

AMERICA'S FREIGHT RAILROADS

Supporting American Jobs, Moving the American Economy

Whatever Americans grow, build, eat or wear – chances are freight rail was involved in getting it there. Our nation's freight railroads move everything from commodities, like the coal to light and the lumber to build our homes, to everyday consumer goods like the computers we use and the clothes we wear.

- Freight railroads generate nearly \$265 billion in total annual economic activity and support 1.2 million jobs.
- Last year, U.S. freight railroads paid \$18 billion in wages and benefits to their employees, more than \$8 billion in taxes and billions of dollars on supplies and services.

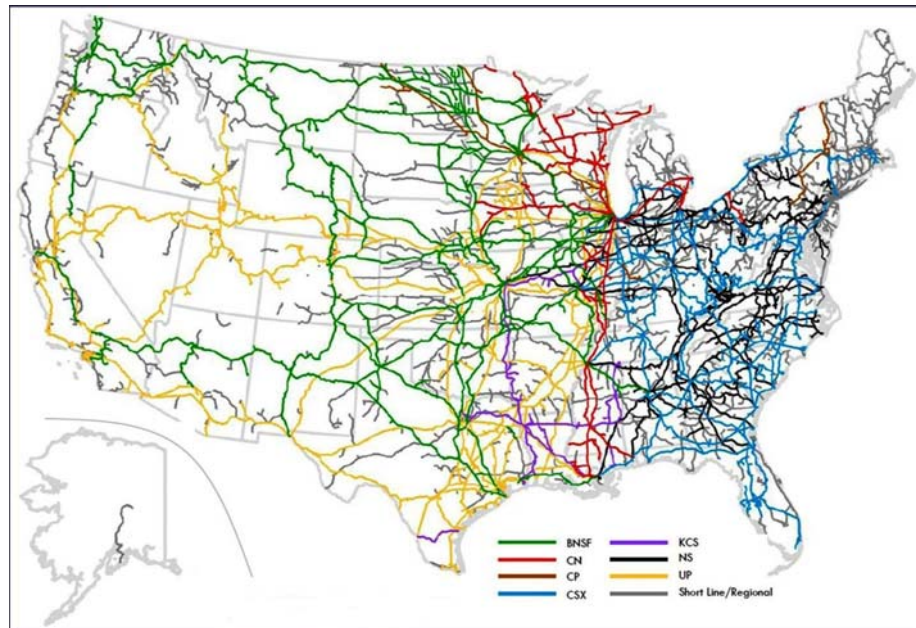
Railroads Support American Jobs

The effect of freight rail on American jobs can be felt throughout our nation's economy. **Every freight rail job supports another 4.5 jobs somewhere else in our economy.** Overall, freight railroads support 1.2 million vital jobs all across the country.

In 2008, freight railroads directly employed nearly 184,000 employees. The overwhelming **majority of today's railroad employees are American union workers** whose jobs cannot be exported overseas.

Railroad jobs are among some of the nation's

highest paying. In 2008, the **average freight railroad employee earned \$98,500** in salary and benefits.





The ripple effect of freight rail not only touches jobs associated directly with the industry, like the more than 150,000 jobs provided by manufacturers and suppliers, but also millions of jobs indirectly linked to rail, including those associated with vital products we move.

Railroad Investments Move America's Economy

Freight rail moves goods in and out of 49 states and its economic impact is felt in all 50 states. America's demand to move more people and goods by rail is expected to rise as our economy recovers, along with the need to reduce highway congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Freight railroads are the best way to meet this demand while reducing environmental impacts.

- Every \$1 of investment in rail infrastructure generates another \$3 in economic activity, according to U.S. Department of Commerce data.
- Each \$1 billion of investment in rail infrastructure to expand capacity creates an estimated 20,000 jobs nationwide.
- In 2008, freight rail capital expenditures generated \$33 billion in total economic activity, which in turn supports another 175,000 jobs.

Unlike trucks, barges and airlines, **America's freight railroads operate almost exclusively on infrastructure they build, maintain and finance.** Freight railroads have been reinvesting more into their systems than ever before — spending more than Texas and California spend on infrastructure annually. That's an indication of their commitment to meeting America's growing transportation needs.

Railroads invest 40 cents out of every revenue dollar right back into the national rail network, more than twice the rate of other industries.

As the economy rebounds and demand to move more goods by rail increases, railroads will provide a significant portion of the funding needed to accommodate growth and expansion. However, there will remain a funding gap that can be addressed through policies such as investment tax incentives and increased use of public-private partnerships.

