



Who Rides Trains Around the Nation?

Maine: Hosts one of the fastest growing passenger routes in the nation. In fact, the state-supported Amtrak “**Downeaster**” led the nation in 2008 with an increase of ridership with over 474,000 passengers traveling the Portland and Boston Corridor, an increase of over 31-percent over the previous year. In fact, the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority reports a graduated fare structure is a major reason 25-percent of their riders are business travelers. Their marketing also successfully ties in to sports, arts and entertainment events all along the corridor. (Source: NNEPRA)

California: Since its inception in 1998, the California Capitol Corridor has grown service from 8 daily trains and 463,000 annual passengers to 32 trains per day attracting nearly \$1.7 million riders. Approximately 60% of their riders travel on business or commute to jobs and are frequent users of discounted, multi-ride tickets. Another 20% travel for personal reasons and 14% for leisure. (CCCJPA)

Michigan: Since initiating state-supported service in 1994, ridership on 5 routes has grown from a total of slightly over 439,000 passengers to approximately 721,000 passengers in 2008. Increases in both train frequencies and better services are attributed as reasons for the increases. (MDOT)

North Carolina: North Carolina trains are seeing a growing market of students and women business travelers according to NCDOT. When gasoline spiked at \$4 per gallon, North Carolina passenger rail ridership rose 24%. With gasoline now around 2\$ per gallon, ridership is still up by 7%.

Amtrak: Amtrak has posted six consecutive years of growth in ridership and revenue on its national system, carrying more than **28.7 million passengers** in the last fiscal year. Last year also saw ridership gains on **every** Amtrak route nationwide for the first time ever.