

THE ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF AMTRAK OPERATIONS IN THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA REGION



CLIENT

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Amtrak retained Econsult Corporation, in 2001, to carry out a comprehensive analysis of the economic and fiscal impacts of the rail carrier's operations.

The analysis involved an extensive review of all Amtrak accounts payable and salary data for the year 1996 through 2000. Using its Economic and Fiscal Impact Model, Econsult estimated the employment, wage, gross output and tax effects of Amtrak's operations in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware.

Every \$1 million dollars of direct Amtrak expenditures in the region yielded roughly \$1.6 million dollars of indirect and induced expenditures, for total expenditures of \$2.6 million. That same \$1 million of direct expenditures also yielded, on average, approximately 30 person-years of employment.

Our analysis showed that Amtrak operations have a substantial impact on the Philadelphia region. Total earnings generated in the region by Amtrak activities were estimated to equal \$607.3 million in 2000, while employment impacts represented 17,300 person-years of employment in 2000.

