Michigan Rail Facts

- Going the distance. In Michigan alone, 28 freight railroads operate across 2,417 miles of track.
- Supporting jobs. As of 2017, Michigan freight railroads and their suppliers employed 6,321 people; nationwide, freight rail supported about 1.1 million jobs.
- Connecting markets. The most common commodities originating from Michigan markets are, in carloads/year: intermodal (222,900), motor vehicles and equip. (195,100), metallic ores (79,600), primary metal products (28,900), and farm products (26,800).
- 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 4.7 million truckloads off Michigan roads annually.
- Reducing pollution. Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 75 percent.





