BNSF Facts

- Length of network: 32,500 route miles
- States in network: 28
- Canadian provinces: 3
- Employees: 41,000
- Headquarters: Fort Worth, TX
- Ports served: 40
- Intermodal facilities: 25
- Average trains per day: 1,400
- Locomotives: 8,000
- Capital investment (2016): $3.9 billion
- Bridges: 13,000
- Tunnels: 89
- Grade crossings: More than 25,000
- Packages shipped on time during typical holiday season: 60 million
- Carloads shipped in 2016: 9.7 million
- Distance BNSF hauls 1 ton of freight on 1 gallon of diesel fuel: 500 miles

BNSF Railway

BNSF Railway is one of North America’s leading freight transportation companies, with a rail network of 32,500 route miles in 28 states and three Canadian provinces. BNSF is one of the top transporters of the products and materials that help feed, clothe, supply and power communities throughout America and the world. BNSF moves those goods more safely and efficiently, on significantly less fuel, with fewer emissions than the all-highway alternative.

Agricultural Products
- In 2016, BNSF hauled 950,000 carloads of agricultural commodities
- BNSF moves enough grain to supply 900 million people with a year’s supply of bread

Consumer Products
- In 2016, 5.2 million intermodal shipments (truck trailers or containers) were transported on BNSF’s rail lines instead of on the nation’s congested highways
- A new car or truck is loaded/unloaded onto a BNSF automobile train approximately every 11 seconds
- BNSF has 1.3 million feet of track in intermodal facilities alone. If spread end to end, it would be the length of 9 ½ Boston Marathons

Industrial Products
- In 2016, BNSF hauled 1.8 million carloads of industrial products
- In 2016, BNSF moved more industrial products railcars than the entire population of Nebraska
- BNSF hauls enough asphalt to lay a single lane road two times around the equator

Coal
- In 2016, BNSF hauled 1.8 million coal shipments
- BNSF hauls enough coal to power one of every 12 homes in the nation

History

BNSF’s history dates back more than 160 years to 1849, when the 12-mile Aurora Branch Railroad was founded in Illinois. Over the next several decades, many additional rail lines were built and eventually became part of what is today’s BNSF Railway. Some of BNSF’s predecessor railroads were Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe; Burlington Northern; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Frisco; Great Northern; Northern Pacific and Spokane, Portland & Seattle.

BNSF was created Sept. 22, 1995, from the merger of Burlington Northern, Inc. (parent company of Burlington Northern Railroad) and Santa Fe Pacific Corporation (parent company of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway). On Feb. 12, 2010, BNSF became a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.