

# Alabama Rail Facts

- **Going the distance.** In Alabama alone, 27 freight railroads operate across 3,272 miles of track.
- **Supporting jobs.** As of 2017, Alabama freight railroads and their suppliers employed 7,353 people; nationwide, freight rail supported about 1.1 million jobs.
- **Connecting markets.** The most common commodities originating from Alabama markets are, in carloads/year: chemicals (46,400), primary metal products (41,300), nonmetallic minerals (41,100), coal (40,100), and glass and stone (34,300).
- **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 8.8 million truckloads off Alabama roads annually.
- **Reducing pollution.** Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 75 percent.

