

FREIGHT RAIL IN MONTANA



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

Class I Railroads

BNSF	2,625
Union Pacific	125
	2,750

Short Line Railroads

Butte, Anaconda and Pacific Railroad	26
Central Montana Rail	87
Dakota, Missouri Valley, & Western Railroad	57
Mission Mountain Railroad	26
Montana Rail Link (now part of BNSF)	807
	1,003

**FREIGHT RR
EMPLOYEES**

2,697

**FREIGHT
RRS**

8

**FREIGHT RR
MILEAGE**

3,687

**RR RETIREMENT
BENEFICIARIES**

7,000

**RR RETIREMENT
BENEFITS**

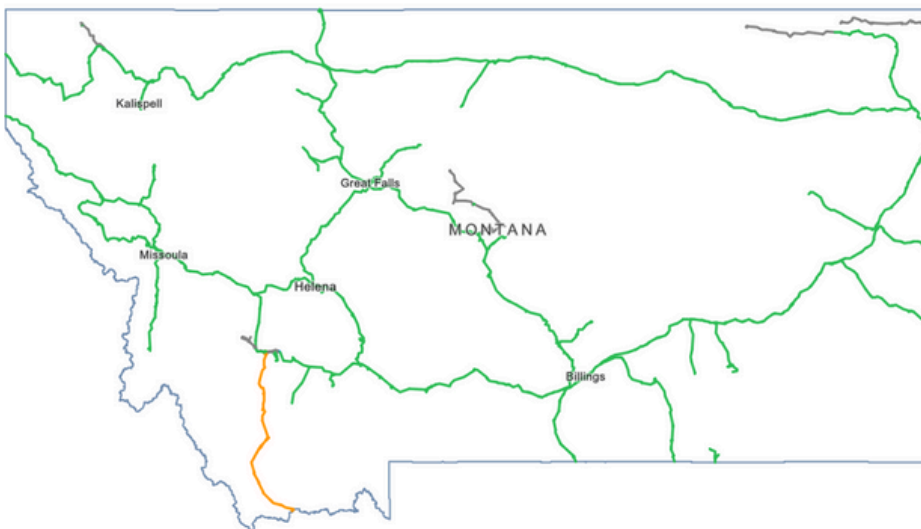
\$174M

RAIL TRAFFIC ORIGINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	21.3	177,200
Grain	4.1	37,900
Refined petrol. prod.	2.9	31,800
Food products	0.6	6,000
Lumber & wood prod.	0.5	5,000
Other	3.0	33,400
TOTAL	32.2M	291.3K

RAIL TRAFFIC TERMINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Refined petrol. prod.	1.6	18,200
Chemicals	0.7	7,300
Food products	0.5	5,400
Stone, clay, & glass pr.	0.2	2,300
Grain	0.2	1,800
Other	1.1	20,000
TOTAL	4.3M	54.9K



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



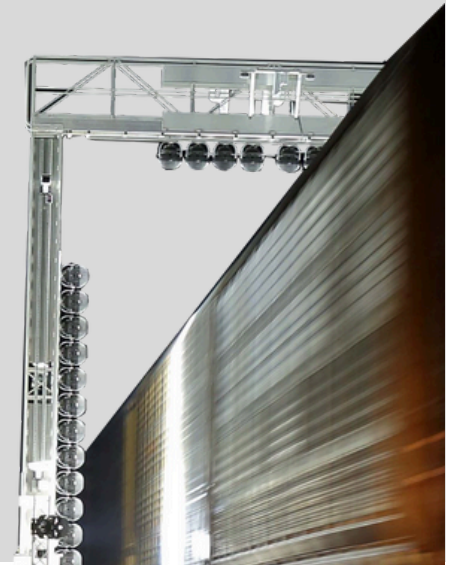
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© The Association of American Railroads 2025. Data are for 2023 except for rail employment and truck equivalents, which are 2022. Total miles shown for the state exclude trackage rights, but miles shown for individual railroads include trackage rights. 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)

