

# FREIGHT MOVEMENT IN TENNESSEE





# HIGHWAYS



**67%** of freight volume and  
**66%** OF FREIGHT VALUE  
IS SHIPPED BY TRUCKS\*



## TENNESSEE

RANKS

**#9 IN THE NATION**

for transportation and logistics employment &

**#3 IN THE NATION**

for trucking employment\*\*

\*Freight Analysis Framework Version 4.5.1, 2018

\*\*U.S. Cluster Mapping Project, 2017



# RAILROADS

**6 OF 7**

CLASS I RAILROADS &

**2,500** TOTAL MILES



OF FREIGHT RAIL\*

**208 MILLION TONS**

OF RAIL CARGO CARRIED IN TENNESSEE:

**#13 IN THE NATION\*\***



**MEMPHIS**

IS ONE OF ONLY FOUR

U.S. cities home to 5 class one railroads.

SHIPMENTS FROM MEMPHIS

BY RAIL CAN REACH

**45 STATES, CANADA AND MEXICO WITHIN 2 DAYS\*\*\***

\*Tennessee, Transportation by the Numbers, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2020

\*\*Association of American Railroads State Rankings, 2017

\*\*\* Cushman & Wakefield, 2020



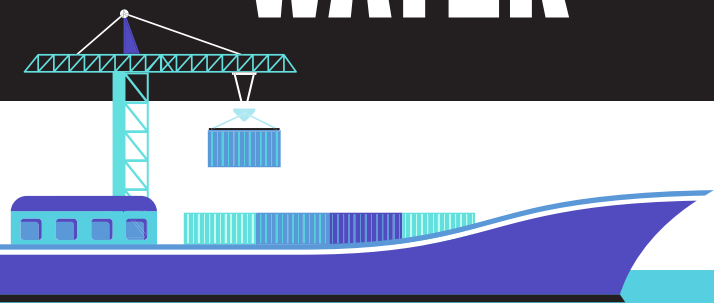
# AIR



MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IS  
**1ST IN NORTH AMERICA &  
2ND IN THE WORLD  
BUSIEST CARGO AIRPORT\***



# WATER



TENNESSEE HAS  
**950 MILES**  
of navigable waterways  
**11TH IN THE NATION\*\***

PORTS & WATERWAYS SUPPORT  
**81,000 JOBS &  
\$13.2 BILLION**  
IN ECONOMIC IMPACTS IN TENNESSEE\*\*

*\* Airports Council International, 2020*

*\*\* Inland Rivers, Ports, & Terminals Inc., 2018*

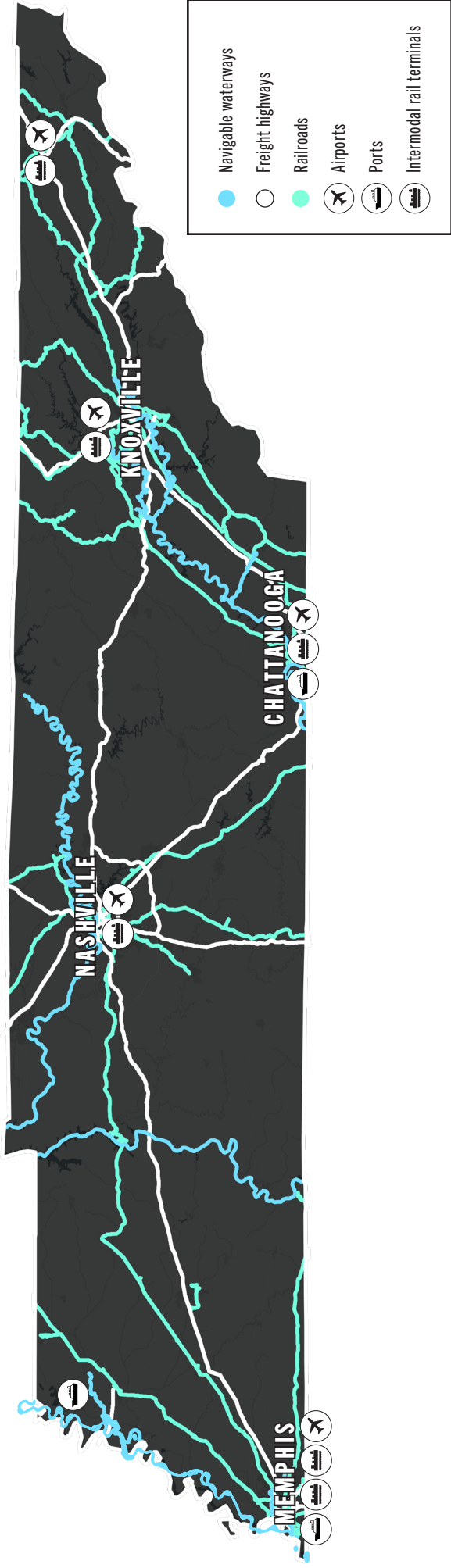
# TDOT FREIGHT FOCUS

Freight transportation is a critical part of economic development, job creation, and global growth for Tennessee. Approximately 430 million tons (\$756 billion worth of goods) was moved via Tennessee's infrastructure in 2018. Tennessee has a history of success with attracting and retaining industries from diverse freight sectors such as automotive, manufacturing, and transportation industries. Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) recognizes the importance of freight to the State's economy and has undertaken several key initiatives in support of strategic investment in freight-related infrastructure. TDOT has completed an update to the state's Long Range Transportation Policy Plan that includes a more robust Multimodal Freight Plan, organized statewide and regional freight advisory committees, and completed an update to the Statewide Travel Demand Model. TDOT has also completed major corridor studies on I-24, I-75, I-65, and I-55/I-75/I-26 and is in the process of completing a corridor study for I-40/I-81.

I-65, a major freight corridor in Tennessee, runs from the Alabama state line to the Kentucky state line. The I-65 corridor study was completed in 2017. The purpose of the study is to investigate a range of multimodal solutions to address future travel demands, with emphasis on managing congestion, improving safety, maximizing the potential for freight diversion, and preserving and enhancing the corridor's economic benefits. For more info visit [tinyurl.com/i65multimodalcorridorstudy](http://tinyurl.com/i65multimodalcorridorstudy).

I-24 is one of the Tennessee's primary freight assets, providing a connection from the southeastern U.S. to north of Tennessee. The I-24 corridor study produced 12 possible improvement strategies to improve freight mobility. Some of these strategies include the relocation or reconstruction of key freight facilities such as rail yards or locks/dams, improved signage on major interchanges, and the continued support of the statewide freight advisory committee. For more info visit [tinyurl.com/i24multimodalcorridorstudy](http://tinyurl.com/i24multimodalcorridorstudy).

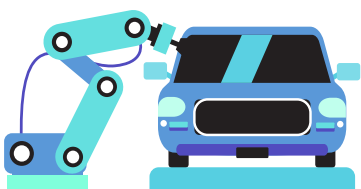
# TENNESSEE FREIGHT ASSETS





# AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY SPOTLIGHT


TENNESSEE IS HOME TO  
**900** AUTOMOTIVE  
SUPPLIERS &  
THREE ARE MAJOR  
automotive assembly plants\*



**\$31 BILLION**  
in motorized vehicles were  
EXPORTED FROM  
**TENNESSEE IN 2018\*\***

## NISSAN

 10,828  
employees

 Locations  
in Smyrna,  
Decherd  
and Franklin

## VOLKSWAGEN

 2,417  
employees

 Locations in  
Lenoir City and  
Chattanooga

## GENERAL MOTORS

 1,921  
employees

 Located in  
Spring Hill

\* TNECD, CERT, Tennessee's Automotive Cluster, 2019  
\*\*Tennessee, Transportation by the Numbers,  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2020

# THE FUTURE OF FREIGHT

## RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Since 2016, TDOT has been focused on freight research with more than \$1 million in research funds.

## UNIVERSITY PARTNERS INCLUDE:

Tennessee State University  
University of Memphis  
University of Tennessee – Knoxville  
Vanderbilt University

## RESEARCH TOPICS

Resilience of the freight network  
Freight congestion and mitigation  
Incident management  
Multi-modal freight analysis  
Energy and freight movement  
Last mile connectivity

## ADVANCES IN TECHNOLOGY

Truck platooning is an innovative technology allowing trucks to drive semi-autonomously in tandem using wireless technology.

## BENEFITS OF PLATOONING

**Congestion and safety** – more room on the road and faster braking response systems.

**Economic** – opportunities for the transportation and logistics sector.

**Environment** – less fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.