



TEXAS RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

Connecting Texas Since 1890

Comprised of railroad stakeholders across Texas, the Texas Railroad Association is the oldest trade association in Austin and provides education and consultation regarding the critical issues facing today's modern railroad industry.

An Economic Engine for Texas

Freight railroads provide sustainable, efficient, and privately-funded transportation for nearly every sector of the economy, playing a fundamental role in economic growth. With rail lines and facilities running from Dumas to Dallas and Brownsville to Beaumont, railroads are long standing members and investors in our urban and rural communities generating jobs and supporting local industries that a safe and sustainable economic engine for Texas.

Moving freight by rail also benefits the public by mitigating air pollution, conserving fuel, improving safety, reducing highway congestion, and saving taxpayer dollars. In fact, nationwide, railroads generate nearly \$26B in annual tax revenue.

Texas is also home to more than 50 different rail supply facilities manufacturing everything from locomotives, freight railcars and rail ties. This industry contributed \$9B to the Texas GDP in 20120 and employs more than 10,000 Texans. Every rail supply job supports 7.8 additional jobs elsewhere in Texas' economy.

The Texas freight rail network is the largest in the nation. This system stretches 10,370 miles and connects 183 of 254 counties and all of its major cities and industrial areas. This system moves domestic and international products ranging from consumer goods to windmill blades.

- Texas is home to **54 railroads** including Class I railroads Union Pacific, BNSF Railway, CPKC and 49 Class III "short line" operators.
- Texas railroads **directly employ 14,664 individuals**. This is in addition to the 12,000 jobs created by rail suppliers and rail-supported industries in the state. The average wage/benefits of a railroad employee in Texas is \$146,200.
- Our industry **invested more than \$1.2B in Texas** infrastructure in 2020 and plan to **invest more than \$6B** nationwide in 2021.
- Texas railroads **donated more than \$5.1M** to Texas charities in 2020.
- In 2019, Texas railroads **moved more than 5 million carloads carrying over 292 million tons of goods**, including products like chemicals, agricultural commodities, lumber, steel, aggregates, automobiles and intermodal containers.

19%

Average revenue railroads spend on capital expenses

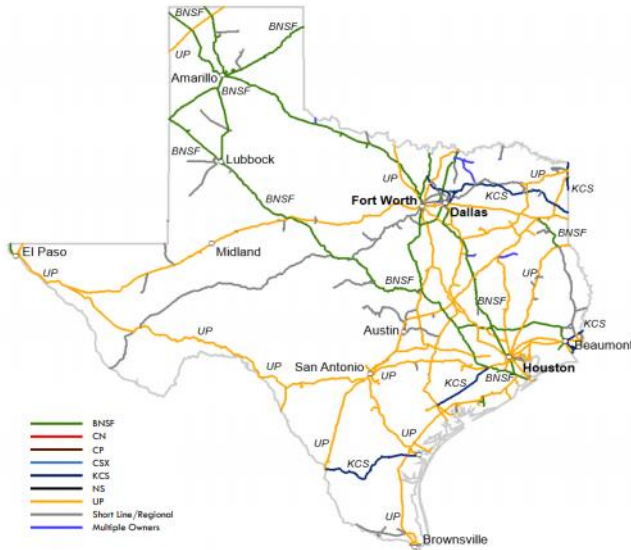
\$69B

Estimated annual cost if all freight traffic shifted from rail to trucks

11M

Jobs supported by the freight rail industry in the U.S.

Connecting the Lone Star State



The Texas rail network stretches 10,370 miles and includes 52 railroads.

Moving Texas Safely

From upgrading wooden tracks for steel in the 19th century, to the invention of the airbrake in the 20th, and the use of drones to inspect tracks today, safety has always been a core value for Texas railroads.

- Since 2000, train accident and hazmat accident rates are down 30% and 64%, respectively, while rail employee fatalities in 2022 matched an all-time low.
- The railroad industry has a lower employee injury rate than most other heavy industry sectors including trucking and aviation;
- Railroad provide community and first responder training as well as incident resources like the AskRail App;
- Railroads invest heavily in grade crossing safety each year to close, improve and maintain crossings and support educational programs, including Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit dedicated to improving safe behavior at grade crossings.

Sustainability for the New Century

Freight rail is the most efficient sustainable and environmentally sound way to move freight over land.

- Railroads can move one ton of freight 479 miles on a single gallon of fuel on average;
- Railroads are four times more efficient than trucks and can reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75%;
- A single train removes hundreds of trucks from Texas roadways, reducing gridlock and decreasing road wear and tear.

An Industry on the Cutting Edge

Railroads might invoke images of the 19th century, but modern freight railroads are exceptionally innovative. Some of these pursuits include:

- Utilizing sonar, ultrasound and infrared technologies to monitor the condition of passing trains and track.
- The full implementation of “Positive Train Control” (PTC); advanced technologies designed to automatically stop trains before human-error incidents occur.

Spotlight on Texas Short Lines

Short lines play a critical role in the Texas transportation network by connecting the first and last mile of both rural and urban economic centers across the state. Texas features 51 short line railroads, some with hundreds of miles of track and other smaller operations with less than five miles. These companies are key components of the transportation system connecting industrial parks, ports, and other economic engines to the national network.

- Texas short lines maintain 2,099 miles of track across 77 counties;
- Short line railroads employ 1,457 Texans;
- Short lines moved 357,000 carloads across Texas in 2020.

