

2013 Alabama Rail Plan

Railroad	Location (MP=Milepost)	County	Mileage	Date
CSXT	Black Creek to West Jefferson	Jefferson	16.47	10/16/2006
BS	Old Port Branch to Ergon Terminaling Inc.'s rail line	Jefferson	0.18	01/29/2007
GSWR	MP 334.46 to MP 339.00 in Eufaula	Barbour	4.54	04/25/2007

Source: 2008 Alabama Rail Plan Update

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING RAIL TRAFFIC

Rail traffic in Alabama was analyzed using the US Surface Transportation Board Rail Waybill Sample for 2011. Table 2-3 provides a summary of Alabama traffic flows for 2011.

Table 2-3: Alabama Tonnage Flows, 2011

From	To	Tons	Percent
Alabama	Out of State	26,366,641	15.9
Out of State	Alabama	36,478,988	22.1
Alabama	Alabama	13,392,231	8.1
Out of State	Out of State	89,044,155	53.9
TOTAL		165,282,015	100.0

Source: US Surface Transportation Board, Rail Waybill Sample, 2011

Total rail traffic that originated in Alabama for 2011 amounted to 26,366,641 tons. The top 8 commodity shipments originating in Alabama were: primary metal products, non-metallic minerals, pulp/paper, chemicals, clay, miscellaneous mixed shipments, transportation equipment, and lumber/wood products.

Traffic terminating in Alabama totaled 36,478,988 tons. The top 8 commodity shipments terminating in Alabama were: coal, farm products, metallic ores, chemicals, waste scrap, primary metal products, food products, and miscellaneous mixed shipments. Table 2-4 provides the tonnage and relative percentage of total traffic for the top eight originated and terminated commodities.

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Table 2-4: Alabama Rail Traffic—Top 8 Originated and Terminated Commodities, 2011

Originated			Terminated		
Freight	Tonnage	% of Total	Freight	Tonnage	% of Total
33-Primary Metal Products	5,154,904	19.6	11-Coal	17,627,117	48.3
14-Non-Metallic Minerals	5,006,180	19.0	1-Farm Products	3,696,855	10.1
26-Pulp, Paper	4,252,980	16.1	10-Metallic Ores	2,672,268	7.3
28-Chemicals	3,582,948	13.6	28-Chemicals	2,481,590	6.8
32-Clay	1,839,500	7.0	40-Waste Scrap	2,142,164	5.9
46-Misc. Mixed Shipments	1,270,240	4.8	33-Primary Metal Products	1,701,580	4.7
37-Transportation Equipment	1,180,093	4.5	20-Food Products	1,522,728	4.2
24-Lumber and Wood Products	1,139,236	4.3	46-Misc. Mixed Shipments	1,059,520	2.9

NOTE: Flows internal to Alabama are not included.

Source: US Surface Transportation Board, Rail Waybill Sample, 2011

Intrastate traffic is that which begins and ends in Alabama. A total of 13,392,231 tons of freight originated and terminated in Alabama. The top 8 commodity shipments originating and terminating in Alabama were: coal, chemicals, non-metallic minerals, printed products, articles of base metal, miscellaneous manufactured products, clay, and transportation equipment.

Traffic that travels through Alabama without either originating or terminating in the state is called overhead traffic. A total of 89,044,155 tons of overhead freight passed through Alabama in 2011. Alabama's top 8 overhead commodity shipments were: coal, chemicals, miscellaneous mixed shipments, food products, pulp/paper, farm products, primary metal products, and petroleum. Table 2-5 provides the tonnage and relative percentage of total traffic for the top eight intrastate and overhead commodities.

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Table 2-5: Alabama Rail Traffic—Top 8 Intrastate and Overhead Commodities, 2011

Intrastate			Overhead		
Freight	Tonnage	% of Total	Freight	Tonnage	% of Total
11-Coal	9,279,155	69.3	11-Coal	25,781,834	28.9
28-Chemicals	872,992	6.5	28-Chemicals	19,051,748	21.4
14-Non-Metallic Minerals	691,940	5.2	46-Misc. Mixed Shipments	7,949,784	8.9
29-Printed Products	659,736	4.9	20-Food Products	7,492,518	8.4
33-Articles of Base Metal	443,512	3.3	26-Pulp, Paper	5,496,116	6.2
40-Misc. Manufactured Products	422,576	3.2	1-Farm Products	4,764,482	5.4
32-Clay	295,880	2.2	33-Primary Metal Products	4,585,197	5.1
37-Transportation Equipment	198,692	1.5	29-Petroleum	3,383,512	3.8

Source: US Surface Transportation Board, Rail Waybill Sample, 2011

Coal continues to be a dominant freight staple for Alabama rail traffic, comprising 69 percent of total intrastate traffic. Coal also accounts for 48 percent of rail traffic terminating in Alabama and 29 percent of overhead traffic. Much of the coal activity is found in and around the mines in Birmingham, serving electric utility plants, and at McDuffie Terminal at the Port of Mobile.

Overhead traffic comprises 54 percent of total tonnage using Alabama rails. Much of this traffic is intermodal containers and trailers traveling between Tennessee-Georgia, Illinois-Florida, and Kentucky-Florida. A review of overhead traffic volumes shows concentrations in NS's Atlanta-New Orleans corridor and in northeast Alabama where CSXT has a 10-mile corridor that connects Nashville and Atlanta. Table 2-6 shows principal overhead traffic flow routes.

Table 2-6: Principal Overhead Traffic Flows through Alabama, 2011

Origin / Destination of Overhead Traffic through Alabama	Net Tons
LA, TX and FL, GA, SC, NC, VA	10,344,320
OH, IN, MI, IL, WI, MO, IA, MN and LA, TX, MS, TN, GA, FL	15,859,805
KY, TN and GA, FL	21,198,968
CA, OR, WA and FL, GA, SC, NC, VA	2,760,264

Source: US Surface Transportation Board, Rail Waybill Sample, 2011