Minnesota has three major interstate highways – I-35, I-94 and I-90 – and the 5th largest road system in the nation. Nearly 400 million tons of freight are transported annually on Minnesota roads. Our extensive road network – and convenient north-central location – make it easy to move products anywhere in the country.

Nine commercial airports serve the state’s major commercial and metropolitan areas. Minneapolis-St. Paul International (MSP) has 167 nonstop destinations to 137 domestic and 30 international markets. It ranks as the second most on-time airport of its size in the world (2019) and has thrice ranked as the best airport of its size in North America (2016, 2017, 2018). Airports in border cities of neighboring states also serve regional needs.

Rail accounts for one-quarter of the freight moved in Minnesota. The state has nearly 4,500 miles of freight railroad operated by 21 companies. Four Class I freight rail lines – with over 3,500 Class I rail miles – are integrated with the U.S. and Canadian railway systems. Commuter rail and light rail transit lines serve the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area.

Minnesota has easy access to key waterways – including the Great Lakes and Mississippi River. Four ports on Lake Superior transport an average of over 50 million net tons of freight per year. And, the Mississippi River System, which spans about 200 miles, includes four port areas, and transports an average of over 14 million net tons of freight per year.

Minnesota has three Foreign Trade Zone (FTZs) – Minneapolis/St. Paul, Duluth and International Falls – which can help businesses minimize duty payments and accelerate global supply chains. These zones have magnet sites, usually located at ports of entry or in industrial parks. Businesses can use a magnet site or can apply to establish an FTZ subzone or usage-driven site anywhere in the state.