



Rail Freight

Moving freight by rail:

- reduces highway congestion and wear;
- helps keep shipping prices competitive;
- links together regions and other transportation modes; and
- plays an important role of Oregon's economy.

Rail freight facts

- Oregon has two Class I railroads: the Union Pacific and the BNSF Railway.
- Oregon has 18 short line and three terminal railroads.
- There are 2,413 miles of railroad tracks in Oregon.
- 68.9 million tons of cargo was shipped by rail in Oregon in 2004. Of that:
 - 16.9 million tons of rail shipments originated in Oregon;
 - 25.7 million tons of rail shipments terminated in Oregon;
 - 26.3 million tons of rail shipments passed through Oregon; and
 - 1.3 million carloads were carried in Oregon.

ODOT's role

- The Rail Safety Section inspects railroad tracks, equipment, hazardous materials, operating practices and signals for compliance with Federal Railroad Administration regulations, and enforces laws relating to railroad employee safety.
- The Crossing Safety Section inspects and regulates all aspects of highway-rail grade crossings.
- The Rail Division develops a Rail Plan that includes both freight and passenger elements and meets the goals of the Oregon Transportation Plan.

Fiscal Year 2005

- ODOT inspected 19,353 rail cars, finding 1,494 defects.
- Inspectors examined 263 locomotives, identifying 212 defects.
- Inspections included 3,305 miles of track and 2,026 turnouts, finding 1,991 defects; and 1,334 railroad/highway crossings, pinpointing 454 deficiencies.

Rail tonnage by commodity originating in Oregon — 16.9 million tons

Calendar Year 2004

Commodities originating in Oregon shipped by rail	Millions of Tons	Percent of Total
Lumber, wood products	8.5	50%
Pulp, paper and allied products	2.2	13%
Transportation equipment	1.3	8%
Glass and stone products	1.0	6%
Miscellaneous mixed shipments	0.8	5%
All Other	3.1	18%

Rail Tonnage by commodity terminating in Oregon — 25.7 million tons

Calendar Year 2004

Commodities shipped by rail terminating in Oregon	Millions of Tons	Percent of Total
Chemicals and allied products	6.0	23%
Farm products	4.3	17%
Lumber and wood	3.0	12%
Coal	2.3	9%
Waste and scrap	2.3	9%
All Other	7.8	30%

To learn more about railroads in Oregon, visit our web site at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/RAIL.

To report a railroad crossing blocked too long, call the ODOT railroad crossing blockage hotline toll-free at (866) 628-8867.