



## TEXAS FREIGHT MOBILITY PLAN



# T E X A S RAILROADS

Texas has always been a major freight hub for North America. However, with recent and projected growth in population and international trade, Texas must fully utilize its multimodal freight system. Freight railroads are a critical link in that system. Texas is served by three major (Class I) railroad companies. Two railroads primarily serve east to west traffic (Union Pacific and BNSF). The Kansas City Southern primary serves north to south traffic and uniquely transverse the Mexican border as it travels south as far as Veracruz and Lazaro Cardenas. The Union Pacific and BNSF railroads currently interchange with Ferromex near the Mexican border. In 2012, over 755,000 railcars transversed the border (48% Loaded, 52% Unloaded).



Source: Railroad Commission of Texas

### QUICK FACTS:

- Texas has more rail miles than any other state (10,384 miles)
- Railroads employ over 17,000 Texans (#1 in the nation)
- Texas railroads carry over 8.8 million car loads a year (#2 in nation)
- Texas is home to 47 railroad companies, including 3 Class I (major) railroads
- Over 7 million tons of intermodal rail freight was shipped from Texas in 2011 (#3 in nation)
- The state's busiest rail lines run over 6,000 trains annually
- Texas is home to 5 of the 7 rail crossings with Mexico, 89% of rail containers entering the US from Mexico cross the Texas border
- Texas is the #1 destination for freight handled by the railroads in the nation (measured by weight)
- Chemicals (34.2 million tons) and coal (88.7 million tons) account for the majority of rail freight originating and ending in Texas, respectively

The American Association of Railroads estimates that railroads move the equivalent of 20.3 million trucks in Texas annually.