

# FREIGHT RAIL IN ILLINOIS



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

## Class I Railroads

BNSF	1,538
Canadian National	1,276
CPKC	571
CSX	698
Norfolk Southern	1,261
Union Pacific	2,368
	7,712

## Short Line Railroads

A & R Terminal Railroad	2
Ag Valley Railroad	3
Belt Railway Company of Chicago	28
Bloomer Line	50
Burlington Junction Railway	20
Chicago Junction Railway	2
Chicago Rail Link	72
Chicago Sugar Express Railroad	1
Chicago, Ft. Wayne & Eastern Railroad	8
Chicago, South Shore & South Bend Railroad	25
Chicago, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad	3
Cicero Central Railroad	1
Crab Orchard & Egyptian Railway	14
Decatur & Eastern Illinois Railroad	164
Decatur Junction Railway	21
Effingham Railroad	5
Elwood Joliet & Southern Railroad	2
Evansville Western Railway	46
Great Lakes Terminal Railroad	2
Illinois & Midland Railroad	189
Illinois Railway	133
Illinois Terminal Belt Railroad	11
Illinois Western Railroad	2
Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad	69
Indiana Rail Road	119
Iowa Interstate Railroad	218
Kankakee, Beaverville & Southern Railroad	102
Keokuk Junction Railway	130
KM Railways	2
Manufacturers Junction Railway	6
Missouri North Central Railroad	2
Peru Industrial Railroad	3
Pioneer Industrial Railway	3
Port Harbor Railroad	3
Riverport Railroad	4
South Chicago & Indiana Harbor Rwy	8
Tazewell & Peoria Railroad	18
Terminal Railroad Assn. of St. Louis	17
Toledo, Peoria & Western Railway	202
Vandalia Railroad	4
Vermilion Valley Railroad	2
Wisconsin & Southern Railroad	108
	1,824



**FREIGHT RR  
EMPLOYEES**

**9,875**

**FREIGHT  
RRS**

**48**

**FREIGHT RR  
MILEAGE**

**6,769**

**RR RETIREMENT  
BENEFICIARIES**

**34,400**

**RR RETIREMENT  
BENEFITS**

**\$834M**

## RAIL TRAFFIC ORIGINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Intermodal	45.7	3,124,100
Grain	25.6	242,200
Coal	21.7	184,900
Crushed stone & sand	10.2	90,300
Food products	9.6	96,600
Other	19.5	263,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>132.4M</b>	<b>4,001.7K</b>

## RAIL TRAFFIC TERMINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Intermodal	42.6	3,176,500
Coal	18.3	153,300
Chemicals	10.1	103,700
Food products	9.6	99,700
Grain	5.0	48,800
Other	16.8	255,800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102.4M</b>	<b>3,837.8K</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)**

