



## 2008 Track/Traffic Density for US Class 1 and Short Line Railroads

In 2008, RTA and ZETA-TECH and Associates, prepared matrices on track/traffic density for Class 1 and Short Line railroads operating in the US. The data were taken from both R-1 reports and previous ZETA-TECH and RTA studies.

The tables presented in the next tables provide two different views of the data compiled at that time. The results clearly illustrate that the vast majority of track in the US (86%) carries less than 50MGT of traffic annually and that almost two-thirds (62%) carry less than 20MGT.

Extremely high tonnage track (76MGT or greater) accounts for only about 7% of the track operated by US railroads. It is not a coincidence that this demarcation point is almost exactly the market share of alternative/concrete ties (typically only used for high density track), as wood ties maintain 93-94% market share of all new ties produced for US freight railroads.

### U.S. Railroad Track Density (in MGT)

#### Class 1 Railroads

Track Category	Miles of Track	Average MGT	R-1 Reporting Category
A	70,323	51.15	20+ MGT
B	27,873	11.73	5-20 MGT
C	11,295	2.86	1-5 MGT
D	12,791	0.26	< 1 MGT
E	38,275	5.82	Yard Track**
<b>Class 1 track</b>	<b>160,557</b>	<b>26.05</b>	

#### Shortline Railroads

	Miles of Track	Midpoint MGT	MGT Category
	25,225	0.50	0 to 1
	23,425	5.50	1 to 10
	1,350	15.00	10 to 20
<b>Shortline track</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>3.23</b>	

#### All U.S. Railroads

	Miles of Track	Average MGT
<b>All U.S. RR track</b>	<b>210,557</b>	<b>20.63</b>

\*\* MGT (Million Gross Tons) of yard track is an estimate by ZETA-TECH

## U.S. Railroad Track Density (in MGT)

### Class 1

	MGT	Miles of Track	Percent
	0 to 10	55,812	35%
	11 to 20	23,301	15%
	21 to 50	48,116	30%
	51 to 75	17,806	11%
	76 to 100	10,692	7%
	over 100	4,830	3%
<b>Class 1 track</b>		<b>160,557</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Shortline

	MGT	Miles of Track	Percent
	0 to 10	48,650	97%
	11 to 20	1,350	3%
<b>Shortline track</b>		<b>50,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

### U.S. Railroads

	MGT	Miles of Track	Percent
	0 to 10	104,462	50%
	11 to 20	24,651	12%
	21 to 50	48,116	23%
	51 to 75	17,806	8%
	76 to 100	10,692	5%
	over 100	4,830	2%
<b>U.S. RR track</b>		<b>210,557</b>	<b>100%</b>