

FREIGHT RAIL IN WEST VIRGINIA



Moving West Virginia's Economy. Connecting Communities.

Although domestic coal consumption has waned, the Mountaineer State remains a "railroad state." As intermodal shipments and traffic in other energy products pick up steam, West Virginia is looking to a more diversified freight mix to revive rail traffic and boost the economy.



2,098
FREIGHT TRACK
MILES



1,591
FREIGHT RAIL
EMPLOYEES



7.2M
TRUCKLOADS SAVED

ORIGINATING

Top Commodities Originating

Coal	48.4M Tons 424.7K Cars
Chemicals	1.4M Tons 14.9K Cars
Petroleum Products	1.3M Tons 18.6K Cars
Crushed Stone & Sand	1.3M Tons 13.1K Cars
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.1M Tons 10.9K Cars
Other	3M Tons 49.1K Cars



531.3K
TOTAL CARS



56.5M
TOTAL TONS

RECEIVED

Top Commodities Received / Terminated

Coal	4M Tons 35.4K Cars
Crushed Stone & Sand	2.2M Tons 19.2K Cars
Chemicals	1.5M Tons 15.5K Cars
Petroleum Products	0.5M Tons 6.5K Cars
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.5M Tons 4.4K Cars
Other	2.6M Tons 40.6K Cars



121.6K
TOTAL CARS



11.3M
TOTAL TONS



WEST VIRGINIA'S Rail Heritage

West Virginia's ten freight railroads operate over 2,098 miles of track and employ 1,591 in the Mountain State.* It would have taken approximately 7.42 million additional trucks to handle the 133.6 million tons of freight that started, ended, or moved through West Virginia in 2023. Moving freight by rail prevented 3.75 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of taking 735,000 cars off the road or planting 56.8 million trees. Coal makes up the majority of freight rail shipments beginning and ending in West Virginia.



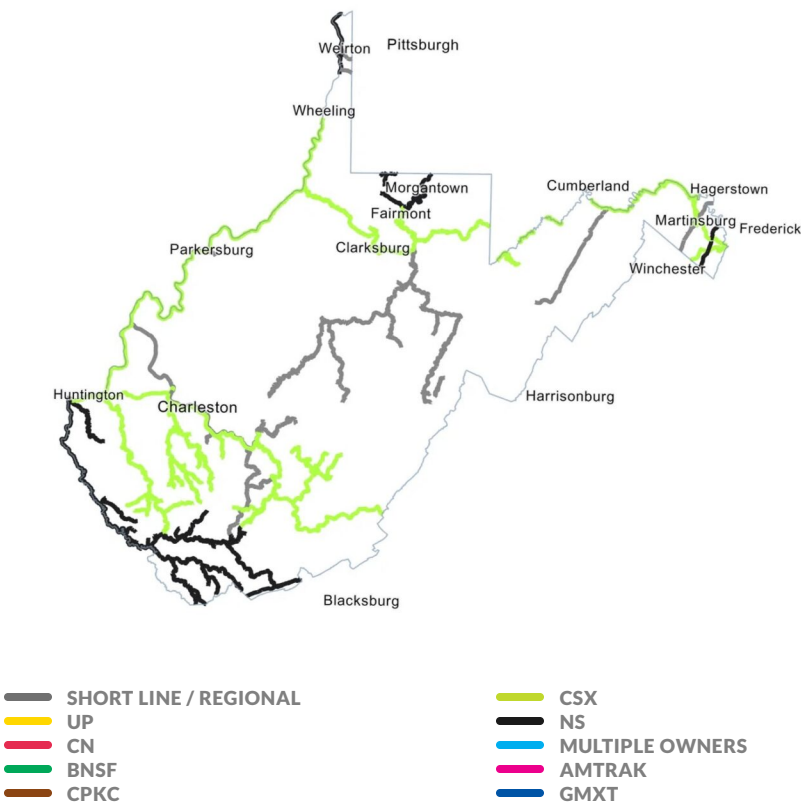
Class I Railroads

CSX Transportation	1,235
Norfolk Southern	618
Total	1,853

Short Line Railroads

Appalachian & Ohio Railroad	158
Empire River Rail	1
Kanawha River Railroad	244
Little Kanawha River Rail	3
R. J. Corman Railroad – West Virginia Line	16
South Branch Valley Railroad	52
Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway	3
Winchester & Western Railroad	28
Total	505

WEST VIRGINIA
State Rail Network



Why Freight Rail Matters



Supports Manufacturing

Rail connects manufacturers with suppliers and customers across North America, efficiently moving raw materials and finished goods.



Strengthens Agriculture

Rail helps move crops, forest products, fertilizers and other agricultural goods efficiently and affordably.



Reduces Congestion

Moving freight by rail removes trucks from highways, helping reduce traffic and wear on road infrastructure.



Protects the Environment

Freight rail is significantly more fuel efficient than moving freight by truck, helping reduce fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions.

