

Amtrak *Cascades* Ridership and Station On-Off Information



Amtrak Cascades

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Amtrak and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) measure the public's use of Amtrak *Cascades* in two different ways. The first is ridership, which measures how many people are riding the train each year. The second is station on-offs, which measure passenger volumes per station. Both of these measurements are important, yet different.

What's the difference between ridership and station on-offs?

The best way to distinguish between ridership and station on-offs is to keep in mind where the counting is taking place. Ridership is a measurement that is made on the train. Station on-offs are measurements that are made at the station.

Amtrak Cascades Ridership

How is ridership calculated?

Ridership measures the number of people who are riding on Amtrak *Cascades*, which travels from Vancouver, B.C., to Eugene, Oregon. This measurement is calculated by counting the number of tickets sold for each train, each day. This number is then converted into monthly and annual totals for each train and for the entire Amtrak *Cascades* service.

What is it used for?

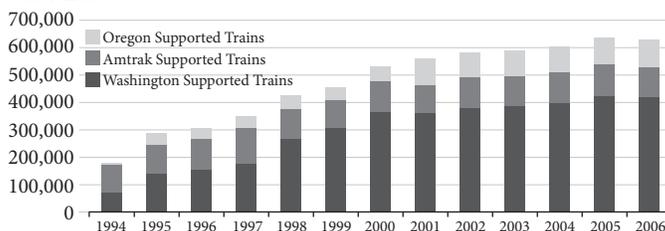
Ridership tells Amtrak, WSDOT, policymakers, and the public how popular Amtrak *Cascades* is with the traveling public, whether for an individual train or the system as a whole. It helps Amtrak and WSDOT plan for future service, manage revenues, develop marketing strategies, and set performance goals.

How many people are riding on the trains?

In 2006, 629,996 riders traveled on Amtrak *Cascades*. This is slightly less than the ridership total for 2005. For the first time since the state of Washington began investing in inter-city passenger rail service, annual ridership failed to surpass the total for the preceding year. This occurred despite the addition of a new daily round-trip train between Seattle and Portland in July 2006.

Factors contributing to ridership decline include numerous service cancellations in January, February, November, and December due to mudslides and weather-related events, fewer seats in service due to train repairs, and poor on-time performance.

Amtrak Cascades Annual Ridership 1994-2006



- 1993 — One daily Seattle-Portland round trip available
- 1994 — Second daily Seattle-Portland round trip added
- 1995 — Seattle-Vancouver, B.C. service restored after 14-year hiatus
- 1998 — Third daily Seattle-Portland round trip added
- 1999 — New daily Seattle-Bellingham service added
- 2006 — Fourth daily Seattle-Portland round trip added

Amtrak Station On-Offs for the Pacific Northwest, 1993 to 2006

How are station on-offs calculated?

Passenger volumes per station, or station on-offs, measure the number of people using a specific train station. This is determined by counting the number of people who get on and off the trains at each station each day, which is then converted into monthly and annual totals for each site.

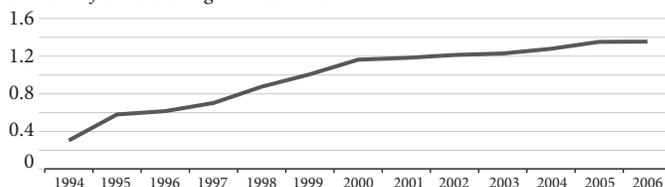
What is this measurement used for?

Station on-offs measure ridership distribution by station. They show which cities travelers prefer to start and end their trips. This measurement can help local governments and business owners gain a better understanding of the volumes of people using the community's train station. This understanding supports local planning efforts for increased tourism, new business development, better land use, and improved connections with other types of transportation.

Amtrak Cascades Station On-Offs for the Pacific Northwest, 1994-2006

Eugene, Oregon to Vancouver, British Columbia

Number of Total Passengers in Millions



Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington and between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

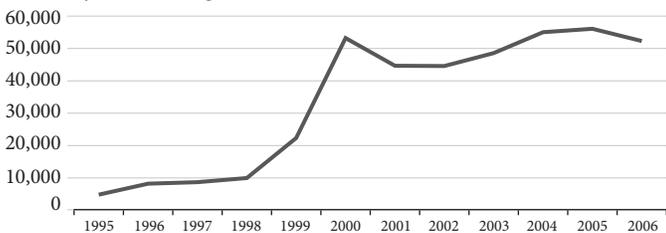
Annual Data

The following charts provide annual data about the number of people who got on and off Amtrak *Cascades* trains at each listed station from 1994 to 2006.

Washington State Stations:

Bellingham 1995-2006

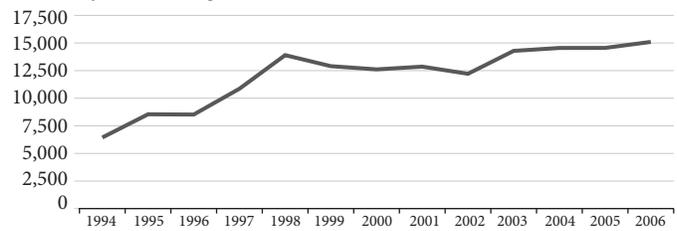
Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995.
New daily round-trip service between Seattle and Bellingham added September 1999.

Centralia 1994-2006

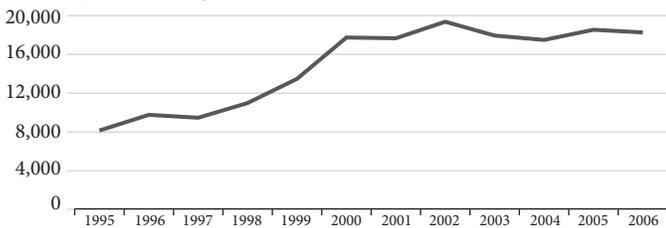
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

Edmonds 1995-2006

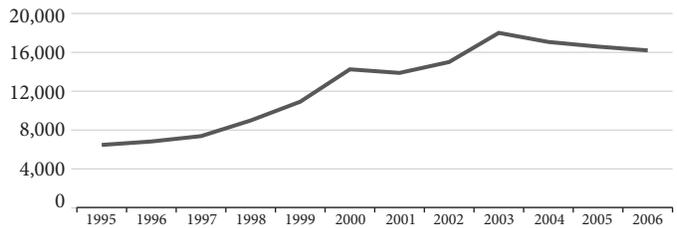
Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995.
New daily round-trip service between Seattle and Bellingham added September 1999.

Everett 1995-2006

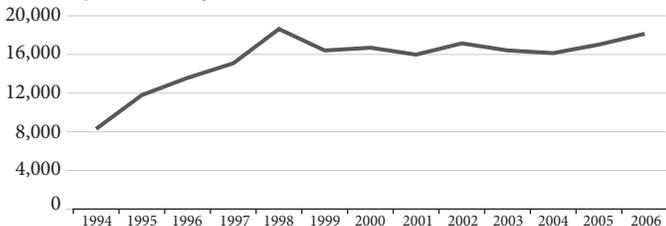
Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995.
New daily round-trip service between Seattle and Bellingham added September 1999.
New Everett Station opened December 2001.

Kelso/Longview 1994-2006

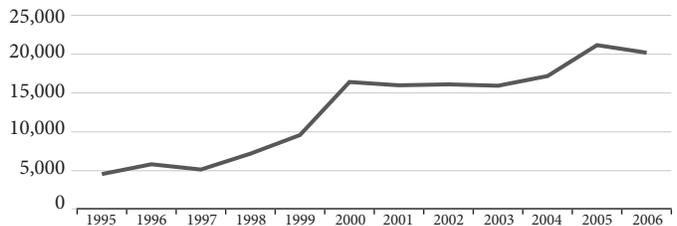
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

Mount Vernon 1995-2006

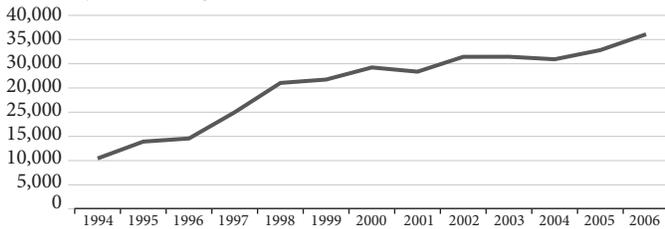
Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995.
New daily round-trip service between Seattle and Bellingham added September 1999.
New Skagit Station opened September 2004.

**Olympia/Lacey
1994-2006**

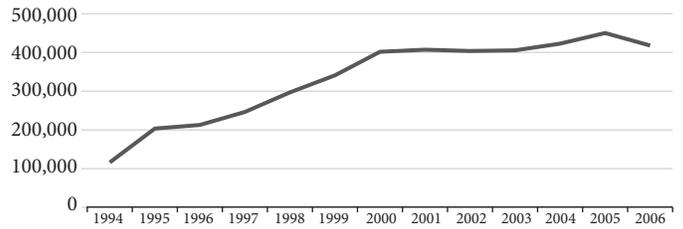
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

**Seattle
1994-2006**

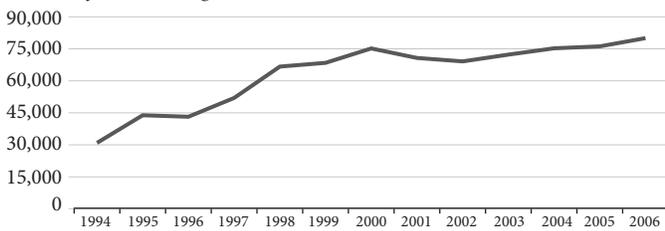
Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
New daily round trip service between Seattle and Bellingham added September 1999.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington.

**Tacoma
1994-2006**

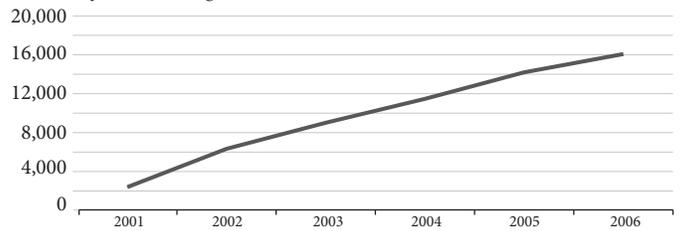
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

**Tukwila
2001-2006**

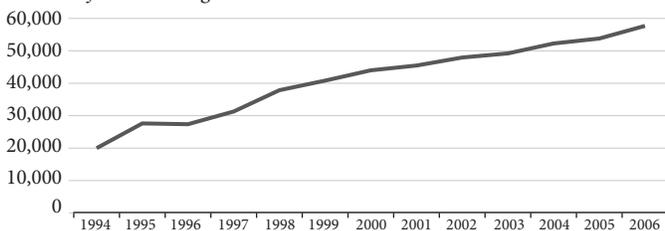
Number of Total Passengers



Amtrak Cascades began stopping in Tukwila in June 2001.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

**Vancouver, WA
1994-2006**

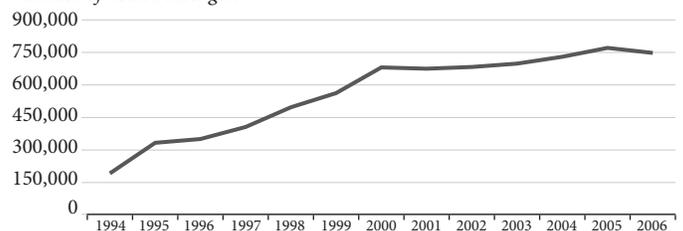
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.

**Washington State Total On-Offs for Amtrak Cascades
1994-2006**

Number of Total Passengers

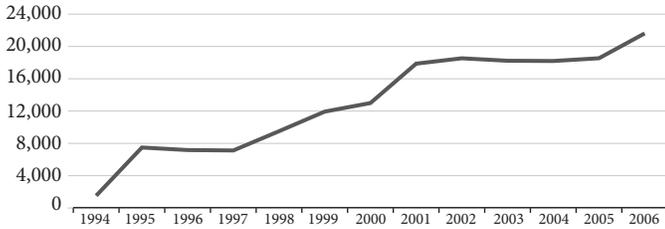


Includes stations at: Bellingham, Mount Vernon, Everett, Edmonds, Seattle, Tukwila, Tacoma, Olympia/Lacey, Centralia, Kelso/Longview, and Vancouver, WA.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington.

Oregon State Stations:

**Albany
1994-2006**

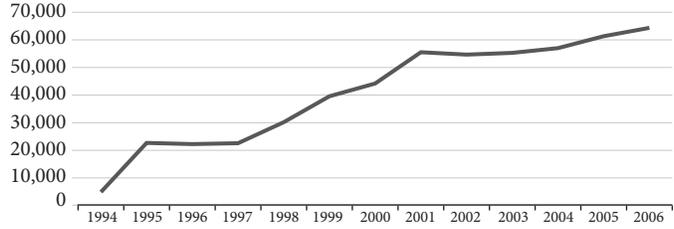
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round-trip train between Portland and Eugene added October 2000.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

**Eugene
1994-2006**

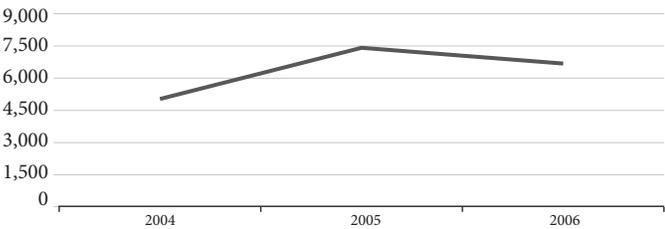
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round-trip train between Portland and Eugene added October 2000.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

**Oregon City
2004-2006**

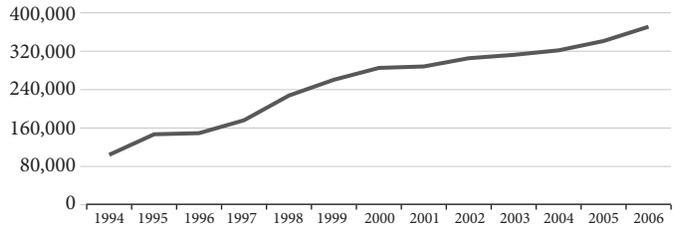
Number of Total Passengers



Amtrak service was not available to Oregon City until 2004.
New station opened in April 2004.

**Portland
1994-2006**

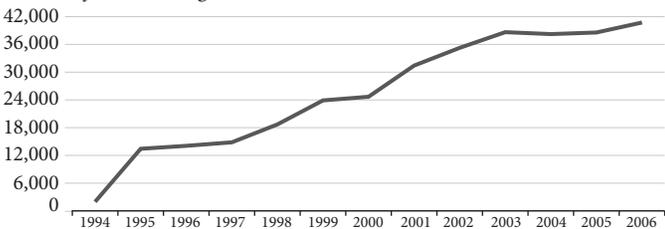
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added April 1994.
Third daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added May 1998.
Second daily round trip train between Portland and Eugene added October 2000.
Fourth daily round trip between Seattle and Portland added July 2006.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

**Salem
1994-2006**

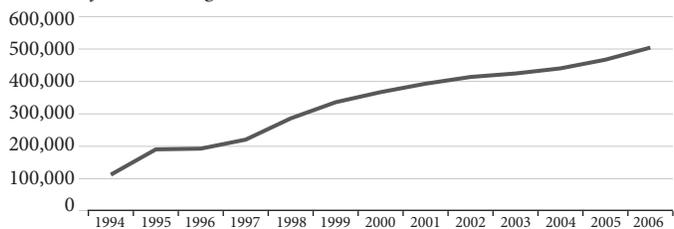
Number of Total Passengers



Second daily round-trip train between Portland and Eugene added October 2000.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

**Oregon State Total On-Offs for Amtrak Cascades
1994-2006**

Number of Total Passengers



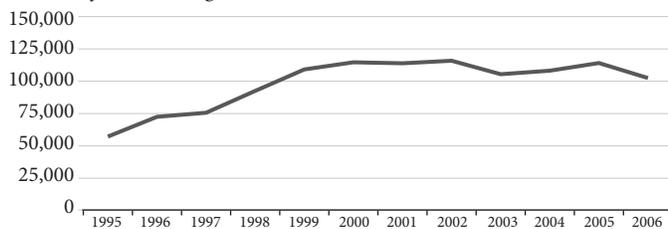
Includes stations at Portland, Oregon City, Salem, Albany, and Eugene.
Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Portland, Salem, Albany, and Eugene, Oregon.

Canadian Station:

Vancouver, BC

1995-2006

Number of Total Passengers



Service restored between Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia in May 1995. Includes passengers using Amtrak Thruway Motorcoaches (buses) between Vancouver, British Columbia and Seattle, Washington.

How has Amtrak *Cascades* service changed from 1993 to 2006?

Amtrak ridership and station on-off trends change for a variety of reasons, including:

- the number of trains people can take each day
- shorter travel times between some cities
- on-time performance
- ticket prices
- safe, clean, and accessible train stations

Here are some milestones that had a direct impact on Amtrak *Cascades* ridership and station on-offs.

1993

- Amtrak offered one daily Seattle-Portland round-trip.

1994

- Washington State sponsored regional Amtrak trains for the first time.
- Washington State and Amtrak added second daily Seattle-Portland round trip.
- Washington State leased European Talgo train for temporary use on Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor.
- Renovation of Fairhaven Station in Bellingham completed.

1995

- Oregon State sponsored its first Amtrak *Cascades* train.
- One of two existing Seattle-Portland daily round trips extended south to Eugene.
- After a 14-year hiatus, Amtrak service between Seattle and Vancouver, B.C. is reintroduced in May. WSDOT sponsored this daily round trip.
- Restoration of the Kelso Multimodal Transportation Center completed.

1996

- Washington State leased second Talgo train for temporary use in the Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor.

1998

- Third daily Seattle-Portland round trip started.

1999

- New Amtrak *Cascades* service and equipment introduced.
- Custom-built Talgo trains replace leased equipment.
- New daily Seattle-Bellingham service started. This service complimented existing Seattle-Vancouver, B.C. service.

2000

- A second daily Seattle-Portland round trip was extended south to Eugene. The state of Oregon sponsored this additional service.

2001

- A stop in Tukwila was added to existing service.

2002

- A new Amtrak station opened in Everett.
- Remodeling completed at Centralia's Union Depot.

2003

- Approximately 40 percent of Amtrak *Cascades* customers booked their trips online.
- Seattle's King Street Station renovation began.
- WSDOT purchased third Amtrak *Cascades* trainset to maintain current schedules and pave the way for service expansions.

2004

- Amtrak *Cascades* began stopping at Mount Vernon's new Skagit Station.
- Rail Plus program began. Allowed cross ticketing between Amtrak *Cascades* and Sound Transit *Sounder* trains between Everett, Edmonds, and Seattle, giving commuters more travel options.
- King Street Station renovations continued with improved restrooms, new exterior canopies, better lighting, and a refurbished main entrance at Third Avenue.

2005

- King Street Station renovations continue.
- QuikTrak ticket machine added to Mount Vernon's Skagit Station.

2006

- Fourth daily Seattle-Portland round trip begins.

Amtrak Cascades Annual Ridership

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Washington Supported Trains	72,091	139,092	154,324	174,948	265,334	304,616	363,937	359,327	379,001	385,585	398,121	420,920	417,671
Amtrak Supported Trains	99,869	106,805	112,448	131,045	110,657	104,001	113,826	105,037	111,192	110,683	112,018	116,841	110,161
Oregon Supported Trains	8,249	40,759	37,794	43,768	49,147	43,717	52,455	96,017	94,153	93,475	92,920	99,131	102,164
Total	180,209	286,656	304,566	349,761	425,138	452,334	530,218	560,381	584,346	589,743	603,059	636,892	629,996

Amtrak Cascades Total On-Offs - Eugene, Oregon to Vancouver, British Columbia

Number of Total Passengers

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	304,754	580,922	615,926	702,481	875,619	1,007,465	1,162,579	1,181,898	1,212,620	1,228,384	1,278,389	1,352,027	1,354,539

Washington State Stations:

Number of Total Passengers

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Bellingham		4,829	8,223	8,689	9,964	22,342	53,227	44,661	44,576	48,573	55,031	56,086	52,302
Centralia	6,444	8,544	8,521	10,858	13,899	12,901	12,610	12,858	12,212	14,286	14,549	14,553	15,097
Edmonds		8,147	9,762	9,464	10,982	13,475	17,736	17,658	19,364	17,936	17,486	18,535	18,262
Everett		6,462	6,817	7,367	8,978	10,915	14,248	13,879	15,002	18,003	17,066	16,586	16,197
Kelso/Longview	8,296	11,796	13,578	15,083	18,637	16,414	16,699	15,987	17,151	16,420	16,143	17,026	18,139
Mount Vernon		4,566	5,829	5,150	7,194	9,589	16,419	15,994	16,117	15,940	17,186	21,167	20,195
Olympia/Lacey	10,447	13,924	14,571	19,982	26,038	26,739	29,234	28,364	31,432	31,448	30,926	32,821	36,091
Seattle	116,120	203,431	212,797	246,328	296,771	340,756	401,516	406,954	403,662	405,263	422,555	449,959	417,686
Tacoma	30,911	43,868	43,163	51,968	66,677	68,427	75,181	70,722	69,109	72,286	75,243	76,149	80,006
Tukwila								2,402	6,337	9,014	11,470	14,194	16,074
Vancouver, WA	19,991	27,617	27,375	31,293	37,861	40,812	43,990	45,464	47,940	49,205	52,267	53,792	57,691
Washington State Totals	192,209	333,184	350,636	406,182	497,001	562,370	680,860	674,943	682,902	698,374	729,922	770,868	747,740

Oregon State Stations:

Number of Total Passengers

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Albany	1,523	7,488	7,173	7,121	9,504	11,932	12,993	17,869	18,533	18,228	18,198	18,539	21,612
Eugene	4,882	22,680	22,255	22,570	30,186	39,573	44,196	55,519	54,661	55,294	57,005	61,319	64,348
Oregon City											5,032	7,415	6,681
Portland	104,160	146,929	149,311	176,150	227,713	260,562	285,185	288,261	305,407	312,409	321,846	341,228	370,959
Salem	1,980	13,438	14,076	14,831	18,698	23,892	24,682	31,418	35,252	38,639	38,225	38,566	40,725
Oregon State Totals	112,545	190,535	192,815	220,672	286,101	335,959	367,056	393,067	413,853	424,570	440,306	467,067	504,325

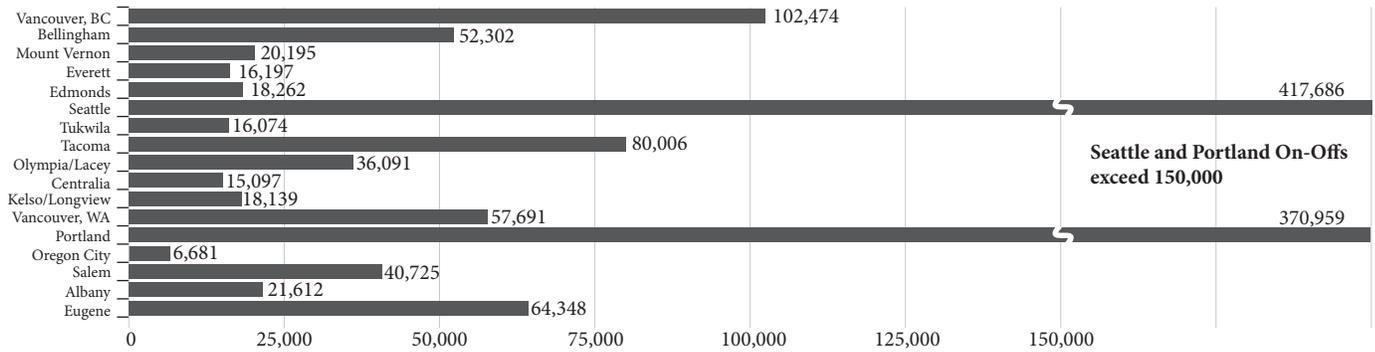
Canadian Station:

Number of Total Passengers

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Vancouver, BC		57,203	72,475	75,627	92,517	109,136	114,663	113,888	115,865	105,440	108,161	114,092	102,474

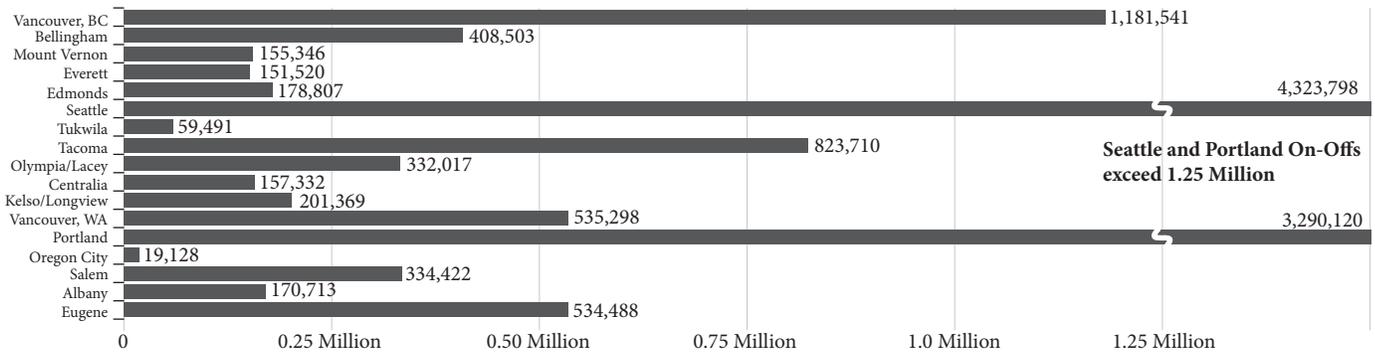
Total On-Offs Vancouver, BC to Eugene, Oregon

Number of Total Passengers in 2006



Total On-Offs Vancouver, BC to Eugene, Oregon

Number of Total Passengers from 1994-2006



For More Information

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