

# Louisiana Rail Facts

- **Going the distance.** In Louisiana alone, 19 freight railroads operate across 2,940 miles of track.
- **Supporting jobs.** As of 2017, Louisiana freight railroads and their suppliers employed 5,945 people; nationwide, freight rail supported about 1.1 million jobs.
- **Connecting markets.** The most common commodities originating from Louisiana markets are, in carloads/year: chemicals (211,800), pulp and paper (44,200), petroleum (42,900), food products (18,700), and lumber, wood products (13,700).
- **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 6.8 million truckloads off Louisiana roads annually.
- **Reducing pollution.** Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 75 percent.

