

## Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

The Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (NNEPRA) is the business manager for Amtrak Downeaster rail service.

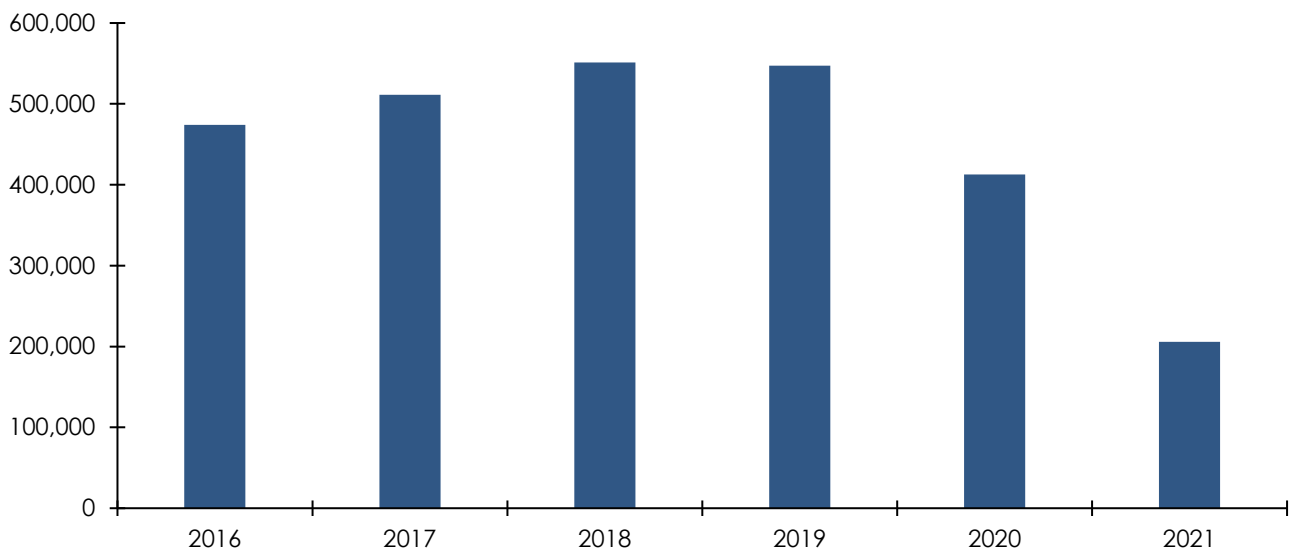
### *Service Description & Fares*

Amtrak Downeaster service consists of five daily runs between Brunswick, ME and Boston, MA. Stops in Maine include Wells, Saco, Portland, Freeport, and Brunswick. Fares vary between \$3.00 and \$36.00 depending on the specific origin and destination for general adult fares.

### *Ridership*

Total ridership for 2016 through 2021 is shown in Figure 1 below. Between 2016 and 2018, ridership rose to a high of just over 550,000 trips. Following a slight drop in 2019, ridership dropped to approximately 412,000 in 2020 with the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2021, ridership dropped to just over 200,000.

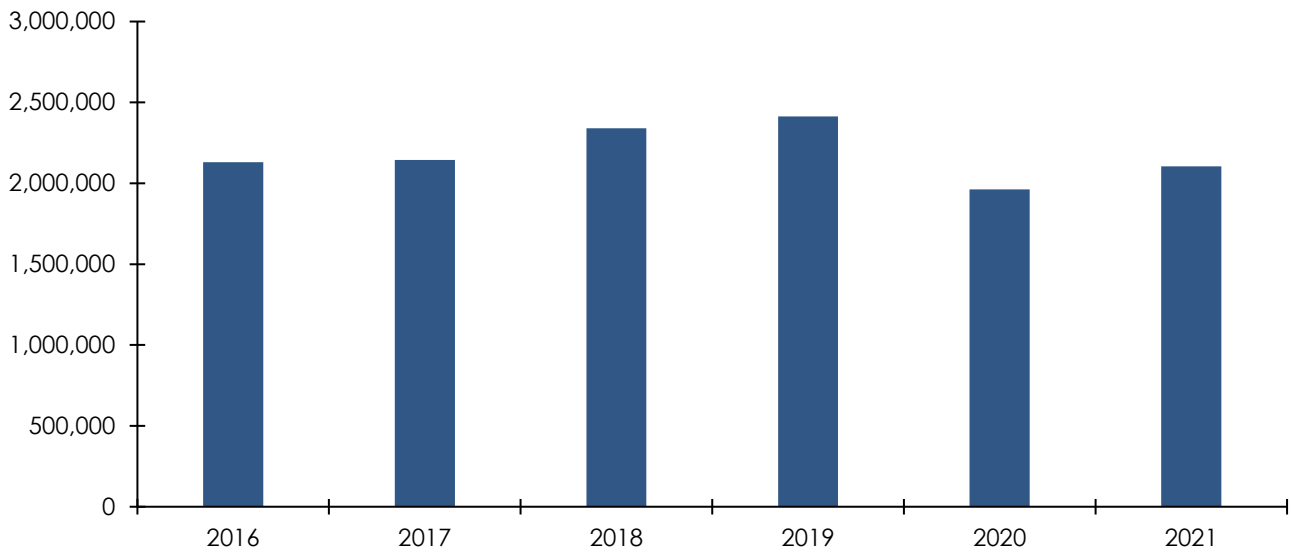
**Figure 1** NNEPRA Annual Unlinked Trips (2016–2021)



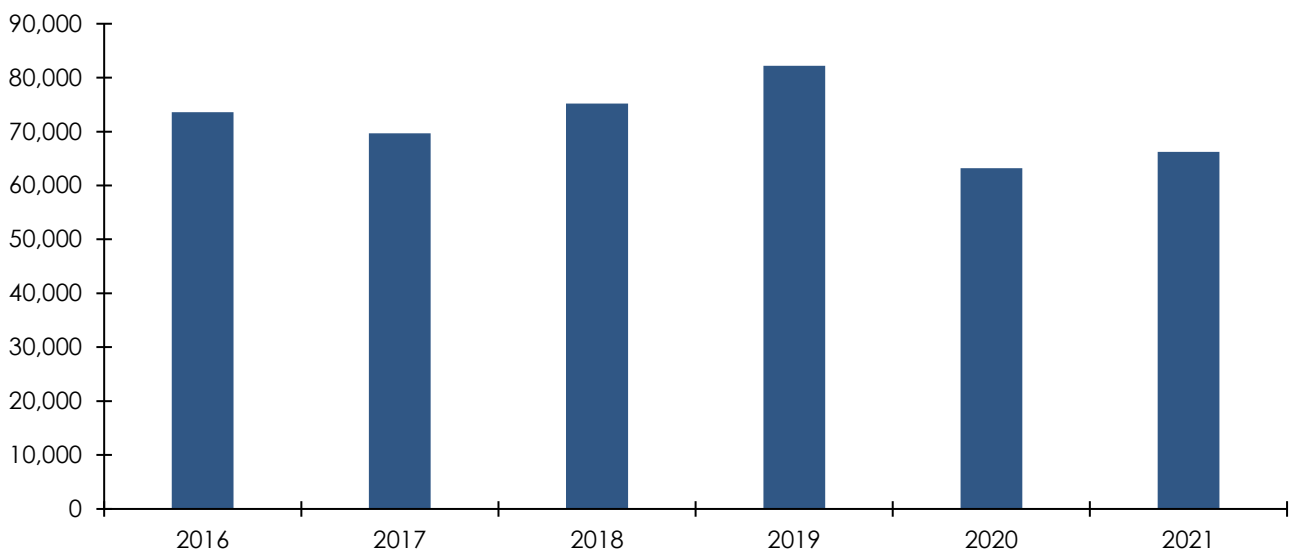
## Modal Operating Characteristics

Annual vehicle revenue miles and revenue hours are shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3. With the exception of 2020, vehicle revenue miles remained relatively steady at above 2 million. Vehicle revenue hours reached a high of approximately 82,000 in 2019, before dropping to under 70,000 through 2021.

**Figure 2** NNEPRA Vehicle Revenue Miles (2016–2021)



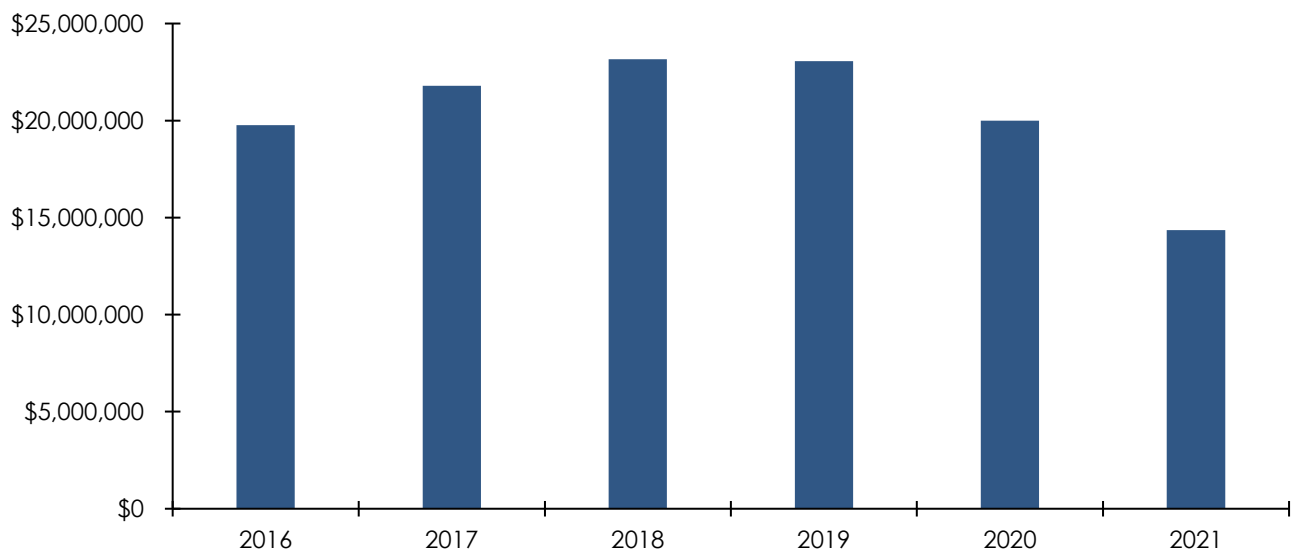
**Figure 3** NNEPRA Vehicle Revenue Hours (2016–2021)



## Budget Metrics

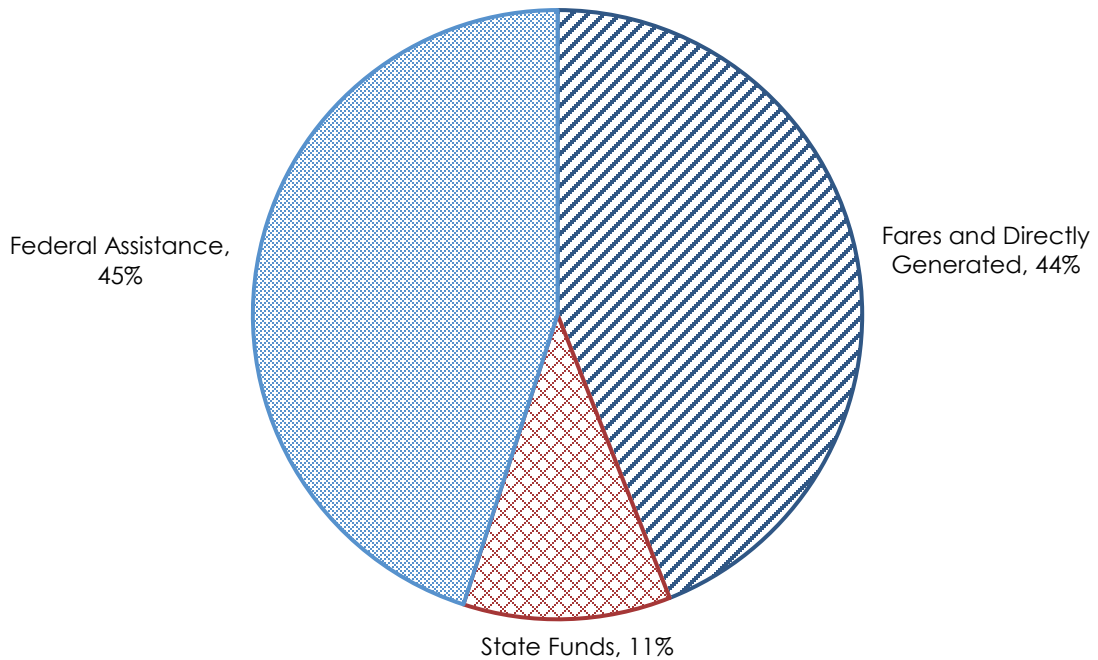
Annual operating expenses for 2016 through 2021 are shown in Figure 4 below. Between 2016 and 2020, operating expenses ranged between just under \$20 million and approximately \$23 million, while hitting a peak in 2018. In 2021, operating expenses dropped to under \$15 million.

**Figure 4** NNEPRA Operating Expenses (2016–2021)



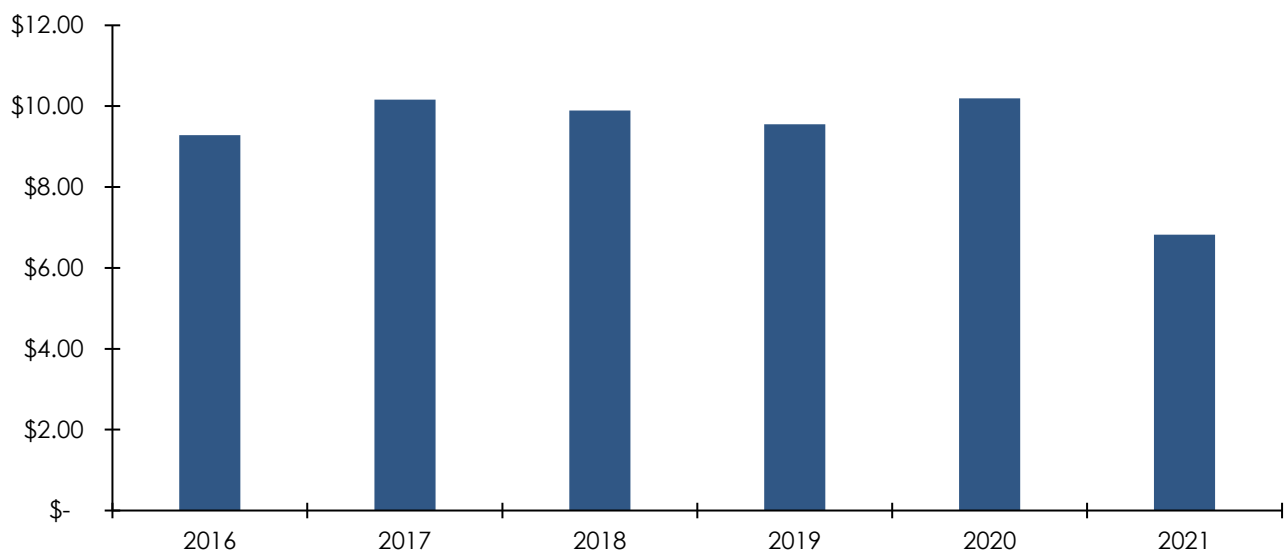
The breakdown of operating expense funding sources for 2020 is shown in Figure 5. In 2020, farebox revenue and Federal assistance accounted for 44 percent and 45 percent respectively of operating expense funding. The remaining 11 percent of funding was comprised of state funds.

**Figure 5 NNEPRA Operating Funding Sources (2020)**

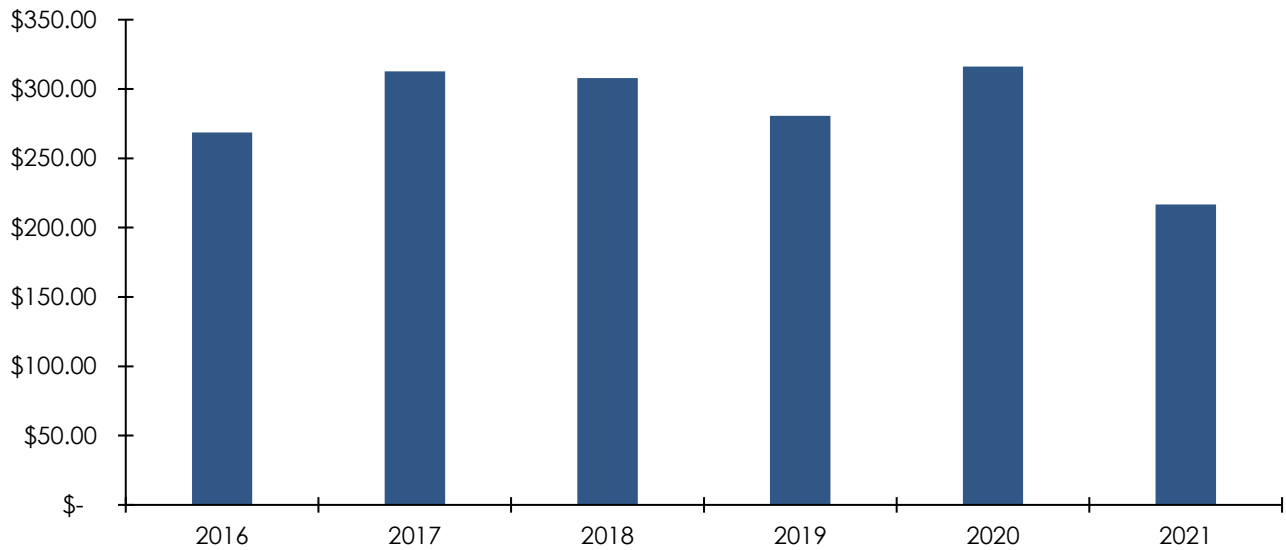


Service efficiency metrics are shown in Figure 6 and Figure 7. Between 2016 and 2020, vehicle revenue mile operating expenses ranged between approximately \$9.20 and \$10.20, with peaks in 2017 and 2020. Vehicle revenue hour operating expenses also fluctuated between approximately \$260 and \$320, with peaks in 2017 and 2020. In 2021, both metrics dropped to under \$7.00 and \$220 respectively.

**Figure 6 NNEPRA Operating Expenses per Vehicle Revenue Mile (2016–2021)**

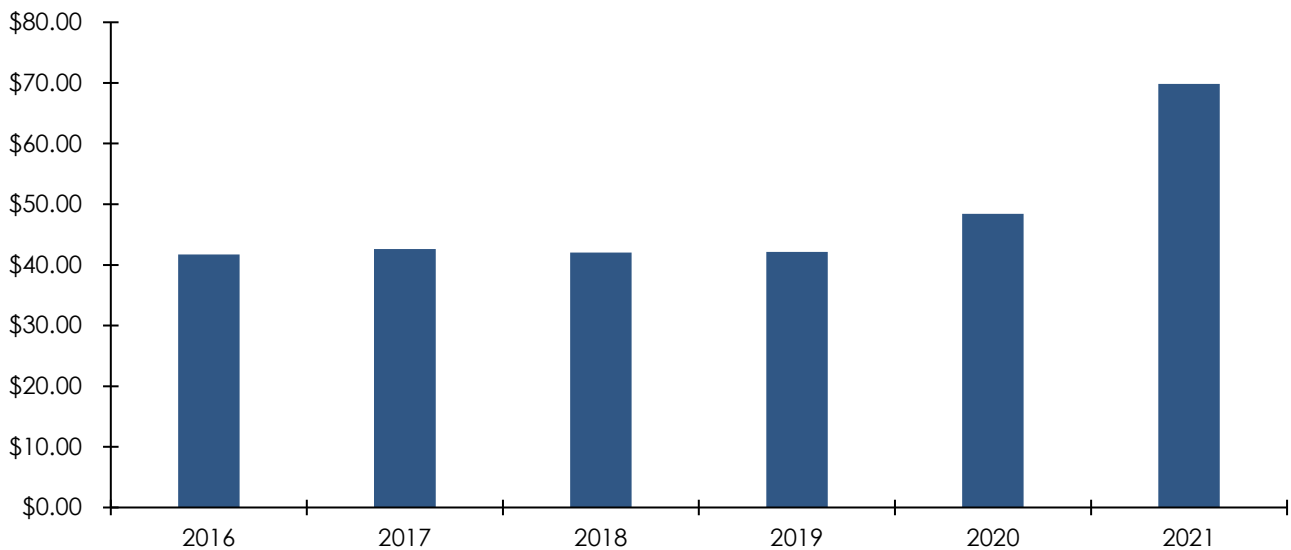


**Figure 7** NNEPRA Operating Expenses per Vehicle Revenue Hour (2016–2021)



Operating expenses per unlinked passenger trip are shown in Figure 8. Between 2016 and 2019, per passenger operating expenses held at approximately \$42.00. In 2020 and 2021, per passenger operating expenses rose to approximately \$48.00 and \$70.00 respectively.

**Figure 8** NNEPRA Operating Expenses per Unlinked Passenger Trips (2016–2021)



## *Organizational Management Structure*

NNEPRA is a State of Maine public transportation authority created to develop and provide passenger rail service between Maine and Boston. The NNEPRA Board of Directors, appointed by the Governor of Maine, is supported by the collective efforts of the staff to develop operating strategies, marketing programs, community relations, food service, and service planning activities for the Amtrak Downeaster.

Management of NNEPRA is comprised of:

- » Executive Director
- » Deputy Director
- » Grant Program and Compliance Specialist
- » Finance Manager
- » Marketing Director
- » Manager of Passenger Services
- » Manager of Special Projects
- » Office Administrator

## *Asset Management*

Transit asset management of NNEPRA is conducted through the NNEPRA Transit Asset Management Plan. In 2023, the Amtrak Downeaster fleet consisted of:

- » 21 railcars owned and maintained by Amtrak.

The Amtrak Downeaster fleet utilized for maximum service consisted of:

- » 21 railcars owned and maintained by Amtrak.