

Massachusetts Rail Facts

- **Going the distance.** In Massachusetts alone, **12** freight railroads operate across **1,057 miles** of track.
- **Supporting jobs.** As of 2017, Massachusetts freight railroads and their suppliers employed **2,195 people**; nationwide, freight rail supported about **1.1 million jobs**.
- **Connecting markets.** The most common commodities originating from Massachusetts markets are, in carloads/year: **intermodal** (122,600), **waste and scrap** (10,200), **glass and stone** (1,700), **chemicals** (1,500) and **other commodities** (900).
- **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 **874,000 truckloads** off Massachusetts roads annually.
- **Reducing pollution.** Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of **75 percent**.

