Trends in Intercity Freight Modal Market Shares
Ton-Miles

1. Railroads have the largest share of the market when the market is measured by ton-miles. Trucks have the largest share when the market is measured by tons. This is because railroads have a higher average length of haul than trucks.

2. Since 1990, the railroad share of the market has risen from 31.9 percent to 40 percent.

3. Between 1990 and 2009, the truck share of the market increased from 25.4 percent to 33.4 percent.

4. Between 1990 and 2009, the oil pipeline share of the market dropped from 17.5 percent to 14.3 percent.

5. Between 1990 and 2009, the waterway carriers share of the market fell from 24.9 percent to 12 percent.

6. The air carrier share of the market is very small.