



Transportation

Railroad

Railroad: a permanent road having a line of rails fixed to ties and laid on a roadbed and providing a track for cars or equipment drawn by locomotives or propelled by self-contained motors.

Three rail carriers utilize lines in Rice County. The Union Pacific (UP) Railroad is primarily concentrated west of the Mississippi River (owning and operating tracks in 23 states), the Iowa Chicago and Eastern Railroad (IC&E) operates in the north central United States, and Progressive Rail, located within five Midwestern states.

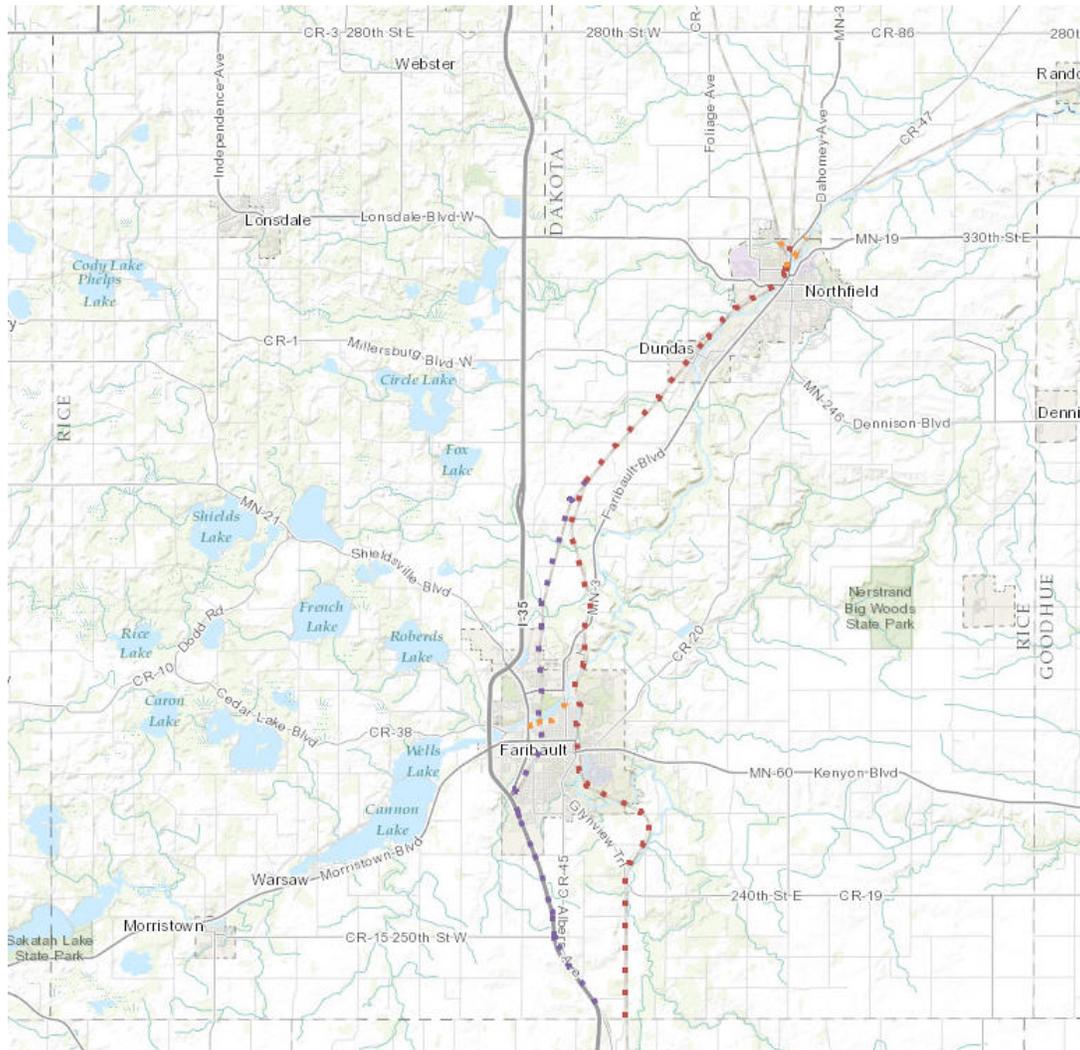
The Union Pacific Railroad is considered the largest railroad network in the United States. Headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, UP's route covers most of the central and western United States west of Chicago and New Orleans. As of 2008, UP operates on 32,012 miles of track, of which it owns 26,171 miles outright. The numbers of both represent the highest amount of any railroad currently operating in the United States. It has achieved its size via acquisitions, notably the Missouri Pacific, Chicago and North Western, Western Pacific, Missouri-Kansas-Texas, and Southern Pacific railroads. In Rice County, the Union Pacific Railroad was previously owned and operated by the Chicago and North Western.

The IC&E is a 1,400-mile line, based in Davenport, Iowa, serving the states of Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The rail has been controlled by the Canadian Pacific Railway since 2008. Previously, the IC&E was jointly owned with the Dakota, Minnesota, and Eastern Railroad by Cedar American Rail Holdings, making the combined system the largest Class II railroad in the United States. Train dispatching is performed at a joint DM&E/IC&E facility in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Commodities transported include chemicals, coal, steel, automobiles, and agricultural products. In Rice County, the IC&E was previously owned and operated by the Soo Line Railroad Company.

Railroad Line	Rice County Miles
	25
	14
	1.8

Progressive Rail is a shoreline railroad headquartered in Lakeville, Minnesota, that travels within five Midwest states: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois. Commodities include chemicals, fuel, lumber, cement, metals, paper, machinery, scrap materials, consumer products, as well as rail logistics services for machinery and over-dimensional freight shippers (through Progressive Rail Specialized Logistics).

Rice County Railroads



Click on the following map to access:

<http://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=8692cd289fb5434aad8ade16e2c6bfc>