

**Lesson Title**

Disability advocates investigate potential Amtrak ADA violations

**E-Newscast Video Link**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMibWG8HX-k>

**Video Length**

Three minutes and seven seconds

**Grade Level**

High School & Above

**Summary**

Representatives from state protection and advocacy groups investigated national Amtrak stations to determine whether or not they were accessible to people with disabilities. Unfortunately, the investigators came out disappointed. They concluded that many of the stations were not accessible, which is an astonishing feat, given that the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 allotted Amtrak a wide grace period to make the required adjustments. For the most part, people with disabilities just avoid the system altogether because of its severe deficiencies.

**Review Questions**

What were some of the problems the investigators found at many of the Amtrak stations?

How long did the ADA allot Amtrak to make their system fully accessible?

According to a study conducted in 2010, what percentage of Amtrak stations were in compliance with ADA accessibility regulations?

**Free Writing “Journal” Prompt**

How did you respond to learning that Amtrak doesn't sell tickets for certain destinations to people with disabilities due to the station's physical inability to get them off the train?

Why do you think the ADA still has not made their systems fully accessible?

What about this report do you have questions or want to know more about?