

# FREIGHT RAIL IN KENTUCKY



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

<b>Class I Railroads</b>	
BNSF	98
Canadian National	98
CSX	1,578
Norfolk Southern	429
Union Pacific	12
	2,215

<b>Short Line Railroads</b>	
Fredonia Valley Railroad	10
Knoxville and Cumberland Gap Railroad	2
KWT Railway	12
Louisville & Indiana Railroad	4
Paducah & Louisville Railway	280
R. J. Corman Railroad - Bardstown Line	20
R. J. Corman Railroad - Central Kentucky Line	148
R. J. Corman Railroad - Memphis Line	77
Tennken Railroad	9
Transkentucky Transportation Railroad	50
	612

**FREIGHT  
RR EMPLOYEES**

**2,445**

**FREIGHT  
RRS**

**15**

**FREIGHT RR  
MILEAGE**

**2,616**

**RR RETIREMENT  
BENEFICIARIES**

**14,900**

**RR RETIREMENT  
BENEFITS**

**\$349M**

## RAIL TRAFFIC ORIGINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	13.0	114,300
Chemicals	2.5	27,300
Motor vehicles & parts	2.4	98,000
Crushed stone & sand	1.1	14,800
Stone, clay, & glass pr.	1.0	11,300
Other	6.1	145,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26.2M</b>	<b>410.8K</b>

## RAIL TRAFFIC TERMINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	13.0	110,300
Chemicals	2.7	30,100
Petr. & coal products	2.2	22,800
Steel products	1.7	19,600
Intermodal	1.1	75,400
Other	4.9	80,300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25.5M</b>	<b>338.3K</b>

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



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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)**

