

WASHINGTON RAIL FACTS

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Rail Overview

Washington is home to dozens of passenger, freight, and commuter rail lines, as well as rail suppliers. Washington ranks 7th for the number of railroads and 12th for the number of freight rail employees. It also ranks 12th in commuter ridership.



Freight

30 freight railroads, including Class I's like BNSF and the Union Pacific Railroad and short line railroads like the Palouse River & Coulee City Railroad and the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad move more than **2.3** million carloads of intermodal, farm products, lumber and other types of freight over **3,032** miles with more than **4,300** employees.



Amtrak

WA has **2** long distance Amtrak routes and **1** state supported route that serve the state, including:

- Coast Starlight
- Empire Builder
- Cascades

More than **1.3** million train riders are served at WA stations each year.

In FY17, Amtrak spent **\$18.4** million on goods and services in WA and employed more than **470** residents.



Commuter

Commuter rail provides more than **4.6** million passenger trips each year on Sound Transit's Sounder commuter rail, which has 2 lines and 12 running from Everett, Seattle and south to Lakewood.

The Sounder is operated by BNSF.



Suppliers

The rail supply industry contributes more than **\$1.4** billion to WA's GDP and supports more than **11,500** jobs, including **3,039** direct jobs in WA through companies like Union Tank Car, Greenbrier, TTX Company, and Progress Rail.

Did you know?

It would have taken like approximately **7** million additional trucks to handle the **126** million tons of freight that originated in, terminated in, or moved through WA by rail in 2017.

OneRail is a diverse group of rail stakeholders who have come together to educate America about the benefits of a strong freight and passenger rail system. Our members include:

- American Public Transportation Association (APTA)
- American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA)
- Amtrak
- Association of American Railroads (AAR)
- Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS)
- International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail, and Transportation Workers (SMART Transportation Division)
- National Association of Railroad Passengers (NARP)
- National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRC)
- Railway Engineering-Maintenance Suppliers Association (REMSA)
- Railway Supply Institute (RSI)
- Teamsters Rail Conference (BLET and BMW)
- Transportation Communications International Union/International Association of Machinists (TCU/IAM)
- Corporate Supporters include AECOM, Alstom, Caterpillar, HNTB, Wabtec Corporation, and WSP USA

Additional Resources

- **Rail101** - <https://www.onerail.org/rail-101/>
- **Safety** - <https://www.onerail.org/rail-safety-u-s/>

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Sources

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- <https://www.amtrak.com/about-amtrak/amtrak-facts/state-fact-sheets.html>
- <https://www.transit.dot.gov/ntd/ntd-data>
- <https://www.rsiweb.org/eis-states>