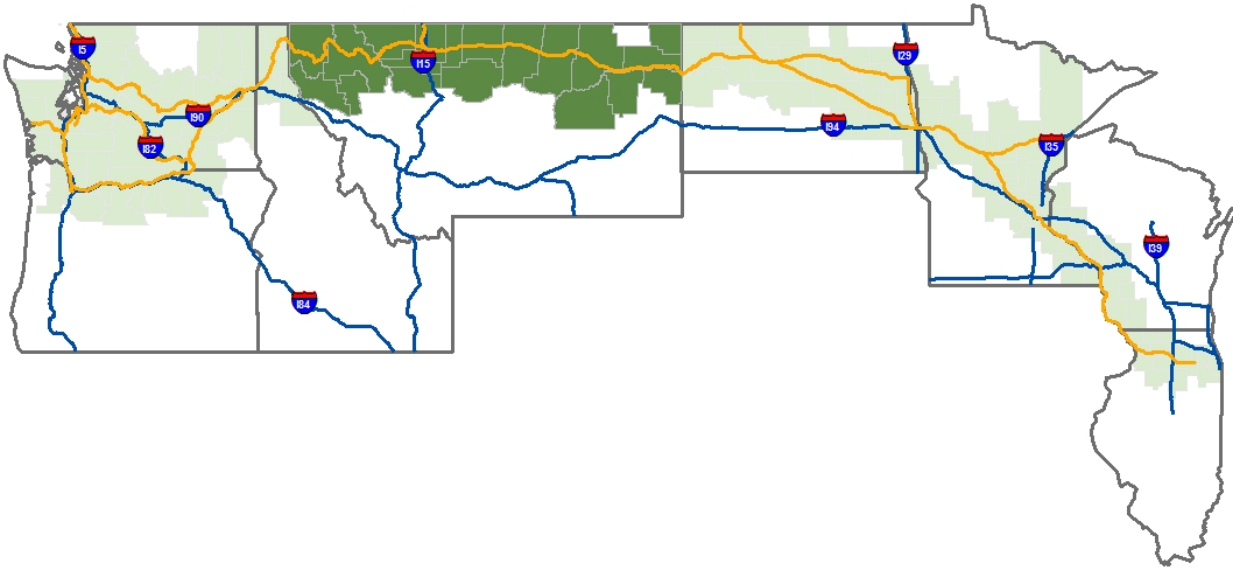


## Overview

Of Montana's 56 counties, 19 are within 20 miles of the Great Northern Corridor's (GNC) rail backbone. The GNC's multimodal corridor consisting of highways, rail and ports. It represents an east-west artery of commerce that supports the movement of people and goods, bringing economic vitality to more than 38 million Americans across eight North Central and Pacific Northwestern states.



## Demographic Makeup

The Great Northern Corridor has a rich and diverse demographic makeup as it spans over half the United States, connecting the Pacific Northwest to the nation's industrial Midwest, spanning rural agriculture and energy fields in between. The following highlights Montana's demographic and economic information to provide background on the areas through which the Corridor travels.

	Population (2015 Census)	U.S. Rank	GNC. Rank	Personal Income (Total, in Billions) (2015 USDC)	U.S. Rank	GNC. Rank	State's GDP (Total, in Billions) (2015 GDP USDC)	U.S. Rank	GNC Rank
<b>Montana</b>	1,032,949	45 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	\$42.6	46 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	\$45.9	49 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>GNC Totals</b>	38,297,393	n/a	n/a	\$1,863.0	n/a	n/a	\$2,239.0	n/a	n/a
<b>US Totals</b>	321,467,160	n/a	n/a	\$15,324.1	n/a	n/a	\$17,830.3	n/a	n/a

Source: <http://www.bea.gov/>

Montana with 3 percent of the GNC population base, ranks 7<sup>th</sup> out of the eight GNC states in Population, 8<sup>th</sup> in Personal Income and State GDP. Within the US, the state ranks 45<sup>th</sup> in Population, 46<sup>th</sup> place for Personal Income and 49<sup>th</sup> in State GDP.

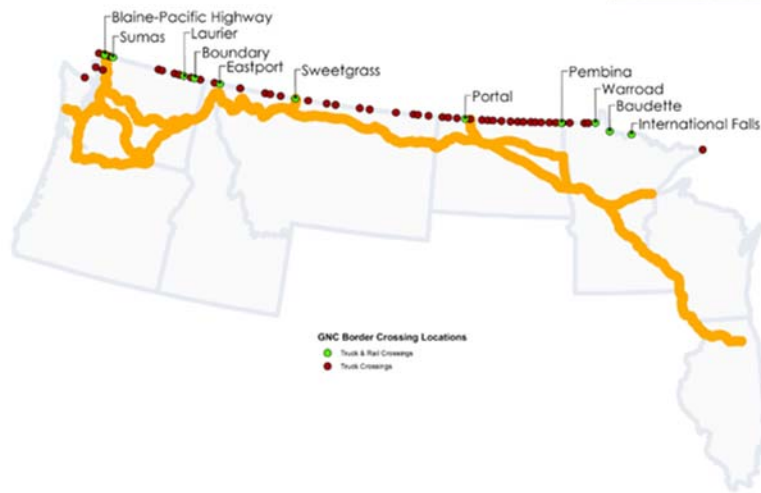
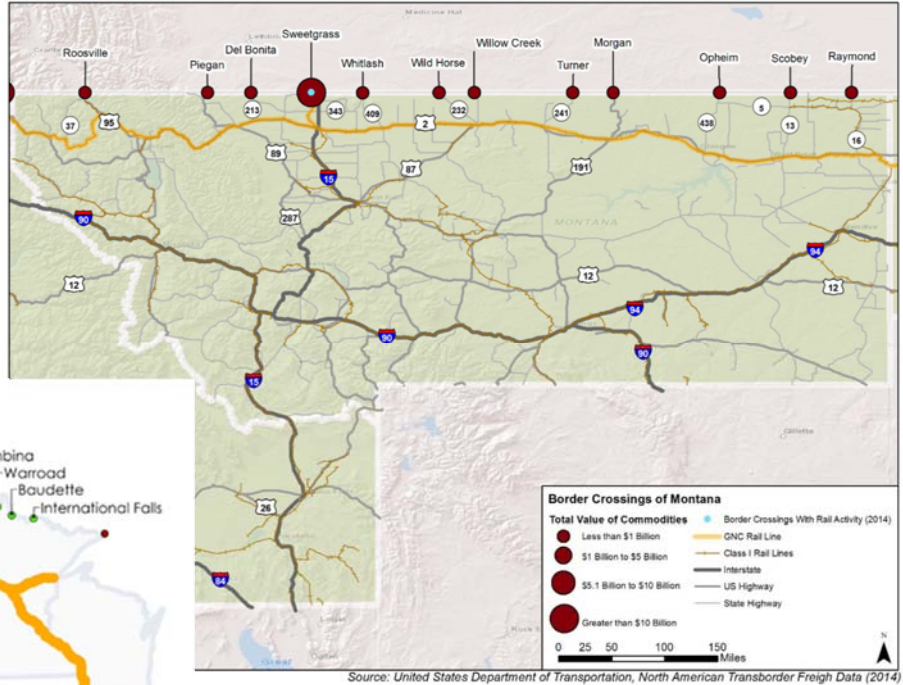
## Montana Coalition Members

Currently, Montana stakeholders are represented by the Montana Department of Transportation and the Port of Northern Montana. It is anticipated that this membership will grow as the Coalition expands its membership to other interested stakeholders along the corridor.

## Canadian Relations with Montana

Canada is Montana's largest trading partner, with exports in 2015 totaling \$523 million and imports totaling \$3.5 billion. Montana has 12 of GNC's 54 international ports of entry on the Canada border.

In 2014, Montana had three freight crossing in the top twenty GNC rail border crossings representing \$18 million or 15.5 percent of the GNC freight crossings.



In 2014, three border crossings of the top 20 GNC border crossings were in Montana: Sweetgrass, MT (#7), Roosville, MT (#15) and Piegan, MT (#20). Together these three crossings exchanged a total value of \$18.4 billion, 15.5 percent of the total GNC crossing Value.

## Montana Freight Border Crossing Locations in Top 20 GNC Crossings (2014)

Rank	Crossing	Route	Total Freight Crossings	Total Value (in Millions)	% of Total GNC Value
7	Sweetgrass, MT	I-15	165,693	\$17,834	15.0%
15	Roosville, MT	US-93	10,843	\$192	0.2%
20	Piegan, MT	US-89	1,941	\$360	0.3%
Montana Cross Border Total			178,477	\$18,386	15.5%
<b>GNC Cross Border Total</b>			<b>1,398,969</b>	<b>\$106,379</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Border Crossing/Entry Data (2014)

## 2014 Value of Roadway and Rail Border Crossings

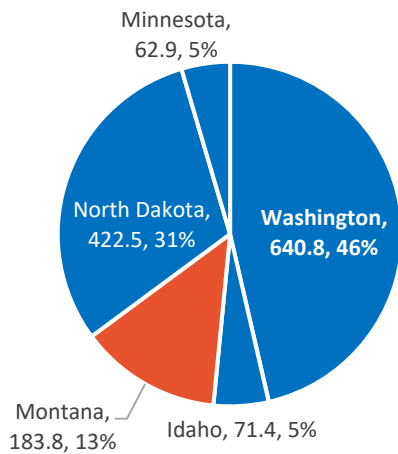
Montana	Total Roadway	% of Total GNC Roadway Value	Total Rail	% of Total GNC Rail Value
<b>Total Value in \$ Billions</b>	\$14.6	21%	\$1.5	4%
<b>Import Tonnage in Millions</b>	2.8	20%	1.2	2%

Source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Border Crossing/Entry Data (2014).

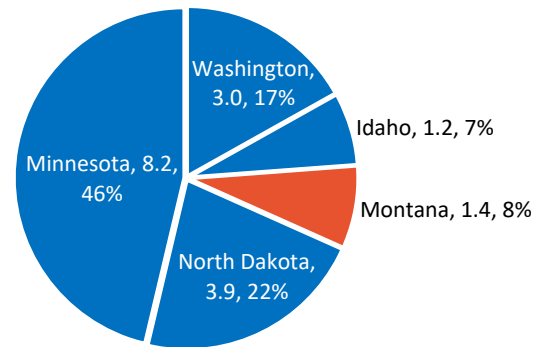
For 2014, Montana roadway crossings totaled \$14.6 billion, 21 percent of the total GNC roadway crossings. Rail border crossings in Montana were \$1.5 billion or 4 percent of the total GNC rail border crossings.

## 2014 Volume of Roadway and Rail Border Crossings

2014 Roadway Border Crossings  
in Thousands



2014 Rail Border Crossings  
in Thousands



During 2014, there were 183,826 Montana truck border crossings equivalent to 13 percent of the total GNC truck crossings. In that same year, there were 1,389 Montana rail border crossings, equaling 8 percent of the total GNC rail crossings.

## Domestic Cargo Movement (2014)

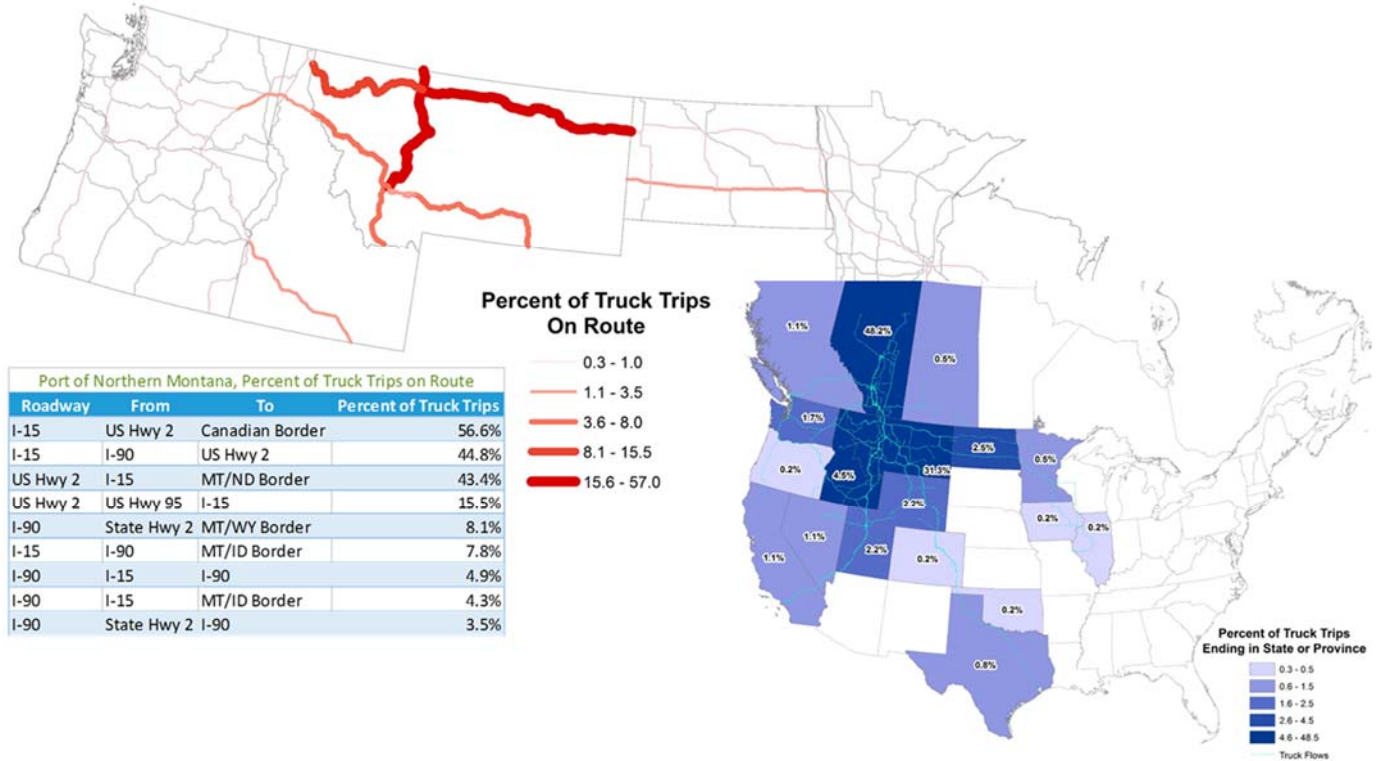
*Of the 145 Million Tons of Montana Products moving domestically in the United States,*

**83%**

*is destined for GNC states, valuing \$43 billion.*

## Truck flows

### Port of Northern Montana Truck Routes and Departure Destinations



The truck routes displayed above demonstrate the significance contribution Montana roadways and border crossings have to the mobility of freight through the Corridor.

## Current GNCC Initiatives

The following are three Phase II initiatives that have relevance to activities within Montana

### ***Unified Corridor Investment Program***

This initiative identified state and federal funding programs that should be evaluated for future project funding. The program included the development of a GNC project list and ranking methodology.

### ***Grade Crossing Safety and Mobility Initiative***

There is much public interest in rail grade crossings safety. This initiative identifies an initial grade crossings evaluation criteria and methodology that is more expansive than the traditional FRA evaluation criteria. It is intended that this research be a first step in the evaluation process that a project sponsor uses in their review during an investment decision.

### ***Sustainability Assessment Tools***

Through the use of sustainability tools, resource savings can be quantified and attributed to specific actions within a project and tracked to measure effectiveness. The assessment tools provide opportunities to evaluate project resource savings.