

FREIGHT

Freight Transportation Profile—Illinois Freight Analysis Framework

Understanding future freight activity is important for matching infrastructure supply to demand and for assessing potential investment and operational strategies. To help decisionmakers identify areas in need of capacity improvements, the U.S. Department of Transportation developed the Freight Analysis Framework (FAF), a comprehensive national database and analysis tool that examines freight flows for the truck, rail, water, and air modes. FAF also forecasts freight activity in 2010 and 2020 for each of these modes. Information about the methodology used in developing FAF is available on the Office of Freight Management and Operations' website www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight.

The U.S. freight transportation network moves a staggering volume of goods each year. Over 15 billion tons of goods, worth over \$9 trillion, were moved in 1998. The movement of bulk goods, such as grains, coal, and ores, still comprises a large share of the tonnage moved on the U.S. freight network. However, lighter and more valuable goods, such as computers and office equipment, now make up an increasing proportion of what is moved. FAF estimates that trucks carried about 71 percent of the total tonnage and 80 percent of the total value of U.S. shipments in 1998. By 2020, the U.S. transportation system is expected to handle about 23 billion tons of cargo valued at nearly \$30 trillion.

Illinois

Table 1 presents information on freight shipments that have either an origin or a destination in Illinois. As shown in the table, trucks moved a large percentage of the tonnage and value of shipments, followed by rail. Figures 1 and 2 show these freight flows on the highway and rail modes.

Truck traffic is expected to grow throughout the state over the next 20 years. Much of the growth will occur in urban areas and on the Interstate highway system (Figures 3 and 4). Truck traffic moving to and from Illinois accounted for 15 percent of the average annual daily truck traffic (AADTT) on the FAF road network. Approximately 13 percent of truck traffic involved in-state shipments, and 33 percent involved trucks traveling across the state to other markets. Thirty-nine percent of the AADTT were not identified with a route-specific origin or destination.

Table 2 shows the top five commodity groups shipped to, from, and within Illinois by all modes. The top commodities by weight are farm products, nonmetallic minerals, and coal. By value, the top commodities are transportation equipment and freight-all-kinds, which is freight containers where the contents are not identified.

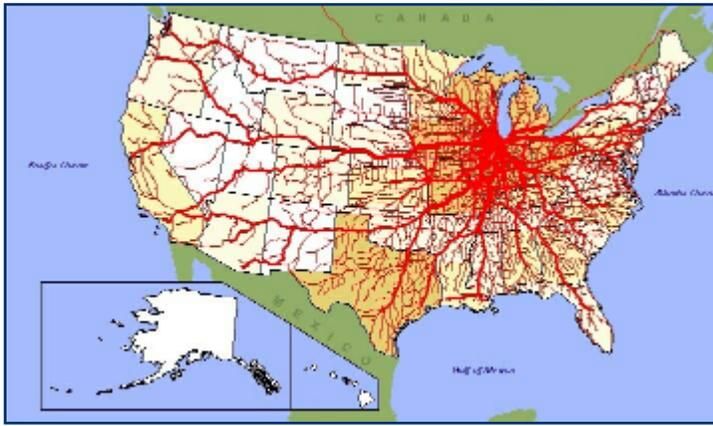
Table 1. Freight Shipments To, From, and Within Illinois: 1998, 2010, and 2020

ILLINOIS	Tons (millions)			Value (billions \$)		
	1998	2010	2020	1998	2010	2020
State Total	1,151	1,587	1,927	898	1,628	2,553
By Mode						
Air	2	3	5	118	263	459
Highway	658	921	1,119	590	1,064	1,651
Other ^a	1	1	1	<1	<1	<1
Rail	371	496	598	175	277	405
Water	118	166	205	14	24	37
By Destination/Market						
Domestic	1,076	1,470	1,760	789	1,393	2,129
International	74	117	167	109	236	424

Note: Modal numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

^a The "Other" category includes international shipments that moved via pipeline or by an unspecified mode.

Figure 1. Freight Flows To, From, and Within Illinois by Truck: 1998 (tons)



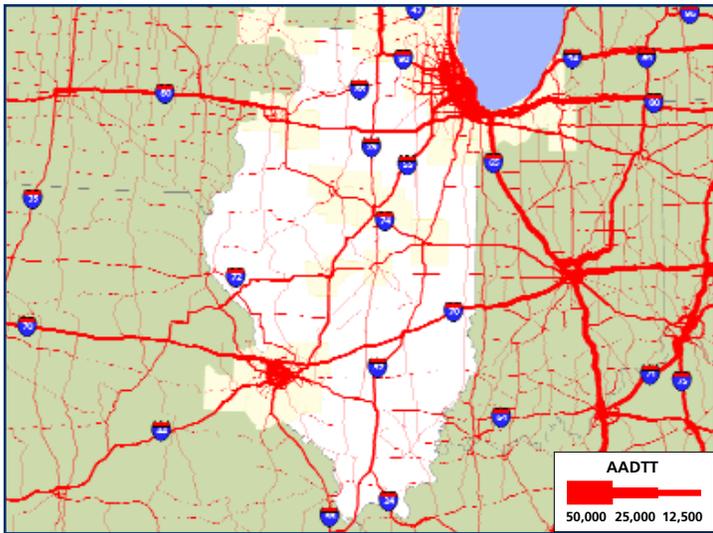
Federal Highway Administration

Figure 2. Freight Flows To, From, and Within Illinois by Rail: 1998 (tons)



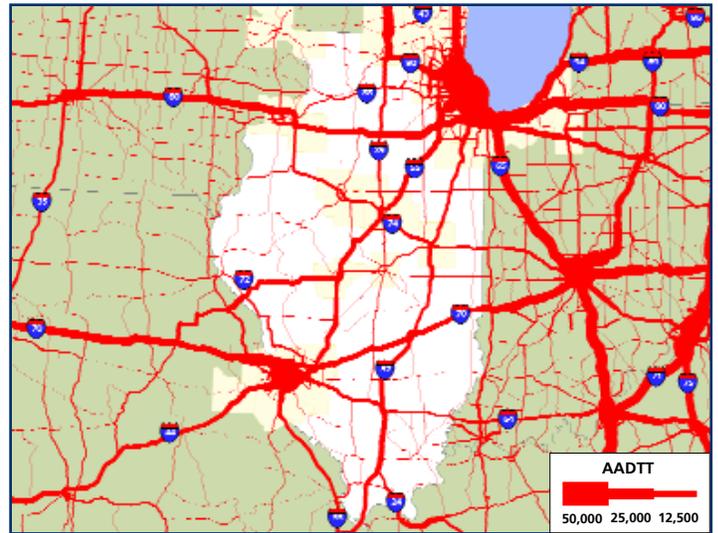
Federal Railroad Administration

Figure 3. Estimated Average Annual Daily Truck Traffic: 1998



Federal Highway Administration

Figure 4. Estimated Average Annual Daily Truck Traffic: 2020



Federal Highway Administration

Table 2. Top Five Commodities Shipped To, From, and Within Illinois by All Modes: 1998 and 2020

Commodity	Tons (millions)		Commodity	Value (billions \$)	
	1998	2020		1998	2020
Farm Products	163	259	Transportation Equipment	208	387
Nonmetallic Minerals	162	187	Freight All Kinds	108	305
Coal	158	209	Food/Kindred Products	96	347
Freight All Kinds	136	256	Chemicals/Allied Products	82	220
Food/Kindred Products	126	281	Machinery	57	197

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November 2002
FHWA-OP-03-019
EDL 13707

A series of FAF products are available on the website noted below. FAF outputs include freight flow maps for states, modes, and gateways; detailed databases on traffic flows and commodity movements; information on the methodologies used to develop FAF; and forecast assumptions.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) is also developing a series of state transportation profiles. For more information and to obtain a copy of the BTS reports, please call 202-366-DATA.



U.S. Department of Transportation

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