

FREIGHT RAIL IN VIRGINIA



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

Class I Railroads	
CSX	1,016
Norfolk Southern	1,990
	3,006

Short Line Railroads	
Buckingham Branch Railroad	280
Chesapeake & Albemarle Railroad	18
Commonwealth Railway	27
Delmarva Central Railroad	15
Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad	22
Knoxville and Cumberland Gap Railroad	1
Norfolk & Portsmouth Belt Line	43
North Carolina & Virginia Railroad	3
Shenandoah Valley Railroad	20
Winchester & Western Railroad	25
	454



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

FREIGHT RR EMPLOYEES	FREIGHT RRS	FREIGHT RR MILEAGE	RR RETIREMENT BENEFICIARIES	RR RETIREMENT BENEFITS
2,476	12	3,053	16,900	\$416M

RAIL TRAFFIC ORIGINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	11.2	100,900
Intermodal	5.3	351,700
Crushed stone & sand	4.4	40,100
Chemicals	1.3	13,500
Stone, clay, & glass pr.	1.1	10,800
Other	3.7	51,800
TOTAL	26.9M	568.9K

RAIL TRAFFIC TERMINATED

COMMODITY	TONS (M)	CARLOADS
Coal	35.7	315,600
Intermodal	7.0	411,300
Crushed stone & sand	3.5	32,100
Chemicals	3.3	34,300
Waste & scrap	3.2	33,200
Other	9.8	116,200
TOTAL	62.5M	942.7K

© 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.



ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS



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.

