864,340	-0.1
<i>Special Trains</i>	427	740	-42.3	6,295	8,402	-25.1
Subtotal	1,028,522	1,022,869	+0.6	5,482,637	5,546,997	-1.2
State Supported and Other Short Distance Corridors						
<i>Ethan Allen</i>	4,648	4,088	+13.7	25,396	24,729	+2.7
<i>Vermont</i>	8,082	7,305	+10.6	41,995	39,372	+6.7
<i>Albany-Niagara Falls-Toronto</i>	37,973	33,547	+13.2	193,396	187,035	+3.4
<i>Downeaster Service</i>	45,842	44,561	+2.9	256,410	244,580	+4.8
<i>Shuttles (New Haven-Springfield)</i>	36,962	33,196	+11.3	194,696	184,995	+5.2
<i>Keystone Service</i>	133,913	122,936	+8.9	723,461	687,860	+5.2
<i>Empire Service (New York City-Albany)</i>	95,193	90,514	+5.2	513,993	518,002	-0.8
<i>Lincoln Service (Chicago-St. Louis)</i>	64,009	62,444	+2.5	322,220	314,864	+2.3
<i>Hiawatha Service</i>	69,307	73,087	-5.2	387,818	405,248	-4.3
<i>Wolverine Service</i>	46,754	41,770	+11.9	245,073	226,551	+8.2
<i>Illini/Saluki (Chicago-Carbondale)</i>	33,912	29,533	+14.8	173,645	158,100	+9.8
<i>Illinois Zephyr/Carl Sandburg (Chicago-Quincy)</i>	20,512	20,426	+0.4	112,888	111,504	+1.2
<i>Heartland Flyer</i>	8,688	9,392	-7.5	38,059	40,610	-6.3
<i>Pacific Surfliner Service</i>	224,648	234,254	-4.1	1,254,633	1,202,878	+4.3
<i>Amtrak Cascades Service</i>	65,714	63,851	+2.9	358,252	371,375	-3.5
<i>Capitol Corridor Service</i>	145,271	152,514	-4.7	838,741	872,588	-3.9
<i>San Joaquin Service</i>	104,970	97,561	+7.6	584,724	536,893	+8.9
<i>Adirondack</i>	12,277	10,469	+17.3	57,493	56,026	+2.6
<i>Blue Water</i>	17,129	17,618	-2.8	86,408	89,190	-3.1
<i>Washington-Lynchburg</i>	16,892	18,474	-8.6	87,548	89,078	-1.7
<i>Washington-Newport News</i>	50,599	52,553	-3.7	276,383	284,333	-2.8
<i>Washington-Norfolk</i>	12,238	-	-	45,882	-	-
<i>Hoosier State</i>	3,690	3,489	+5.8	18,279	17,760	+2.9
<i>Missouri River Runner (Kansas City-St. Louis)</i>	19,946	19,775	+0.9	93,571	91,712	+2.0
<i>Pennsylvanian</i>	20,035	17,060	+17.4	105,476	101,150	+4.3
<i>Pere Marquette</i>	8,668	9,735	-11.0	49,401	50,520	-2.2
<i>Carolinian</i>	30,438	18,924	+60.8	152,866	143,762	+6.3
<i>Piedmont Service</i>	16,273	14,760	+10.3	88,261	81,272	+8.6
<i>Special Trains</i>	4,200	8,764	-52.1	23,650	25,929	-8.8
Subtotal	1,358,783	1,312,600	+3.5	7,350,618	7,157,916	+2.7
Long Distance						
<i>Silver Star</i>	37,285	40,005	-6.8	204,502	216,223	-5.4
<i>Cardinal</i>	9,589	11,009	-12.9	52,634	54,400	-3.2
<i>Silver Meteor</i>	35,213	34,996	+0.6	181,446	181,765	-0.2
<i>Empire Builder</i>	46,699	50,054	-6.7	255,652	257,471	-0.7
<i>Capitol Ltd.</i>	19,587	19,292	+1.5	103,977	103,125	+0.8
<i>California Zephyr</i>	34,393	35,353	-2.7	179,413	174,871	+2.6
<i>Southwest Chief</i>	32,146	32,144	+0.0	167,604	166,616	+0.6
<i>City of New Orleans</i>	24,113	24,255	-0.6	123,133	124,091	-0.8
<i>Texas Eagle</i>	34,425	34,682	-0.7	164,270	163,922	+0.2
<i>Sunset Limited</i>	10,448	9,746	+7.2	50,424	49,427	+2.0
<i>Coast Starlight</i>	39,104	36,753	+6.4	224,190	203,845	+10.0
<i>Lake Shore Limited</i>	34,051	34,536	-1.4	184,731	186,270	-0.8
<i>Palmetto</i>	16,103	10,074	+59.8	96,835	87,657	+10.5
<i>Crescent</i>	29,103	29,070	+0.1	141,197	149,121	-5.3
<i>Auto Train</i>	26,590	25,923	+2.6	128,781	127,719	+0.8
Subtotal	428,849	427,892	+0.2	2,258,789	2,246,523	+0.5
Amtrak Total	2,816,154	2,763,361	+1.9	15,092,044	14,951,436	+0.9

NOTE: Ridership to some locations south and west of Chicago is on both state-supported and national system Amtrak trains, as reported above.
 Combined ridership of all Amtrak trains on these corridors is as follows for Oct. 12 - March 13: Chicago-St. Louis, 363,302 (up 3% from Oct. 12 - March 13);
 Chicago-Carbondale, 199,913 (up 9% from Oct. 12 - March 13) and Chicago-Quincy 130,423 (up 1% from Oct. 12 - March 13).