



Who Will Ride Trains in Ohio?

If the experience of other states is any indication, a broad range of people will ride reliable, frequent and convenient passenger trains in Ohio. They will ride for business, connect to jobs, education, health care, recreation, shopping and a variety of other reasons. Riders will include:

- 8.6% of Ohioans who either do not have access to a motor vehicle or are physically unable to drive.
- Generations of young people, both students and professionals. Noted author Richard Florida calls them “The Creative Class”: an estimated 40 million strong, making up 30% of the U.S. workforce, with 50% of wages earned and controlling nearly 70% of discretionary spending in the US and who are or are seeking to be less and less dependent on owning and operating a motor vehicle.
- Growing population of older Ohioans: the U.S. Census predicts that Ohioans age 65 and over will account for over 16% of the total state population by the year 2015 and 20% by 2030.
- Ohioans traveling by rail for business within the 3-Cs can gain productivity without the hassles of highway travel.

Ohio Demographics

5.8 million Ohioans live within 15 miles of the 3-C Corridor (Cleveland-Columbus-Cincinnati) making it the most densely-populated rail corridor in the United States (273 people per square mile) without passenger rail service.

Ohioans, on average, spend almost 30% of their household income on transportation according to the last U.S. Census: one of the highest rates in the nation. How would they feel about having the option of passenger trains?

A Quinnipiac University Poll (March 2009) indicates the majority of Ohioans (64%) think the redevelopment of passenger rail is a good idea. Support was especially strong among the 18 to 35 age group (73%) and above 60% for all age and economic status groups.