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**ANALYSIS OF HIGH SPEED TRAFFIC IN THE USA**

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The United States has the world's largest railway network, with a length of 293,564 km - twice as long as China's and three times as long as Russia's.

In the USA, trains are not as popular as in many other countries. They are suitable for short to medium trips in some areas. In many large cities, commuter trains regularly transport passengers from the suburbs to the city center.

On the East Coast, a high-speed train, the Metroliner, runs from Boston to Washington via New York.

In other parts of the US, rail connections may be sparse or non-existent.

The Acela Express train of the American railway company Amtrak is the only high-speed train on the American continent (Figure 1).



Figure 1 – High-speed «Acela Express»

Launched in December 2000, Acela [1] connects the largest metropolitan areas in the eastern United States. The train operates on a section called the Northeast Corridor between Boston Massachusetts and Washington, DC. In this section, major cities are located close to each other, and the train provides serious competition to airplanes.

On average, the Acela Express moves at a relatively low speed for a high-speed train, 100-130 km/h. There are several reasons for this: these are old tracks, unsuitable for high speed, and the need to share them with other trains.

There is only one high-speed line in the United States - 735 km long. It passes through Washington, Philadelphia, New York and Boston (see Figure 2).

The Acela Express takes about seven hours and makes 14 stops, so it only manages to reach a maximum speed of 240 km/h on one 53 km section. Right now, 20 trains have been put into operation [2].

As of 01/01/2023, the California High Speed Rail Authority is working on the California High Speed Rail project and construction is underway on sections crossing the Central Valley. The Central Valley site is scheduled to open in 2029.

