Amtrak in Nebraska

Fiscal Year 2024

Amtrak is America's Railroad,® created by Congress to "provide efficient and effective intercity passenger rail mobility consisting of high quality service that is trip-time competitive with other intercity travel options." In FY 2024, the company's 22,000+ employees operated an average of almost 300 intercity trains per day along 47 permanent routes, serving a record 32.8 million passengers. Amtrak's network includes 524 regularly-scheduled stops across 46 states, 3 Canadian provinces, and Washington, DC. Partner-operated Thruway routes offer connecting service to additional communities, typically via bus.

Service & Ridership

In FY 2024, Amtrak operated an average of **2 intercity trains per day** on 1 permanent route serving Nebraska, with **44,207 total passengers** boarding or alighting in the state.[1] Service was provided via the following route:[2]

- **Long-Distance Trains**
  - ***California Zephyr*** — Chicago - Omaha - Lincoln - Hastings - Denver - Salt Lake City - Emeryville (*San Francisco Bay area*) (*1 round trip daily*)

Stations

During FY 2024, Amtrak intercity trains made scheduled stops at 5 locations in Nebraska:

Station (Code)	**Ridership** *(Ons + Offs)*	**Amtrak ADA Responsibility**	**Amtrak ADA Compliance**	**Amtrak ADA Investment**[3]
Hastings (HAS)	4,413	Sole	Complete	$5,258,526
Holdrege (HLD)	1,710	Partial	Complete	$5,089,227
Lincoln (LNK)	11,607	None	N/A	—
McCook (MCK)	3,584	Sole	Complete	$2,897,483
Omaha (OMA)	22,893	Sole	Complete	$8,555,344
Total:	**44,207**	**4/5**	**Complete**	**$21,800,579**

Importantly, Amtrak is working to ensure that its stations are fully accessible to individuals with disabilities. Most Amtrak-served stations are decades old; many were served by other railroads before the company ever existed. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), enacted in 1990, requires that U.S. stations be made accessible; in response, Amtrak developed an ADA Stations Program (ADASP) to bring station components for which the company is responsible into full ADA compliance. ADASP aims to ensure Amtrak provides the best possible service in the shortest possible timeframe; the program will

[1] Total equals sum of all boardings and alightings at in-state stations.
[2] Not all stops shown. Note that certain frequencies may not serve every station listed.
[3] "Amtrak ADA Investment" describes Amtrak's projected total investment in compliance work over the lifetime of ADASP.

ultimately invest a total of $1.8 billion in up to 385 communities nationwide, including a **$21.8 million investment in Nebraska**. All Amtrak-responsible work is targeted for completion by the end of FY 2029.

Detailed profiles of every permanent Amtrak station stop, including current information on accessibility, can be found on the Great American Stations website: https://www.greatamericanstations.com.

Additional Footprint

Amtrak maintains a **crew base** in Lincoln.

Host Railroads & On Time Performance

Outside the Boston-to-Washington, DC, Northeast Corridor (NEC), most Amtrak trains must travel over other "host" railroads' tracks—and hosts generally control dispatching decisions on the tracks that they own. By law, Amtrak trains are supposed to receive preference over freight trains (i.e., priority in dispatching), but many host-dispatched trains arrive late at their destinations, and many routes do not meet on-time performance (OTP) standards established by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)—affecting millions of passengers per year.

Listed below are the Amtrak routes that operate in Nebraska, along with each route's major in-state host railroad(s) and full-route customer on-time performance (C-OTP)[4] in FY 2024:

Route	In-State Host(s)	C-OTP
California Zephyr	BNSF	48.5%

Procurement

Amtrak's procurements are subject to "Buy America"-style domestic preference requirements, which the company is proud to meet or exceed. Nationally, Amtrak paid nearly $4.5 billion for goods and services in FY 2024; 99% of that amount was spent domestically, and **$18.5 million** went to vendors in Nebraska:

Community	Amount
Omaha	$16,526,159
Elkhorn	$1,499,438
Lincoln	$328,774
Springfield	$100,564
Norfolk	$24,259
York	$12,047
Hastings	$4,115
Total NE Payments:	**$18,495,355**

[4] C-OTP measures the proportion of customers traveling on a given route who arrive at their destinations on time. Suppose that passengers board a train scheduled to make two stops, and suppose that train is on time at the first stop, but arrives late at the second. If all passengers alight at the first stop, C-OTP for that train is 100%; if all passengers alight at the second stop, C-OTP is 0%.

The single largest in-state payment category was **construction services.**

Employment & Compensation

At the end of FY 2024, **18 Amtrak employees** worked in Nebraska, and the company had paid out a total of **$1,711,128 in base wages and salary** in-state. Nationwide, Amtrak employed more than 22,000 active employees; total base wages and salaries for the year exceeded $2.1 billion.

Current Amtrak Routes in Nebraska

