California Rail Facts

- Going the distance. In California alone, 25 freight railroads operate across 4,828 miles of track.
- Supporting jobs. As of 2017, California freight railroads and their suppliers employed 18,412 people; nationwide, freight rail supported about 1.1 million jobs.
- Connecting markets. The most common commodities originating from California markets are, in carloads/year: intermodal (3,294,200), food products (54,000), nonmetallic minerals (46,700), chemicals (31,400), and glass and stone (23,000).
- 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 9 million truckloads off California roads annually.
- Reducing pollution. Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 75 percent.







