

MAP OF THE MONTH

Single track
 Multiple track
 Trackage rights
 As of July 31, 1971

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 of the Illinois Central, 1971 map
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Illinois Central's roots

Like other great American railroads, the Illinois Central was a melting pot of many smaller lines — some acquired through lease or purchase, others set up by IC to construct new routes. This map charts the 88 different names that made up the “Main Line of Mid-America” by 1971, one year before IC’s merger with Gulf, Mobile & Ohio. (Today IC is part of Canadian National.) By then, abandonments had erased a few other predecessors from the

map altogether. (You can see a full list on our Web site.) IC completed its original 705-mile system in 1856, building north from Cairo to Galena (Chicago was served by a branch from Centralia). Almost immediately IC began accreting other railroads, as detailed in the table below. By 1971, the system totaled 6,541 route-miles, with an additional 3 miles leased, 217 miles of trackage rights, and 85 miles under three subsidiaries. — Matt Van Hattem

Initials	Name	Year admitted
A&V	Alabama & Vicksburg	1926
AL&S	Albert Lea & Southern	1900
ARR	Addison	1892
AW	Alabama Western	1908
B&E	Belleville & Eldorado	1895
B&SI	Belleville & Southern Illinois	1895
BI	Blue Island	1892
BRH&E	Baton Rouge, Hammond & Eastern	1908
BS	Bloomington Southern	1907-14
C&D	Cherokee & Dakota	1888
C&H	Christopher & Herrin	1903, '07
C&PH	Clinton & Port Hudson	1892
C&S	Chicago & Springfield	1877
C&S	Carbondale & Shawneetown	1895
C&T	Chicago & Texas	1897
Cairo Br	Cairo Bridge and approaches	1889
CA&N	Canton, Aberdeen & Nashville	1884
CF&M	Cedar Falls & Minnesota	1867-70
CF&NH	Cedar Falls & New Hartford	1904
CH&W	Champaign, Havana & Western	1888
CM&G	Chicago, Memphis & Gulf	1923
CM&N	Chicago, Madison & Northern	1888-91
CO&SW	Chesapeake, Ohio & Southwestern	1897
CR&C	Cedar Rapids & Chicago	1888
CSTL&NO	Chicago, St. Louis & New Orleans	1901-28
CSTL&P	Chicago, St. Louis & Paducah	1895
D&D Br	Dunleith & Dubuque Bridge	1869
D&S	Dubuque & Sioux City	1867
F&R	Fredonia & Reeds	1915
FD&O	Fort Dodge & Omaha	1900
GN	Golconda Northern	1919
G&SI	Gulf & Ship Island	1925
H&E	Hodgenville & Elizabethtown	1897
HN	Herrin Northern	1915
HR&E	Rantoul Railroad (Havana, Rantoul & Eastern)	1888
IC	Illinois Central	1852-56
IF&SC	Iowa Falls & Sioux City	1869-70
IS	Indianapolis Southern (also Illinois & Indiana)	1900-11
J&SE	Jackson & South Eastern	1908
K&SW	Kankakee & South Western (also Kankakee & Western and Clinton, Bloomington & North Eastern)	1878-83
KV	Kentucky Valley	1908
KW	Kentucky Western	1902
LM	Louisiana Midland	1967
LNO&T	Louisville, New Orleans & Texas	1892
M&A	Mississippi & Alabama	1908
M&NORR&L	Memphis & New Orleans Railroad & Land	1892
M&NW	Mobile & Northwestern	1892
M&SL	Memphis & State Line	1907-08
M&T	Mississippi & Tennessee	1889
M&V	Memphis & Vicksburg	1892
MC	Mississippi Central	1882, 1967
MCR	Mound City	1896
MC&T	Mississippi Central & Tennessee	1882
MV	Mississippi Valley	1892
NJ&C	Natchez, Jackson & Columbus	1892
NOBRV&M	New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Vicksburg & Memphis	1892
NOJ&GN	New Orleans, Jackson & Great Northern	1882
NO&MV	New Orleans & Mississippi Valley	1892
NOSL&C	New Orleans, St. Louis & Chicago	1882
OB&T	Omaha Bridge & Terminal	1903
OFR&GR	Owensboro Falls of Rough & Green River	1897

Initials	Name	Year admitted
OV	Ohio Valley	1897
PD&E	Peoria, Decatur & Evansville	1900
R&H	Riverside & Harlem	1901
SI&K	Southern Illinois & Kentucky	1928
SRR	Stacyville	1897
SoChi	South Chicago	1883
StCAL	St. Charles Air Line	1856
StLA&TH	St. Louis, Alton & Terre Haute	1895
StL&OR	St. Louis & Ohio River	1902
StL&P&N	St. Louis, Peoria & Northern	1900
StLSo	St. Louis Southern	1895
T&G	Tremont & Gulf	1959
TC	Tennessee Central	1968
TS	Tennessee Southern	1892
VB	Vicksburg Bridge Commission	Leased
VS&P	Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific	1926
W&E	The West and East	1882
WF	West Feliciana	1892
YD	Yazoo Delta	1900
Y&MV	Yazoo & Mississippi Valley	1884-1914
Subsidiary lines		
C&W	Chicago & Illinois Western	1924
K&E	Kensington & Eastern	1909
WLO	Waterloo	1968
Trackage rights		
C&NW	Chicago & North Western	
CR&P	Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific	
GM&O	Gulf, Mobile & Ohio	
IT	Illinois Terminal	
L&N	Louisville & Nashville	
MP	Missouri Pacific	
P&PU	Peoria & Pekin Union	
SLSF	St. Louis-San Francisco	
SOU	Southern	
TRRA	Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis	

