All intercity passenger service in Northern New England, with the exception of one Canadian Pacific line, has been abandoned in the last decade. In the areas south and southwest of St. Louis, Missouri, and in the states of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan, more than half of the regular intercity rail passenger services and routes operated in 1958 have been discontinued.

The elimination of the last intercity service over eastern routes in Northern New England and other areas was primarily the result of some carriers abandoning all passenger service with others selectively eliminating sparsely patronized routes. The amount of long- and medium-distance service in the East is declining and the north-south service between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi has reached the point where the elimination of a relatively few trains could eliminate all service in that section. The Penn-Central operates nearly half of all the intercity trains in the East. That carrier and most other major intercity roads in the East-the B&O, C&O, and New Haven--have retained the majority of their trains which operated in 1958.

In the South, the loss of trains has resulted more in the reduction in frequency of service rather than the loss of localities served. No carriers abandoned all their passenger service in this region, although both the Southern and Louisville & Nashville sharply reduced their service.