

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

Overview: The Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) mission is to ensure that our Nation has safe, secure, and efficient rail transportation that enhances the quality of life for all. The FY 2005 budget request of \$1,088 million supports our commitment to continue and improve the Nation's strong railroad safety record. It also provides limited funding to permit Amtrak to continue operating while the Administration and Congress strive to enact legislation regarding a revitalized national intercity passenger rail system.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

(Dollars In Millions)

	2003 Actual	2004 Enacted	2005 Request
Amtrak/Intercity Passenger Rail	1,043	1,218	900
Safety & Operations	116	130	142
Research & Development	29	34	36
Next Generation High-Speed Rail	30	37	10
Pennsylvania Station	20	-	-
Other	23	25	-
TOTAL	1,261	1,443	1,088



FY 2005 Budget

Grants to the National Passenger Rail Corporation/Intercity Passenger Rail: Because Congress has not yet acted on the Administration's Passenger Rail Investment Reform Act of 2003, the FY 2005 budget includes \$900 million for intercity passenger rail. However, the Administration would support as much as \$1.4 billion for its new vision for passenger rail service in subsequent years if the requested reforms are enacted.

Safety & Operations: Safety remains FRA's most important performance segment. The request for FY 2005 includes \$142 million to support the Department's goal of reducing railroad accidents and incidents, and specifically to support FRA's goals of reducing accidents, fatalities, and grade crossing accidents, while contributing to the avoidance of serious hazardous materials incidents in rail transportation. The FY 2005 budget reflects an increase of about 10 percent over the FY 2004 enacted level funding level for this account. New initiatives include funding for a third track geometry vehicle that will allow FRA to inspect an additional 30,000 track miles each year; safety inspectors of new operating practices; new inspector-trainee positions to address workforce planning and diversity issues in rail safety; and studies in the area of fatigue countermeasures.

Research & Development: In FY 2005, \$36 million is requested to support research efforts in the areas of rail systems safety, track structures, train occupant protection, human factors in train operations, rolling stock and components, track and train interaction, track control, grade crossings, and hazardous materials. The budget includes an increase of \$2 million over the FY 2004 enacted funding level. This increase will provide funding for a High-Speed and Freight Locomotive simulator (partnering with the Army), as well as research in the areas of driver behavior and accident causation. The increase will continue the installation of the Nationwide Differential Global Positioning System, which will provide precise positioning and navigation information to ensure the safety and security of lives and property throughout the United States. The increase also enables FRA to continue various research projects in support of the Department's safety mission.

Next-Generation High-Speed Rail: To support high-speed train control systems, track and structures technology, corridor planning, and grade crossing hazard mitigation and high-speed non-electric locomotives, \$10 million is requested. Funds under this account support the Department's goal of reducing transportation time by supporting and demonstrating high-speed train control systems, corridor planning, and high-speed non-electric locomotives.

