

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Winnipeg is one of only two Canadian cities with three Class 1 railways—Canadian National Railway Company (CN), The Canadian Pacific Railway (CP), and Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF). Winnipeg is the only major city between Vancouver, BC and Thunder Bay, ON with direct U.S. rail connections and direct access via rail to the northern seaport of Churchill.

Both CP and CN maintain extensive and modern yards with major service facilities in Winnipeg. CN's Symington Yard has the capacity to handle more than 3,000 cars a day and has a capacity of about 3,500 rail cars. This includes CN's locomotive reliability centre to maintain its locomotive fleet. The yard also has a radio shop, electronic repair shop and freight car repair shop.

Winnipeg is home CN's eBusiness and Transaction Centre. The Centre is the single point of contact for customer eBusiness and shipping documentation, as well as managing other centralized customer support requirements. Winnipeg is also home to CN's recently opened 100,000 square-foot multi-million dollar national training centre. The new facility is the primary training and development centre for all new employees including locomotive engineers, conductors, mechanics and track supervisors.

CP operates a multi-million Transportation Service Centre (TSC) in Winnipeg. This Centre is responsible for tracking, ordering, supplying and coordinating the placement of loaded and empty railcars, the TSC consolidates the functions of nine major customer centres across the country into a single, high-tech operation. CP's Winnipeg yards processes an average of 2,000 cars per day.

CP employs approximately 2,700 people in Manitoba. Close to three quarters of these employees are based in Winnipeg. CP's total direct expenditure in Manitoba through employment, purchases, capital spending and taxes are approximately \$200 million a year.

CP's Weston shops, in Winnipeg, is one of CP's key repair facilities. Winnipeg supplies the entire railway with freight car wheel sets, truck and refurbished freight car components, and maintenance equipment such as frogs and switch points. As well, the shop is the centre for maintenance of a large portion of CP's GM built locomotive fleet.

Both railways also have large intermodal facilities in Winnipeg. Intermodal is the movement of shipments from origin to destination by different modes, usually ship, train, and truck. Land-based intermodal transportation combines the short-haul advantages of trucks, with the long-haul advantages of rail. CN's Winnipeg Intermodal Terminal is ideally located adjacent to CN's main line through Winnipeg, and a major highway. The facility handles about 90,000 units coming into Winnipeg from across the continent, or leaving Winnipeg for export to international markets. CP's intermodal terminal handles an average of 35,000 units per year.

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With three rail connections to the U.S., Winnipeg enjoys ready access to the world's largest market. CP has a network of 24 intermodal terminals in Canada and the U.S. The railway also has eight border crossings between Canada and the U.S., offering ready access to major markets in both countries. CP operates container terminals and additional handling facilities to serve Midwest U.S. centres, including Chicago, Minneapolis and Milwaukee.

CN spans Canada and mid-America, from the Atlantic and Pacific oceans to the Gulf of Mexico, serving the ports of Vancouver, Prince Rupert, BC, Montreal, Halifax, New Orleans, and Mobile, AL, and the key metropolitan areas of Toronto, Buffalo, Chicago, Detroit, Duluth, MN/Superior, WI, Green Bay, WI, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Memphis, St. Louis, and Jackson, MS, with connections to all points in North America.

Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad with direct connections to almost three quarters of the U.S. and service into Mexico, has terminal facilities in Winnipeg under the name of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Manitoba Inc. The Canadian subsidiary operates a joint train to the Emerson border crossing with CN, where they connect with Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad which delivers the BNSF cars containing Canadian goods to various points of the U.S. The reverse is also used for the U.S. to deliver their goods to Winnipeg and Western Canada. Winnipeg is one of only two Canadian cities serviced directly by Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

Sources: Canadian National Railway Company, Canadian Pacific Railway, Burlington Northern Santa Fe

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