

South Carolina Rail Facts

- **Going the distance.** In South Carolina alone, **11** freight railroads operate across **2,278 miles** of track.
- **Supporting jobs.** As of 2017, South Carolina freight railroads and their suppliers employed **4,294 people**; nationwide, freight rail supported about **1.1 million jobs**.
- **Connecting markets.** The most common commodities originating from South Carolina markets are, in carloads/year: **intermodal** (155,800), **chemicals** (28,300), **lumber, wood products** (18,000), **primary metal products** (17,000), and **stone, sand & gravel** (14,300).
- **Powering state economies.** Spending by Class I railroads in 2017 generated nearly **\$220 billion** in U.S. economic activity and **\$26 billion** in state and federal tax revenues, according to a Towson University study.
- **Preserving infrastructure, cutting congestion.** Freight railroads take **3.7 million truckloads** off South Carolina roads annually.
- **Reducing pollution.** Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of **75 percent**.

