

# FREIGHT RAIL IN COLORADO



It would have taken  
**7.4 MILLION TRUCKS**  
to handle the freight that moved  
by rail in Colorado in 2022.

## Class I Railroads

BNSF	1,338
Union Pacific	1,505
	2,843

## Short Line Railroads

Cimarron Valley Railroad	28
Colorado & Wyoming Railway	5
Colorado Pacific Rio Grande Railroad	154
CWC Rail	122
Denver Rock Island Railroad	6
Great Western Railway of Colorado	80
Kansas & Oklahoma Railroad	3
Kyle Railroad	84
Nebraska, Kansas, & Colorado Railway	68
Rock & Rail	55
San Luis Central Railroad	13
Utah Railway	32
	650

## FREIGHT RR EMPLOYEES

**1,770**

## FREIGHT RRS

**14**

## FREIGHT RR MILEAGE

**2,541**

## RR RETIREMENT BENEFICIARIES

**9,700**

## RR RETIREMENT BENEFITS

**\$242M**



Short Line
UP
CN
BNSF
CPKC
CSX
NS
Multiple Owners
Amtrak
GMXT

## RAIL TRAFFIC ORIGINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	5.1	46,700
Intermodal	1.6	112,300
Cement	1.4	13,400
Farm products	1.0	9,000
Waste & scrap	0.9	9,400
Other	4.2	51,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14.1M</b>	<b>242.3K</b>

## RAIL TRAFFIC TERMINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	9.4	83,400
Crushed stone & sand	5.3	46,700
Stone, clay, & glass pr.	1.9	17,600
Intermodal	1.6	121,700
Grain	1.5	13,700
Other	8.4	121,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28.0M</b>	<b>404.2K</b>



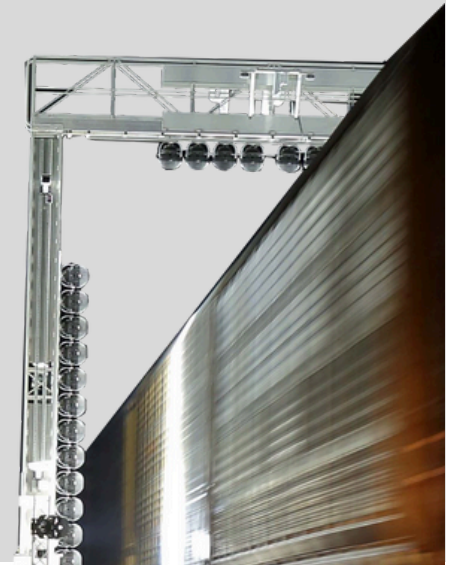
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© The Association of American Railroads 2025. Data are for 2023 except for rail employment and truck equivalents, which are 2022. Total miles shown for the state exclude trackage rights, but miles shown for individual railroads include trackage rights. Some mileage and employment figures are estimates. Rail traffic figures are based on AAR analysis of industry data. Learn more about America's freight railroads at [AAR.org/Railroad-101](https://www.aar.org/Railroad-101).



# ***THE SAFEST WAY TO MOVE FREIGHT OVER LAND***

Thanks in part to technologies like train inspection portals and cracked wheel detection, the Class I mainline accident rate is down 42% since 2000, and the last decade was the safest ever, with the 2023 hazmat accident rate at its lowest ever.



## ***\$23B ANNUAL INVESTMENTS***

Capital spending as a share of revenue for freight railroads is six times what it is for the average U.S. manufacturer.



## ***HIGH PAYING JOBS***

The average Class I railroad employee earns \$135,000 to nearly \$190,000 annually in pay and benefits.



## ***MOVING ONE TON NEARLY 500 MILES ON ONE GALLON OF FUEL.***

On average, railroads are three to four times more fuel efficient than trucks, and one train can take hundreds of trucks off the road.



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**LEARN MORE AT [AAR.ORG/RAILROAD-101](https://aar.org/railroad-101)**

