

# Fund Freight, Fuel Growth

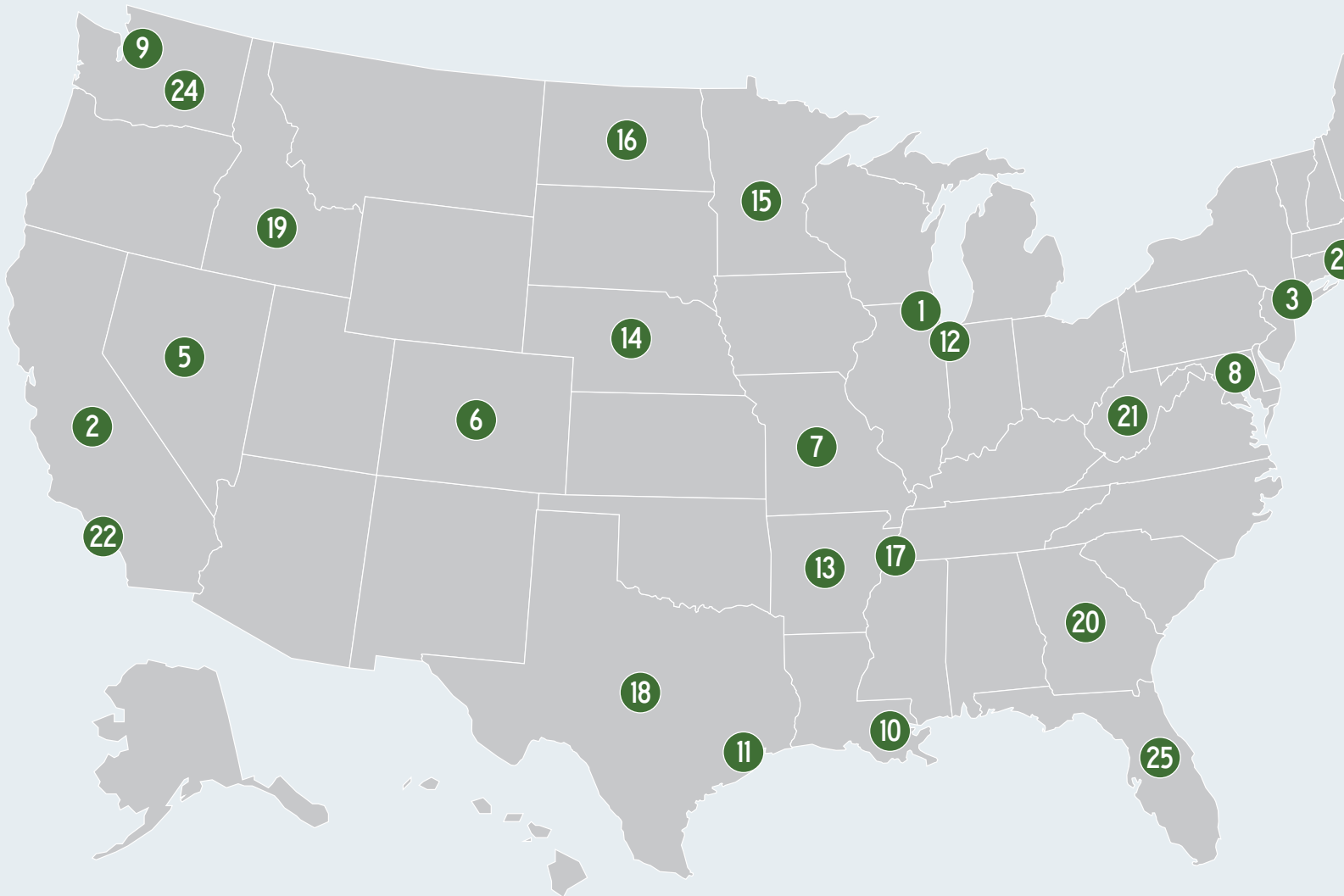
A snapshot of the multimodal freight  
network's contributions to jobs and  
economic prosperity across the nation.

**CAGTC**

Coalition For America's  
Gateways & Trade Corridors



# Freight Infrastructure Creates Jobs and Delivers Prosperity



Freight transportation is a cornerstone of our nation's economy, driving growth and creating jobs across the country. A robust and efficient freight system attracts and retains U.S. businesses, supports exports, and delivers long-term economic benefits. The national multimodal freight network links producers to consumers, raising the standard of living for all Americans.

Federal investment, alongside state and local funding, is crucial to maintaining this vital network and ensuring America's continued competitiveness in the global market. The economic impact is profound: our freight network moves over \$18.7 trillion in goods annually and directly supports more than 44 million jobs. Every state and region depends on—and contributes to—a safe, efficient, and reliable freight system that drives economic vitality nationwide.





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The freight industry provides more than 210,000 jobs in the Chicago region in industries that move goods, such as trucking, warehousing, rail, and maritime. The region's network also supports more than 14,000 freight and freight-support establishments.

2

California exports nearly \$175 billion worth of goods – or 10% of the nation's exports – making it the second largest exporter in the nation. The state is also the nation's largest importer, carrying \$470 billion of goods through its transportation gateways.

3

Impacts generated by the port industry of New York and New Jersey account for nearly \$15.7 billion in tax revenue, \$47.2 billion in personal income, and \$135.3 billion in business activity annually.

4

Maine's freight network moves \$80.5 billion in goods annually. The value of freight shipped to and from sites in Maine, in inflation-adjusted dollars, is expected to increase 99% by 2045.

5

Nevada's mining, construction, manufacturing, and transportation industries are all dependent on the state's freight infrastructure and represent 20% of the state's workforce.

6

Colorado's freight network moves 382 million tons of freight worth nearly \$472 billion annually, and those numbers are predicted to grow 17% by tonnage and 51% by value by 2040.

7

Missouri moves 985 million tons of freight valued at \$1.1 trillion annually. By 2045, the state is expected to carry 19% more freight by tonnage and 57% more by value.

8

Cargo activity at the Port of Baltimore directly supports 19,970 full-time jobs for Maryland residents.

9

Combined, the Northwest Seaport Alliance and the Port of Vancouver, USA support nearly 78,000 jobs and drive over \$15 billion in regional economic activity.

10

The Port of New Orleans generates 21,700 direct jobs in Louisiana and supports nearly 120,000 jobs and \$29.8 billion in economic output nationally.

11

Marine cargo activity at the Port of Houston generates \$439.2 billion annually in economic activity for Texas, or 18.6% of the state's GDP.

12

\$1.5 trillion in goods move by road, rail, air, water and pipeline in Cook County, Illinois; this is more than double the Chicago region's GDP.

13

Statewide economic output generated from freight-intensive activities in Arkansas is valued at \$51 billion or 44% of total economic output.

14

Freight-intensive output accounts for over a quarter of Nebraska's GDP and freight-intensive sectors account for more than 1 in every 5 jobs in the state.

15

Minnesota's freight network exports \$9.4 billion in agriculture and food product annually, supporting 117,900 jobs in the state.

16

North Dakota's farmers utilize freight infrastructure to move \$5.9 billion in agriculture exports across the globe annually.

17

Nearly 20% of the Memphis region workforce is tasked with moving goods between wholesale, transportation, and warehousing.

18

The direct and indirect economic impact of goods movement businesses in Texas represents nearly 1 in every 8 jobs in the state.

19

Idaho's freight-reliant and freight-intensive industries employ 35.8% of the state's workforce and account for 40% of the state's GDP.

20

More than 1 out of 7 jobs in Georgia (and 17% of the Southeastern U.S. region's employment) are in freight-intensive industries.

21

Freight-intensive industries – such as mining, manufacturing, and retail trade – account for 46% of West Virginia's GDP.

22

The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach support 3.1 million jobs nationally, or 1 out of every 51 jobs in the U.S.

23

Freight-dependent industries represent 26% of total Rhode Island employment.

24

Washington state's freight system supports 45% of jobs in the state.

25

Florida seaports support 900,000 direct and indirect jobs in the state.

# CAGTC's Ask: Congress Must Fund the System that Underpins the U.S. Economy

To remain competitive in world markets, maintain the growth of jobs in the United States, and continue improving our standard of living, Congress must invest in the infrastructure that keeps it all moving.

**CAGTC urges Congress to:**



**Increase funding**  
for programs investing in  
freight infrastructure.



**Improve and streamline**  
the federal grant process.



**Elevate and advance**  
freight policies and programs within  
the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Learn more about CAGTC's priorities: [tradecorridors.org/coalition-views/advocacy](http://tradecorridors.org/coalition-views/advocacy)

## CAGTC Members

AECOM  
California Department of Transportation  
Cambridge Systematics, Inc.  
Canaveral Port Authority  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
City of Chicago  
City of Industry  
COMPASS – Community Planning  
Association of Southwest Idaho  
DCLI  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Florida East Coast Railway  
Florida Ports Council  
Florida Transportation Builders' Association, Inc.  
GATX Corporation  
Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company  
HNTB Corporation  
I-40 TradePort Corridor  
Illinois Department of Transportation  
Intermodal Association of North America

Jacobs  
Joliet Arsenal Development Authority  
Kootenai Metropolitan Planning Organization  
Los Angeles County Metropolitan  
Transportation Authority  
Majestic Realty Co.  
Memphis Chamber of Commerce  
Moffatt & Nichol  
National Railroad Construction and  
Maintenance Association  
NASCO – North American Strategy for  
Competitiveness  
The Northwest Seaport Alliance  
Nossaman LLP  
Orange County Transportation Authority  
Pacific NorthWest Economic Region  
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Port Authority of New York & New Jersey  
Port Houston  
Port Newark Container Terminal

Port of Hueneme  
Port of Long Beach  
Port of Los Angeles  
Port of New Orleans  
Port of Oakland  
Port of San Diego  
Port of Vancouver USA  
Port Tampa Bay  
Prime Focus, LLC  
Puget Sound Regional Council  
SANDAG – San Diego Association  
of Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
Southern California Association of Governments  
Strong Port Strategies, LLC  
Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
Will County Center for Economic Development  
WSP

**CAGTC**

Coalition For America's  
Gateways & Trade Corridors

The Coalition for America's Gateways and Trade Corridors (CAGTC) is a diverse coalition of more than 60 public and private organizations dedicated to increasing federal investment in America's multimodal freight infrastructure. In contrast to single mode interests, CAGTC's main mission is to promote seamless goods movement transportation system across all modes to enhance capacity and economic growth.

202.828.9100 | [tradecorridors.org](http://tradecorridors.org)

## Sources: Fund Freight, Fuel Growth

**The freight industry provides more than 210,000 jobs in the Chicago region in industries that move goods, such as trucking, warehousing, rail, and maritime. The region's network also supports more than 14,000 freight and freight-support establishments.**

Source: "The Freight Landscape," last modified March 2025, <https://engage.cmap.illinois.gov/regional-freight-system-assessment/widgets/97089/documents>

**California exports nearly \$175 billion worth of goods – or 10% of the nation's exports – making it the second largest exporter in the nation. The state is also the nation's largest importer, carrying \$470 billion of goods through its transportation gateways.**

Source: "California Freight Mobility Plan 2023," last updated 2023, <https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/transportation-planning/documents/cfmp/cfmp-july-2023-final-v1-a11y.pdf>

**Impacts generated by the port industry of New York and New Jersey account for nearly \$15.7 billion in tax revenue, \$47.2 billion in personal income, and \$135.3 billion in business activity annually.**

Source: "Evolving with Rapidly Changing Supply Chains and International Trade," last modified June 2023, <https://sanynj.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/2023SANYNJEconomicImpactStudy.pdf>

**Maine's freight network moves \$80.5 billion in goods annually. The value of freight shipped to and from sites in Maine, in inflation-adjusted dollars, is expected to increase 99% by 2045.**

Source: "Maine Transportation by the Numbers," last updated February 2021, [https://tripnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/TRIP\\_Maine\\_Transportation\\_by\\_the\\_Numbers\\_Report\\_February\\_2021.pdf](https://tripnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/TRIP_Maine_Transportation_by_the_Numbers_Report_February_2021.pdf)

**Nevada's mining, construction, manufacturing, and transportation industries are all dependent on the state's freight infrastructure and represent 20% of the state's workforce.**

Source: "Nevada Freight Plan Update," last updated July 2022, <https://www.dot.nv.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/22087/638344353423800000>

**Colorado's freight network moves 382 million tons of freight worth nearly \$472 billion annually, and those numbers are predicted to grow 17% by tonnage and 51% by value by 2040.**

Source: "Colorado Freight Plan," last updated 2024, [https://freight.colorado.gov/sites/freight/files/documents/FR1\\_CODOT\\_COFrPln\\_Apr24\\_ACCESSIBLE.pdf](https://freight.colorado.gov/sites/freight/files/documents/FR1_CODOT_COFrPln_Apr24_ACCESSIBLE.pdf)

**Missouri moves 985 million tons of freight valued at \$1.1 trillion annually. By 2045, the state is expected to carry 19% more freight by tonnage and 57% more by value.**

Source: "2022 Missouri State Freight and Rail Plan," last updated 2022, <https://www.modot.org/sites/default/files/documents/2022%20State%20Freight%20and%20Rail%20Plan.pdf>

**Cargo activity at the Port of Baltimore directly supports 19,970 full-time jobs for Maryland residents.**

Source: *"The 2023 Economic Impact of the Port of Baltimore in Maryland,"* last updated March 2024, <https://mpa.maryland.gov/Documents/MarylandEconomicImpactofPOB2023.pdf>

**Combined, the Northwest Seaport Alliance and the Port of Vancouver, USA support nearly 78,000 jobs and drive over \$15 billion in regional economic activity.**

Source: *"Cargo Statistics,"* last updated 2019," <https://www.nwseaportalliance.com/about-us/cargo-statistics>

Source: *"The Local and Regional Economic Impacts of the Port of Vancouver Marine Terminals and Non Maritime Real Estate Tenants 2022,"* last updated May 2023

**The Port of New Orleans generates 21,700 direct jobs in Louisiana and supports nearly 120,000 jobs and \$29.8 billion in economic output nationally.**

Source: *"Port NOLA Drives Local, State and National Economy, Creates Jobs and Tax Revenue,"* last updated April 2019, <https://portnola.com/info/news-media/press-releases/port-nola-drives-local-state-and-national-economy-creates-jobs-and-tax-revenue>

**Marine cargo activity at the Port of Houston generates \$439.2 billion annually in economic activity for Texas, or 18.6% of the state's GDP.**

Source: *"2022 Economic Impact of Houston Ship Channel Activity,"* last updated April 2023, [https://porthouston.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2022-Economic-Impact-Report\\_Final.pdf#view=fit](https://porthouston.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2022-Economic-Impact-Report_Final.pdf#view=fit)

**\$1.5 trillion in goods move by road, rail, air, water and pipeline in Cook County, Illinois; this is more than double the Chicago region's GDP.**

Source: *"Rail and CREATE Program Overview,"* last updated December 2024, [https://www.createprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/20241210\\_Rail-and-CREATE-Program-Overview.pdf](https://www.createprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/20241210_Rail-and-CREATE-Program-Overview.pdf)

**Statewide economic output generated from freight-intensive activities in Arkansas is valued at \$51 billion or 44% of total economic output.**

Source: *"Arkansas State Freight Plan,"* last updated 2022, <https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2023-12/AR-2022-State-Freight-Plan.pdf>

**Freight-intensive output accounts for over a quarter of Nebraska's GDP and freight-intensive sectors account for more than 1 in every 5 jobs in the state.**

Source: *"2023 Nebraska Freight Plan,"* last updated June 2023, <https://dot.nebraska.gov/media/wjtcwyqp/ne-state-freight-plan-2023-usdot-approved.pdf>

**Minnesota's freight network exports \$9.4 billion in agriculture and food product annually, supporting 117,900 jobs in the state.**

Source: *"Minnesota State Freight Plan,"* last updated December 2024, <https://www.minnesotago.org/final-plans/state-freight-plan/executive-summary>

**North Dakota's farmers utilize freight infrastructure to move \$5.9 billion in agriculture exports across the globe annually.**

Source: "Value-Added Agriculture Fact Sheet," last updated April 2025,  
<https://www.medialibrary.nd.gov/assetbank-nd/assetfile/94914.pdf>

**Nearly 20% of the Memphis region workforce is tasked with moving goods between wholesale, transportation, and warehousing.**

Source: "Greater Memphis Supply Chain and Logistics," last updated 2023,  
<https://memphischamberreports.com/supply-chain-and-logistics-report-2023-2/>

**The direct and indirect economic impact of goods movement businesses in Texas represents nearly 1 in every 8 jobs in the state.**

Source: "Texas Freight Mobility Plan," last updated March 2023,  
<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2023-12/texas-delivers-2050.pdf>

**Idaho's freight-reliant and freight-intensive industries employ 35.8% of the state's workforce and account for 40% of the state's GDP.**

Source: "2023 Strategic Freight Plan," last updated March 2023,  
<https://apps.itd.idaho.gov/apps/freight/FreightPlan.pdf>

**More than 1 out of 7 jobs in Georgia (and 17% of the Southeastern U.S. region's employment) are in freight-intensive industries.**

Source: "Georgia Freight Plan," last updated March 2023,  
<https://www.dot.ga.gov/InvestSmart/Freight/GeorgiaFreight/GeorgiaFreightPlan.pdf>

**Freight-intensive industries – such as mining, manufacturing, and retail trade – account for 46% of West Virginia's GDP.**

Source: "West Virginia State Freight Plan," last updated October 2023,  
<https://transportation.wv.gov/highways/Planning/Documents/Freight%20Plan/WV%20State%20Freight%20Plan%202023.pdf>

**The Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach support 3.1 million jobs nationally, or 1 out of every 51 jobs in the U.S.**

Source: "Economic Importance of Trade & the Ports to Southern California," last updated May 2024,  
<https://centerforjobs.org/wp-content/uploads/Economic-Impact-Ports-Report-FINAL.pdf>

**Freight-dependent industries represent 26% of total Rhode Island employment.**

Source: "State of Rhode Island 2022 Freight and Goods Movement Plan – Revised," last updated June 2022, [https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2023-12/Rhode Island Statewide Freight and Goods Movement Plan 2022.pdf](https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2023-12/Rhode%20Island%20Statewide%20Freight%20and%20Goods%20Movement%20Plan%202022.pdf)

**Washington state's freight system supports 45% of jobs in the state.**

Source: *“Washington State Freight System Plan,”* last updated June 2022,  
[https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/WA-State-Freight-System-Plan-2022\\_0.pdf](https://wsdot.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2022-12/WA-State-Freight-System-Plan-2022_0.pdf)

**Florida seaports support 900,000 direct and indirect jobs in the state.**

Source: *“Seaport Mission Plan,”* last updated 2023, [https://flaports.org/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Seaports-Mission-Plan-2023\\_web.pdf](https://flaports.org/wp-content/uploads/Florida-Seaports-Mission-Plan-2023_web.pdf)