Montana Rail Facts

- Going the distance. In Montana alone, 8 freight railroads operate across 3,719 miles of track.
- Supporting jobs. As of 2017, Montana freight railroads and their suppliers employed 3,622 people; nationwide, freight rail supported about 1.1 million jobs.
 Connecting markets. The most common commodities originating from Montana markets are, in carloads/year; coal (195.500).
- farm products (46,000), petroleum (41,900), lumber, wood products (10,000), and nonmetallic minerals (5,100).
- 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 6.2 million truckloads off Montana roads annually.
- Reducing pollution. Moving freight by rail instead of trucks reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 75 percent.



