



# Fourth Quarter Earnings Conference Call

January 27, 2016

# Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this presentation are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the safe harbor provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, as amended. In some cases, forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of words like “believe,” “expect,” “anticipate,” “estimate,” “plan,” “consider,” “project,” and similar references to the future. Forward-looking statements are made as of the date they were first issued and reflect the good-faith evaluation of Norfolk Southern Corporation’s (NYSE: NSC) (“Norfolk Southern” or the “Company”) management of information currently available. These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the Company’s control. These and other important factors, including those discussed under “Risk Factors” in the Company’s Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, as well as the Company’s other public filings with the SEC, may cause our actual results, performance or achievement to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not, and should not be relied upon as, a guarantee of future performance or results, nor will they necessarily prove to be accurate indications of the times at or by which any such performance or results will be achieved. As a result, actual outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update or revise forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, the occurrence of certain events or otherwise, unless otherwise required by applicable securities law.

## Important Additional Information and Where to Find It

Norfolk Southern Corporation (the “Company”), its directors and certain of its executive officers and employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from stockholders in connection with the Company’s 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “2016 Annual Meeting”). The Company plans to file a proxy statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the 2016 Annual Meeting (the “2016 Proxy Statement”). Additional information regarding the identity of these potential participants, none of whom owns in excess of 1 percent of the Company’s shares of Common Stock, and their direct or indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, will be set forth in the 2016 Proxy Statement and other materials to be filed with the SEC in connection with the 2016 Annual Meeting. This information can also be found in the Company’s definitive proxy statement for its 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the “2015 Proxy Statement”), filed with the SEC on March 25, 2015, or the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014, filed with the SEC on February 11, 2015 (the “Form 10-K”). To the extent holdings of the Company’s securities by such potential participants have changed since the amounts printed in the 2015 Proxy Statement, such changes have been or will be reflected on Statements of Ownership and Change in Ownership on Forms 3 and 4 filed with the SEC.

**STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ THE 2016 PROXY STATEMENT (INCLUDING ANY AMENDMENTS OR SUPPLEMENTS THERETO), 2015 PROXY STATEMENT, FORM 10-K AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTS THAT THE COMPANY HAS FILED OR WILL FILE WITH THE SEC CAREFULLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY WHEN THEY BECOME AVAILABLE BECAUSE THEY WILL CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION.**

Stockholders will be able to obtain, free of charge, copies of the 2016 Proxy Statement (when filed), 2015 Proxy Statement, Form 10-K and any other documents (including the WHITE proxy card) filed or to be filed by the Company with the SEC in connection with the 2016 Annual Meeting at the SEC’s website (<http://www.sec.gov>) or at the Company’s website (<http://www.nscorp.com>) or by writing to Denise Hutson, Corporate Secretary, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Three Commercial Place, Norfolk, Virginia 23510.



# Norfolk Southern Strategic Plan

January 27, 2016

*Jim Squires  
Chairman, President, and  
Chief Executive Officer*

# *Foundation for Success*

- Superior service levels restored
- G&A reorganization consolidated headquarters
- Triple Crown restructuring
- Delaware & Hudson Railway Company line acquisition
- Reduced 2015 capital spending
- Division consolidation and line rationalizations

# Norfolk Southern's Strategic Plan

- Revenue Plan
  - Optimize pricing
  - Contribution growth from service-sensitive markets
  - Conservative pricing and volume forecasts
- Cost Reduction Plan
  - Commitment to drive operating ratio below 65 by 2020
  - Specific initiatives underway to achieve more than \$650MM of annual productivity savings by 2020

# *Norfolk Southern's Revenue Plan*

# Overview of Norfolk Southern Revenue Plan

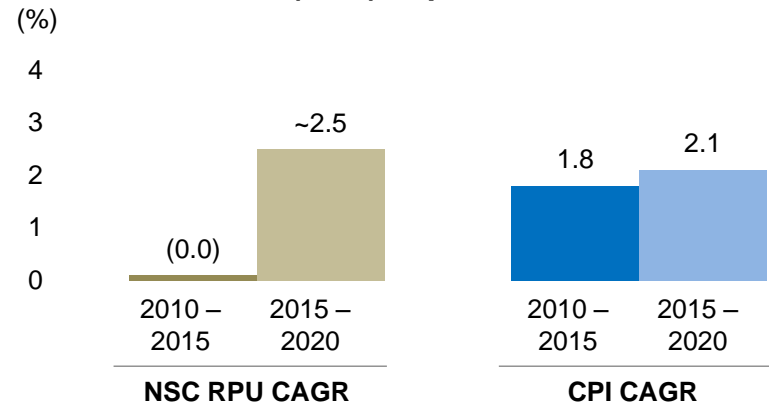
- Revenue growth from both pricing and volume increases
  - Disciplined pricing increases and strong revenue growth from service-sensitive markets to deliver increasing earnings and returns on capital
- Detailed, bottom-up plan for revenue growth over the next five years
  - Extensive review of customer expectations, plant-level forecasts and market expectations
  - Independent indices used to build long-term forecasts and validate near-term analysis
  - Five-year revenue plan is conservative compared to public data and past trends
  - Dynamic forecasting to adjust to market conditions and continually drive value



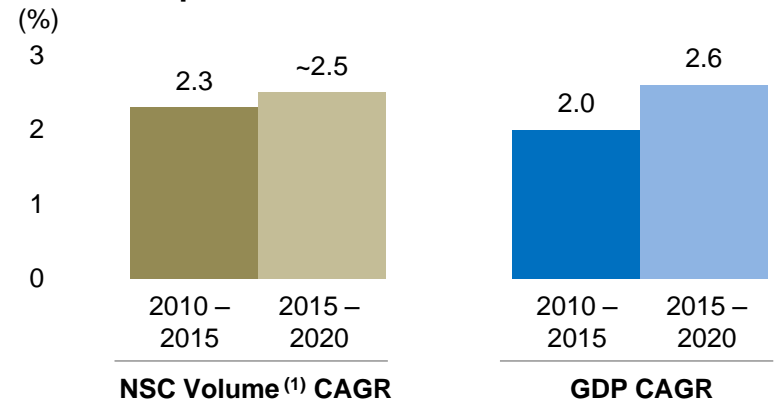
# Volume and Pricing Guidance

- RPU growth from 2015 – 2020 of ~2.5%, around 0.5% above projected CPI
  - Decline in fuel surcharge headwinds, recent price initiatives and reduced negative mix drive RPU increases in excess of CPI
  
- Volume growth from 2015 – 2020 of ~2.5% <sup>(1)</sup> in line with GDP growth expectations
  - Volumes historically have tracked GDP
  - Intermodal to drive volume growth despite headwinds in coal

**Revenue Per Unit (RPU) Expectations**



**Volume Expectations**



1. Excluding restructured Triple Crown (TCS).

# Volume Growth Details

## 2010 – 2015 Performance

## 2015 – 2020 Outlook

### Coal

- (7.1%) CAGR
- Volume impacted by earlier MATS impact, with all retiring plants cleared by 2016
- Steep drop in natural gas price since 2014



- Expected CAGR: ~(-1%)
- Coal volume declines in 2016 giving way to stabilization in 2017
- Coal forecast more conservative than estimates from DOE and other experts
- New gas capacity in Southeast does not impact NS-served power plants

### Merchandise

- 2.2% CAGR
- Energy-related gains, strong automotive and chemicals growth, declining steel business



- Expected CAGR: ~2%
- Growth in line with market trends
- Changing markets with automotive and chemicals growth

### Intermodal

- 6.5% CAGR <sup>(1)</sup>
- Strong historical growth from both domestic and international intermodal



- Expected CAGR: ~5%, ex TCS
- Tighter truck capacity and improved service levels in domestic
- International alignment with shipping partners adding capacity
- Business shifts from West Coast to East Coast ports

1. Excluding restructured Triple Crown (TCS). Please see non-GAAP reconciliation posted on our website.

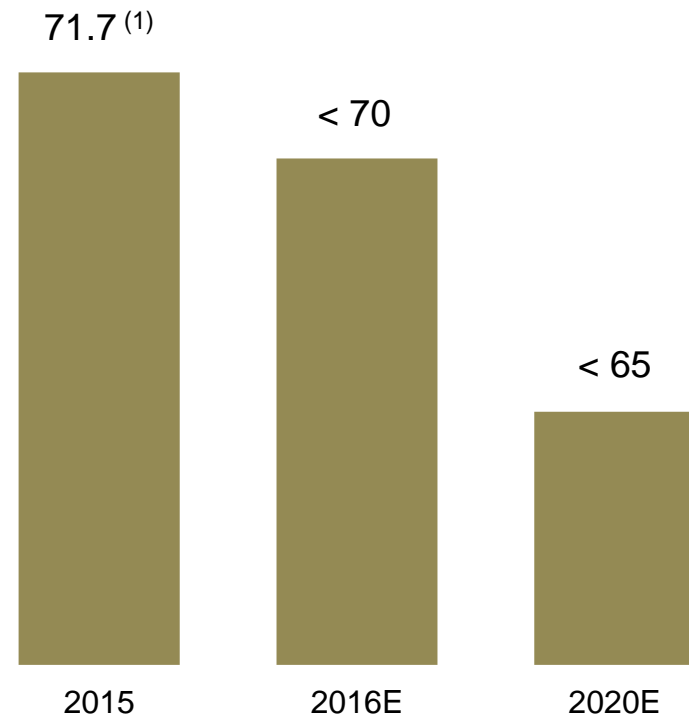
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# *Norfolk Southern's Expense Reduction and Cost Control Plan*

# Overview of Expense Reduction and Cost Control Initiatives

- Focus on maintaining industry-leading service levels and driving substantial operating ratio improvements
- Clear path to achieve an operating ratio below 65 by 2020
  - Robust review of various expense initiatives to maximize efficiency
  - Initiatives include managing headcount, increasing locomotive productivity, improving fuel efficiency and focusing on our network footprint
- Service recovery currently allows Norfolk Southern to capitalize on cost initiatives

## Key Operating Ratio Targets



***Commitment to achieve operating ratio below 65 by 2020, and will not stop there***

1. Adjusted for Triple Crown restructuring and Roanoke relocation. Please see non-GAAP reconciliation posted on our website.

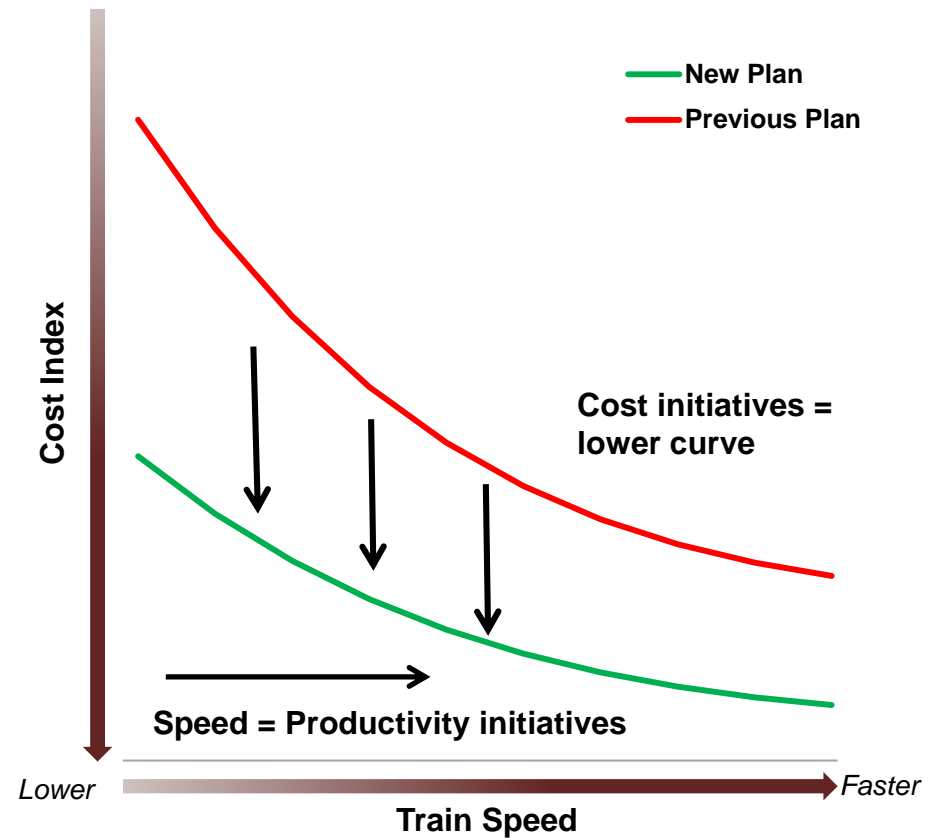
# *Norfolk Southern's Model Provides Significant Flexibility to Address Future Market Conditions*

- Over the past year, the railroad industry has experienced significant headwinds related to a number of external factors, particularly challenging commodity markets
- Focused on both reducing costs as well as providing additional flexibility to rapidly address both market headwinds and opportunities
- Dynamic plan that identifies opportunities for additional operating expense reduction:
  - **Labor:** reduced overtime and headcount reductions
  - **Locomotive:** reduced fleet size and better fuel efficiency
  - **Network Operating Plan:** additional yard closures and rationalization of less active secondary lines
- Even considering challenging future market conditions, we are confident that we will be able to achieve a < 65% operating ratio

# Faster Railroad = Lower Cost and Better Service

- + Service product of consistency, reliability and availability
- + Less overtime
- + Lower fuel costs
- + Lower asset costs
- + Lower car-hire costs
- + Fewer reworks

**= Lower cost and more profitable railroad**



# Path to Achieve Operating Ratio Below 65

## Cost Reduction and Expense Control Detail

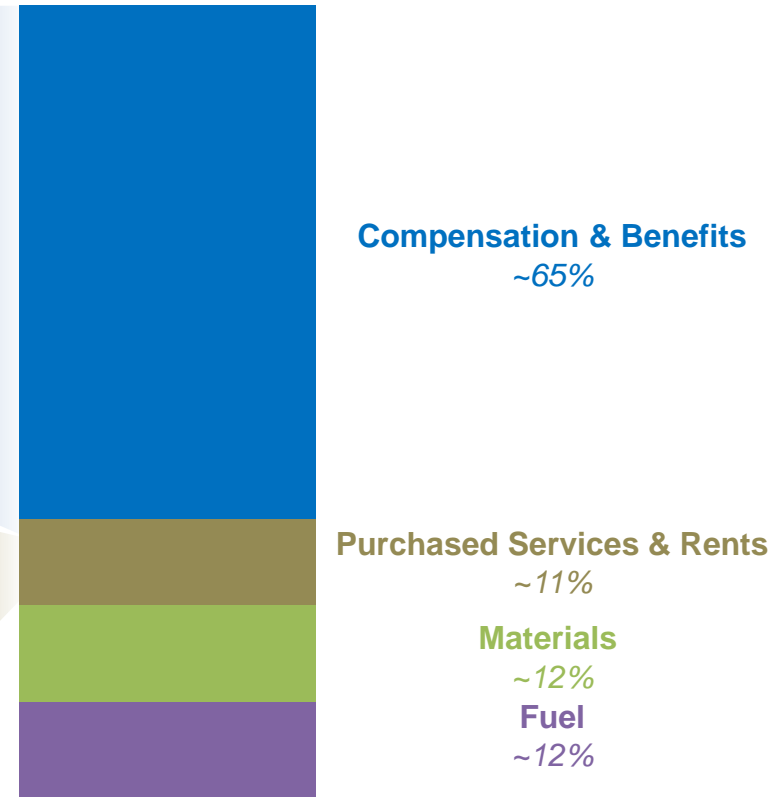
### Compensation & Benefits – ~\$420MM

- Overtime reductions with improving service levels
- Build on 2015 initiatives to right-size workforce
- Reduced employee levels in coal traffic areas
- Realignment from three to two operating regions
- Continued progress on yard closures
- Smaller secondary main line network

### Purchased Services & Rents – ~\$70MM

- Reduced equipment rental and lease costs
- Reduced payments for use of third-party switching terminals
- Reduced trackage and haulage rights payments

## Annual Savings by 2020: \$650MM



Compensation & Benefits  
~65%

Purchased Services & Rents  
~11%

Materials  
~12%

Fuel  
~12%

# Path to Achieve Operating Ratio Below 65 (cont'd)

## Cost Reduction and Expense Control Detail

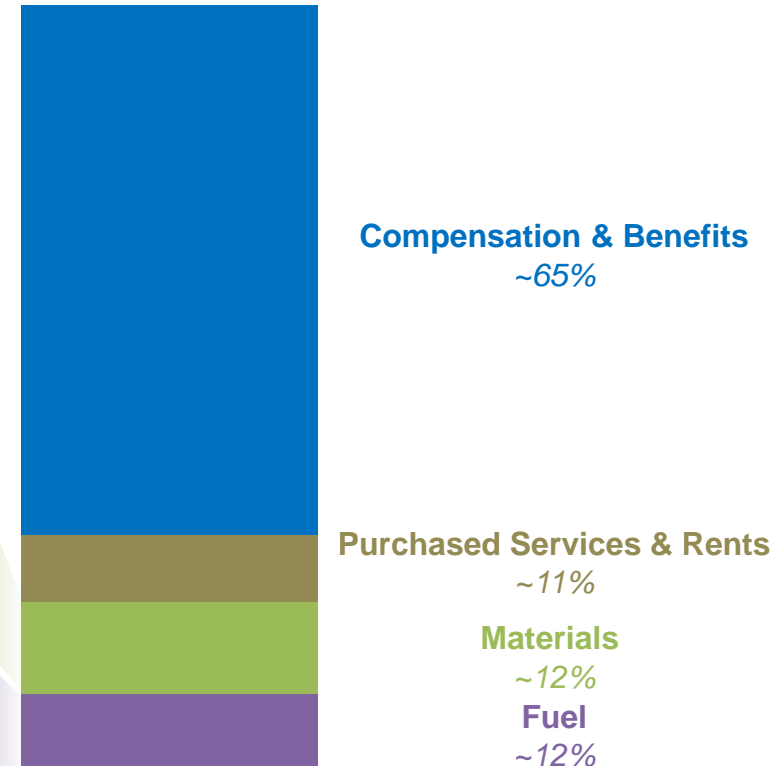
### Materials – ~\$80MM

- Increased efficiencies to allow reduced fleet size
- Continued rationalization of yard and local locomotive fleet
- New locomotives to replace older, higher cost and less reliable units
- 6-axle re-build strategy conserves capital and enhances efficiency

### Fuel – ~\$80MM

- Reduced fleet size, removal of older, less efficient units and higher system velocity
- Implementation of industry-leading energy management technology

## Annual Savings by 2020: \$650MM





# Driving Increasing Shareholder Value

## Key Focus Areas

*Optimize revenue – both pricing and volume*



*Improve productivity to deliver efficient and superior service*



*Increase asset utilization*



*Focus capital investment to support long-term value creation*



*Reward shareholders with significant return of capital*



## Key Financial Targets

2016E

2020E

*Disciplined pricing increases above rail inflation*

*Operating Ratio < 70*

*Operating Ratio < 65*

*Double-digit compound annual EPS growth*

*~\$2.1bn of CapEx*

*CapEx ~17% of revenue*

*Dividend payout target of ~33% over the longer term and continuation of dividend growth and significant share repurchases*

*Maximize Long-Term Shareholder Value*



# Fourth Quarter 2015 Marketing Overview

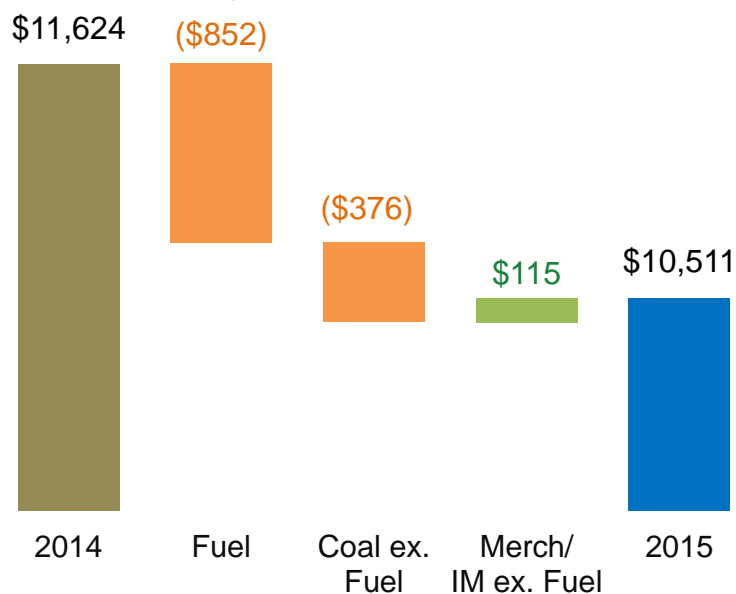
January 27, 2016

*Alan H. Shaw*  
*Executive Vice President*  
*and Chief Marketing Officer*

# Full Year Performance

Revenue	RPU	RPU Less Fuel <sup>(1)</sup>	Volume
\$10.5 Billion; down (10%)	\$1,405; down (7%)	\$1,342; flat	7,478,900 units; down (3%)

## Revenue Change in \$ Millions <sup>(1)</sup>



## Fuel Surcharge and Coal Reductions Account for the Decline

- (64%) decline in fuel surcharge revenue
- (18%) decline in coal revenue excluding fuel surcharge

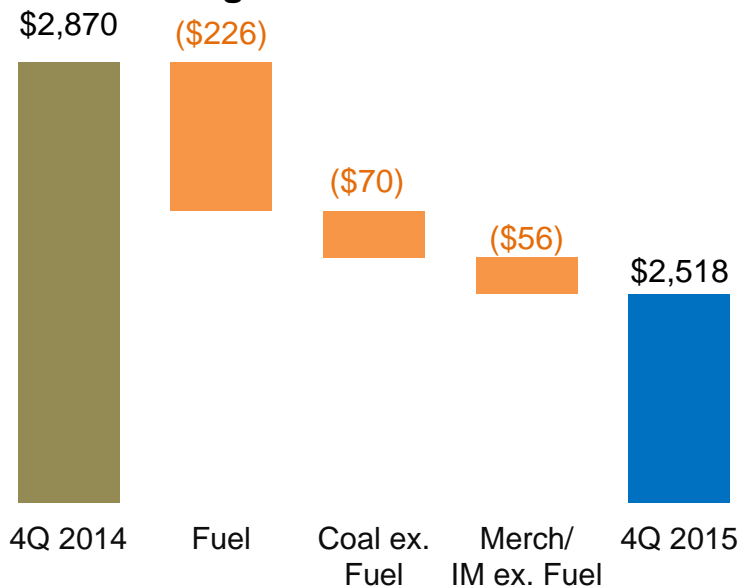
1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Railway Operating Revenue

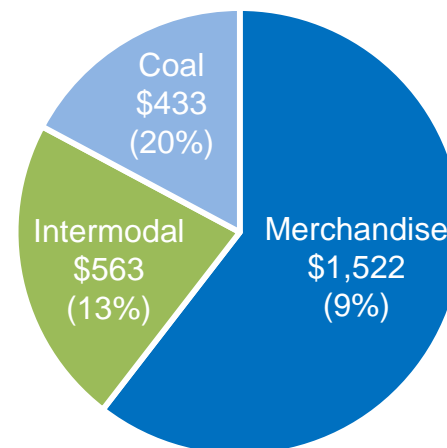
## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014

Revenue	RPU	RPU Less Fuel <sup>(1)</sup>	Volume
\$2.5 Billion; down (12%)	\$1,396; down (6%)	\$1,351; up 2%	1,803,400 units; down (6%)

Revenue Change in \$ Millions <sup>(1)</sup>



Revenue \$ in Millions & Y-o-Y Percent Change



1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

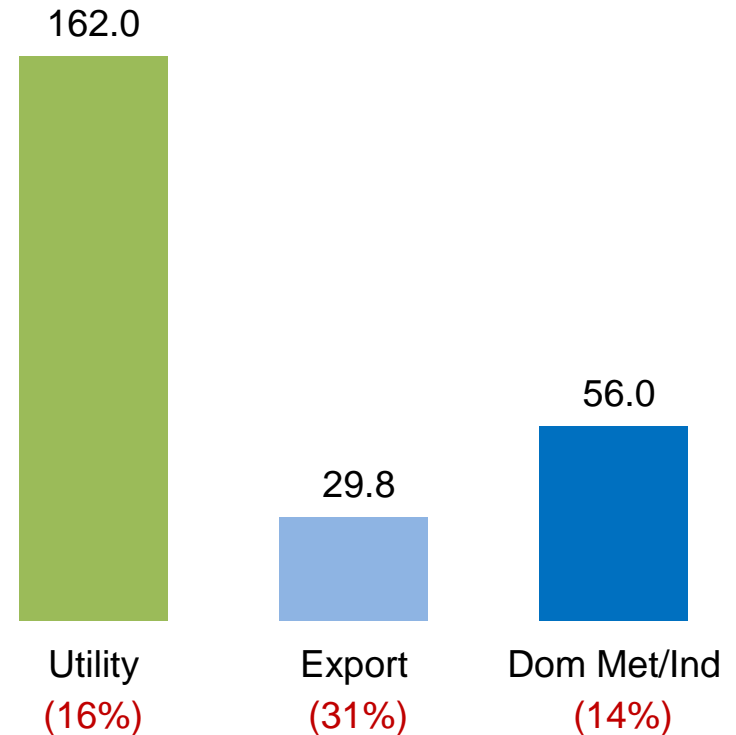
# Coal Market

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014

*Mild winter weather impacted utility burn; weak global conditions depressed export.*

<b>Revenue</b>	\$433 Million	↓	(20%)
<b>Volume</b>	247,800	↓	(18%)
<b>RPU</b>	\$1,746	↓	(3%)
<b>Less Fuel</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>	\$421 Million <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(14%)
<b>RPU</b>	\$1,701 <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	4%

### Units (000's)

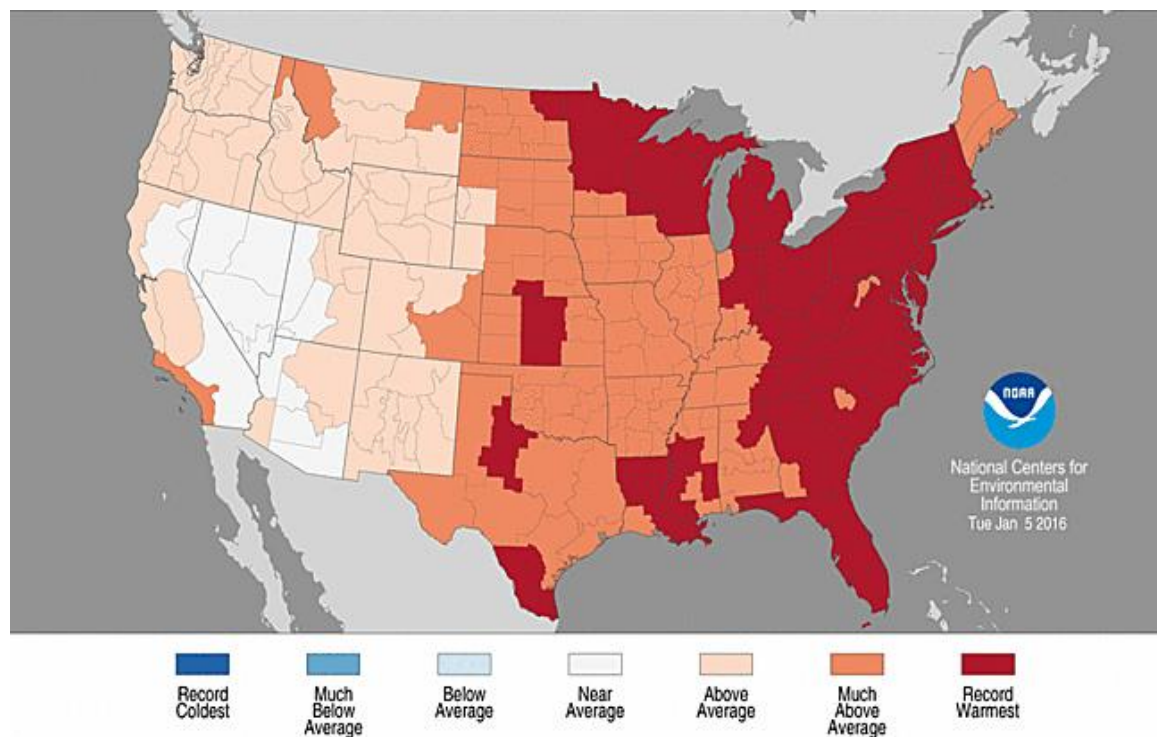


1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Mild Weather Significantly Impacted 4Q Utility Coal Volumes

- We handled 18.9 million tons of utility coal in the fourth quarter, 6% below the guidance of 20 million tons.
- Record high temperatures throughout NS service region negatively impacted coal burn.
- Stockpile levels are 40 days above target as of November. Impacting first quarter and beyond.

## Divisional Average Temperature Ranks October – December 2015 (Period: 1895–2015)



# Intermodal Market

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014

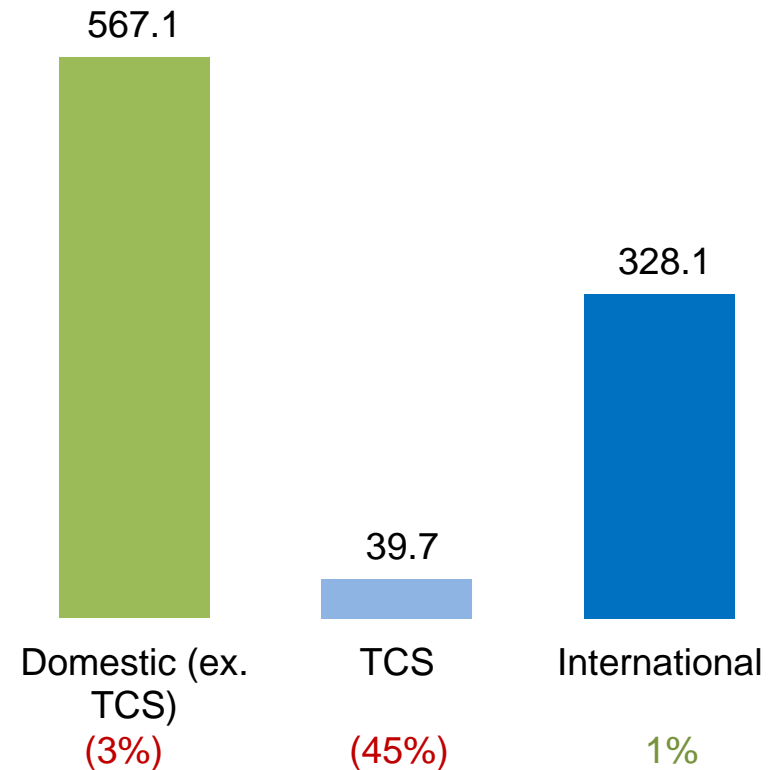
*Triple Crown restructuring significantly impacted volumes and RPU.*

Revenue	\$563 Million	↓	(13%)
Volume	934,900	↓	(5%)
RPU	\$602	↓	(9%)
<b>Less Fuel</b>			
Revenue	\$501 Million <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(5%)
RPU	\$536 <sup>(1)</sup>		Flat

### Excluding Triple Crown

Revenue	\$517 Million <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(7%)
Volume	895,200 <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(1%)
RPU	\$577 <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(6%)
<b>Less Fuel</b>			
Revenue	\$463 Million <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	2%
RPU	\$517 <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	4%

### Units (000's)



1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

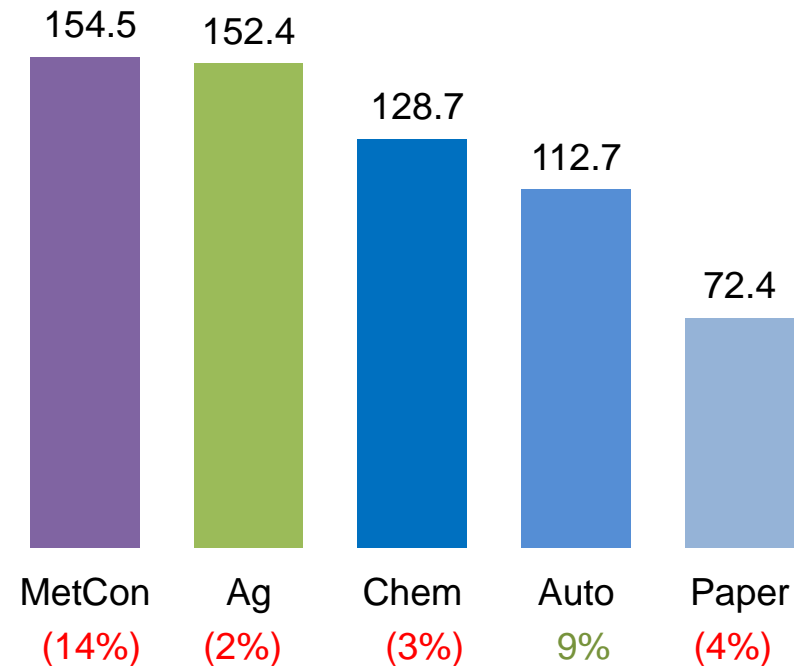
# Merchandise Market

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014

Automotive growth offset by weaker commodity and export markets.

Revenue	\$1,522 Million	↓	(9%)
Volume	620,700	↓	(4%)
RPU	\$2,453	↓	(5%)
<b>Less Fuel</b>			
Revenue	\$1,514 Million <sup>(1)</sup>	↓	(2%)
RPU	\$2,438 <sup>(1)</sup>	↑	2%

Units (000's)



1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.



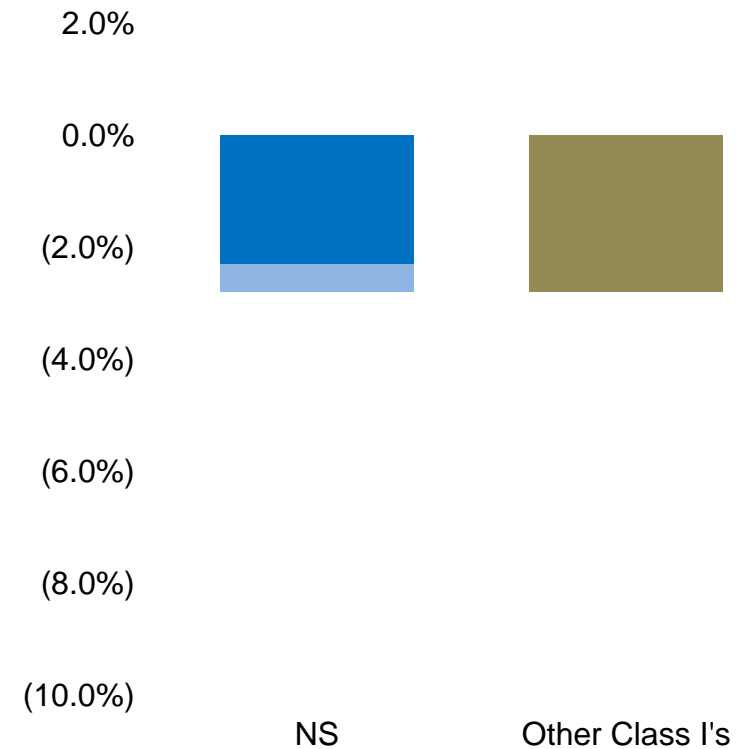
# Favorable 4Q Performance Compared to Peers

*Excluding the impact of TCS, NS 4Q volume declined less than other Class I railroads.*

**Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014**



**2015 vs. 2014**



1. Light blue represents Triple Crown decline.
2. AAR Weekly Traffic Data through Week 52, 2015 (ended January 2, 2016).

# 2016: Building on a Strong Foundation

## Volume

- Continue to diversify franchise, mitigating risk from commodity price volatility
  - Low commodity prices will continue to hinder crude oil, frac sand, steel, and utility and export coal volumes
  - Coal volumes will decline
- Consumer-driven growth opportunities
  - Automotive, housing and construction-related commodities
  - Domestic and international Intermodal

## Pricing

- Pricing increases accelerated throughout 2015, with fourth quarter strongest of the year
  - Full-year impact in 2016
  - Both realized and negotiated
  - Strongest pricing since 3Q 2012
- Long term pricing plan on multiyear contracts

## Fuel Surcharges

- Shifting from WTI-based to OHD-based fuel surcharge programs

*Improved service will be a springboard to growth*



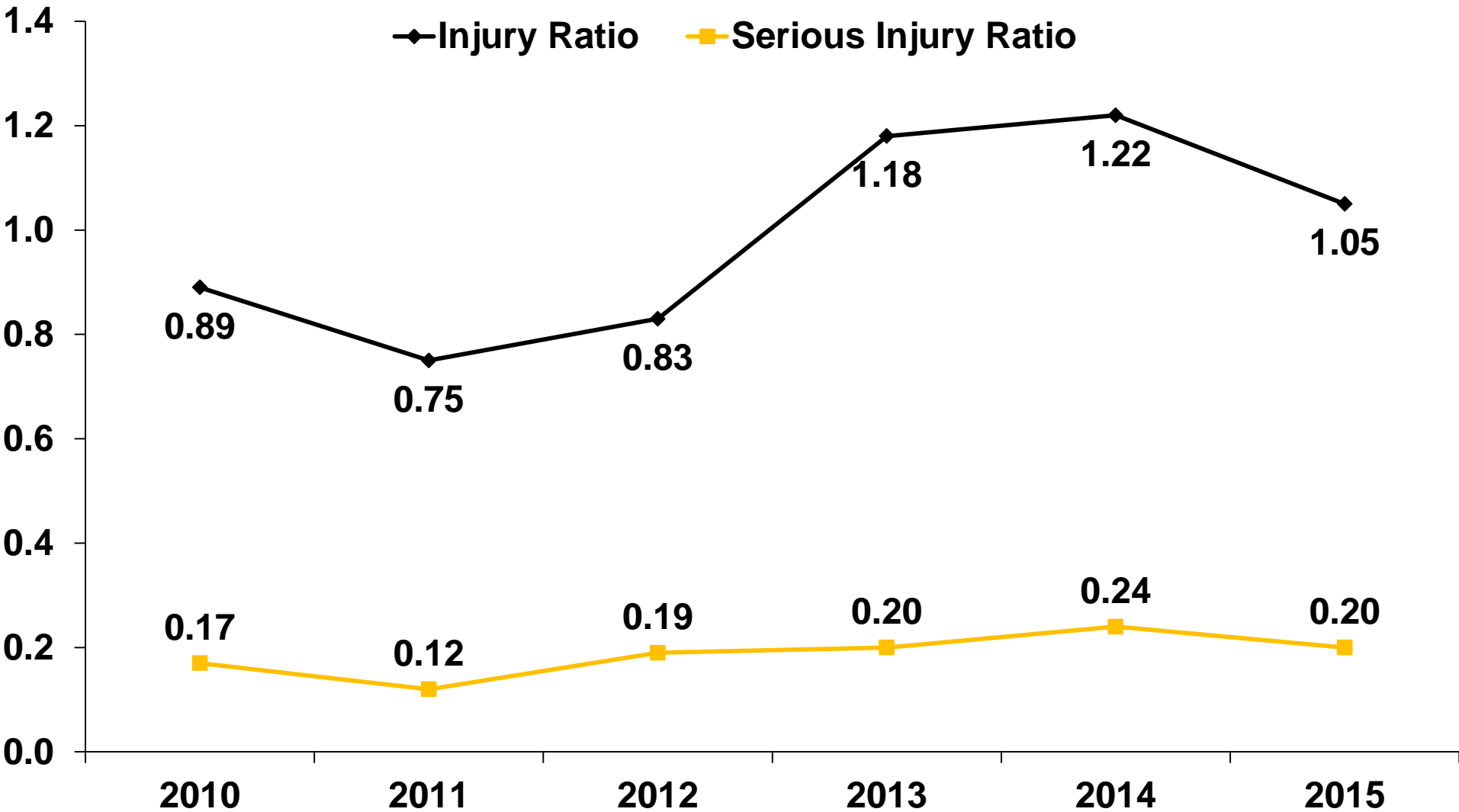
# Operations Update

January 27, 2016

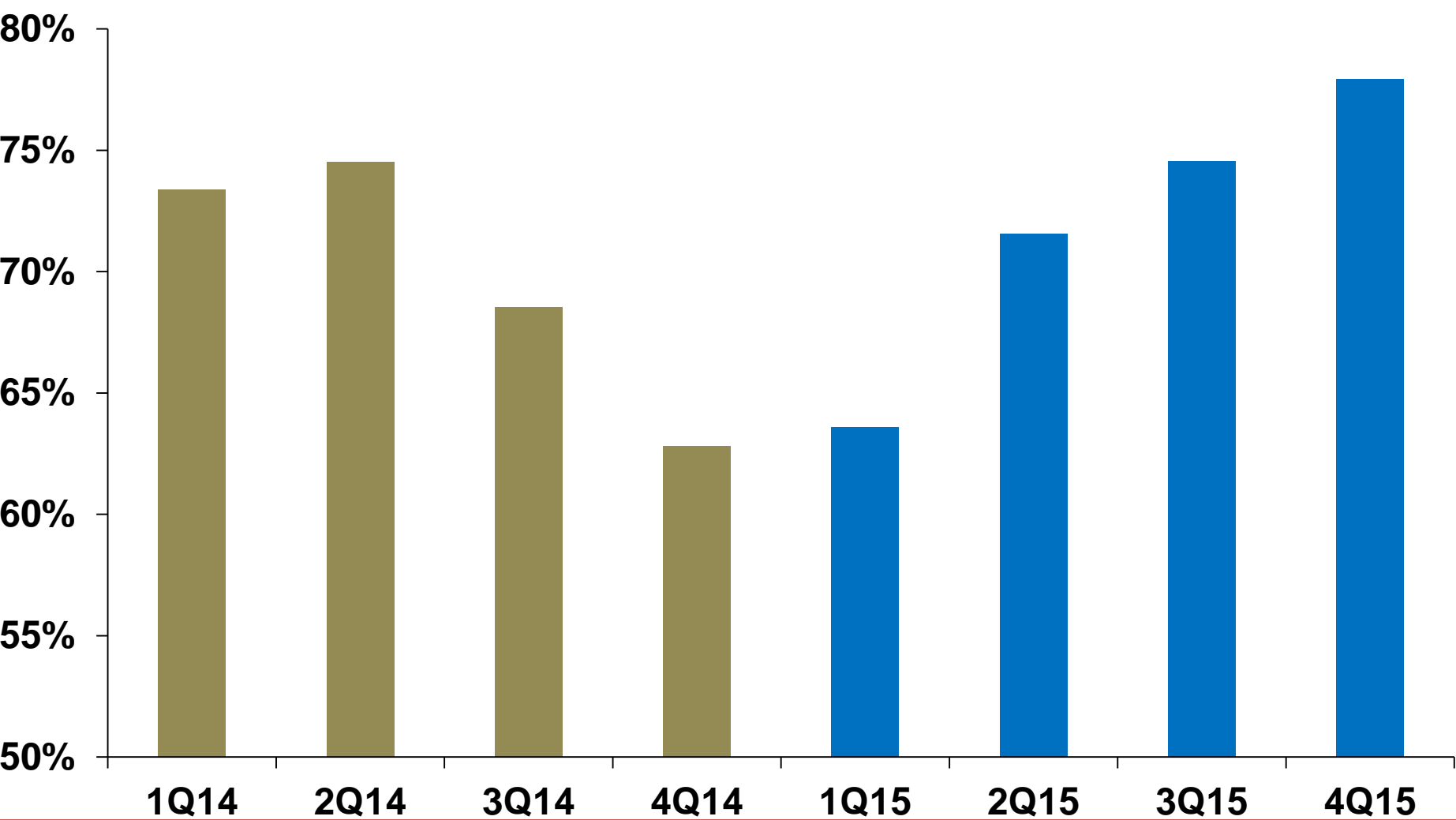
*Mike Wheeler*  
*Senior Vice President*  
*Operations*

# Injury Ratio and Serious Injury Ratio

Per 200,000 employee hours worked



# Composite Service Performance



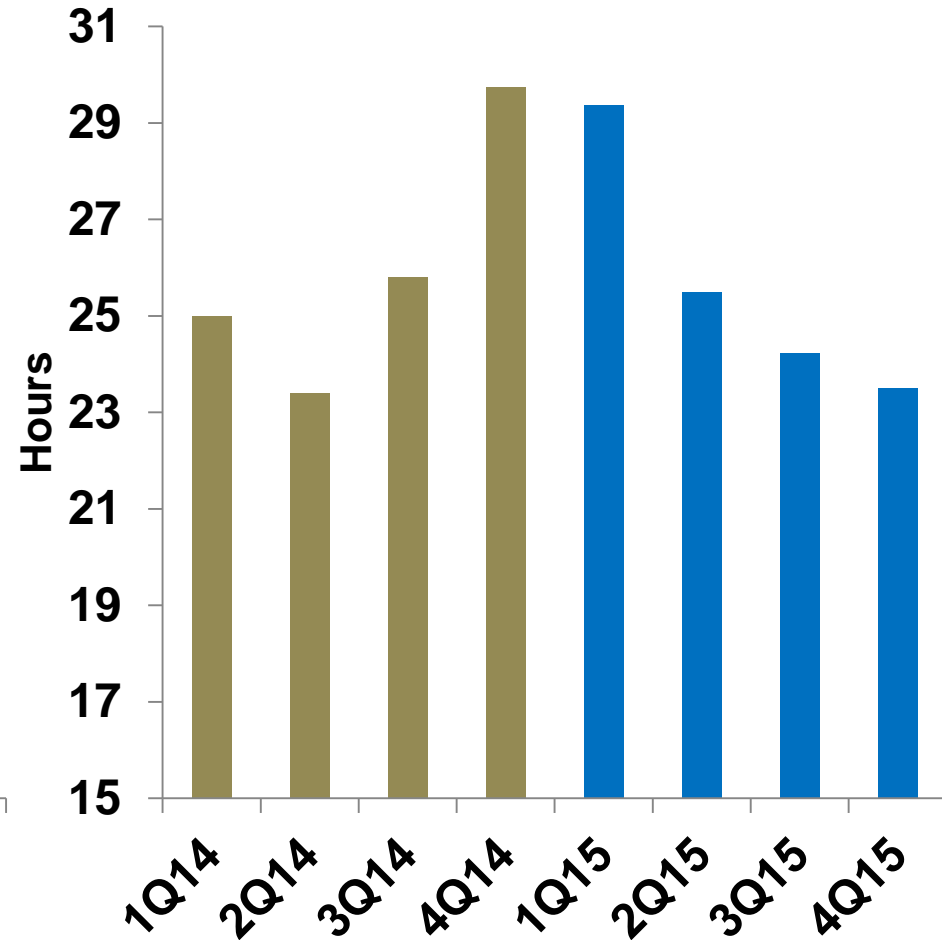
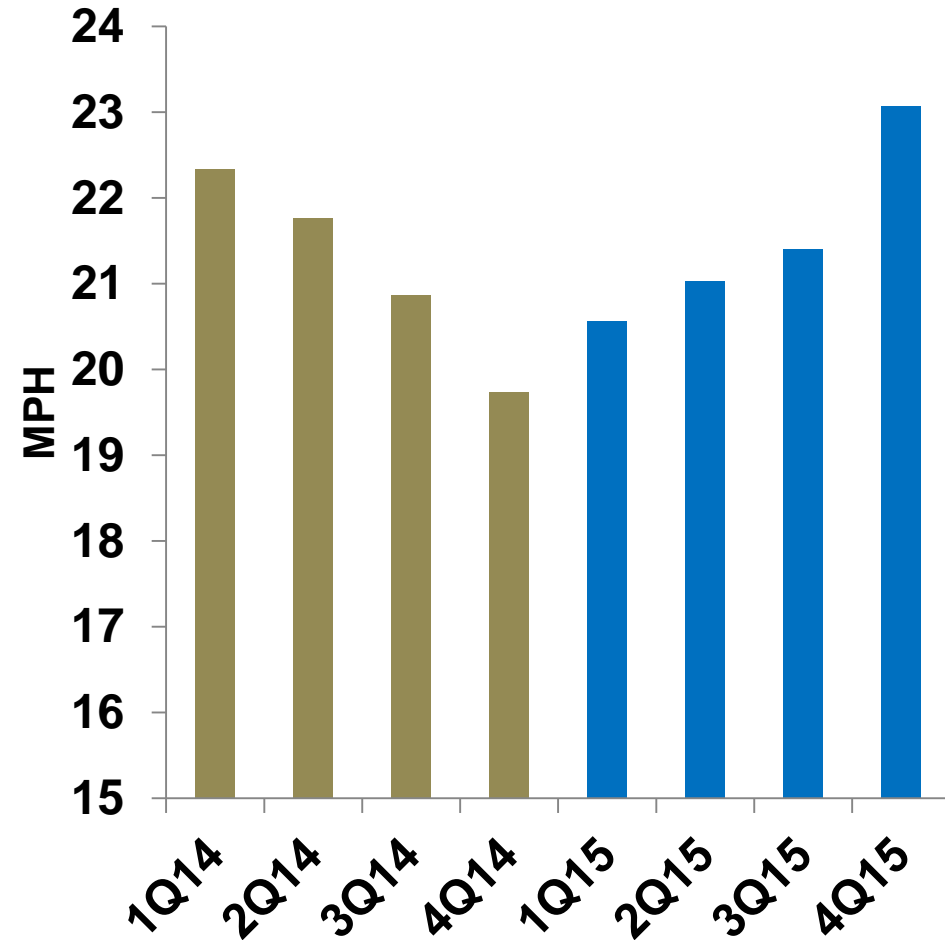
# Train Speed & Terminal Dwell

Better (↑)

Better (↓)

## Speed

## Dwell



# Productivity Savings and Service Enhancements

***Faster Railroad = Less Costly Railroad and Provides Great Customer Service***

	4Q15	2015
T&E Overtime Hours	(24%)	(4%)
Recrews	(55%)	(26%)

# Resources

## Crews and Locomotives

### Operations Manpower

- **Agreement Headcount Reductions in 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**
  - T&E: -440
  - Non T&E: -175
- **Additional 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter\* Reductions / Furloughs**
  - T&E: -600
  - Non T&E: -350

### Locomotives

- **300 Locomotives Removed From Service**
- **DC to AC Rebuild program**



# Cost Savings Initiatives

## Realignment and Further Coal Reductions



## Line and Yard Rationalizations





# Fourth Quarter 2015 Financial Overview

January 27, 2016

*Marta R. Stewart  
Executive Vice President Finance  
and Chief Financial Officer*

# Operating Results

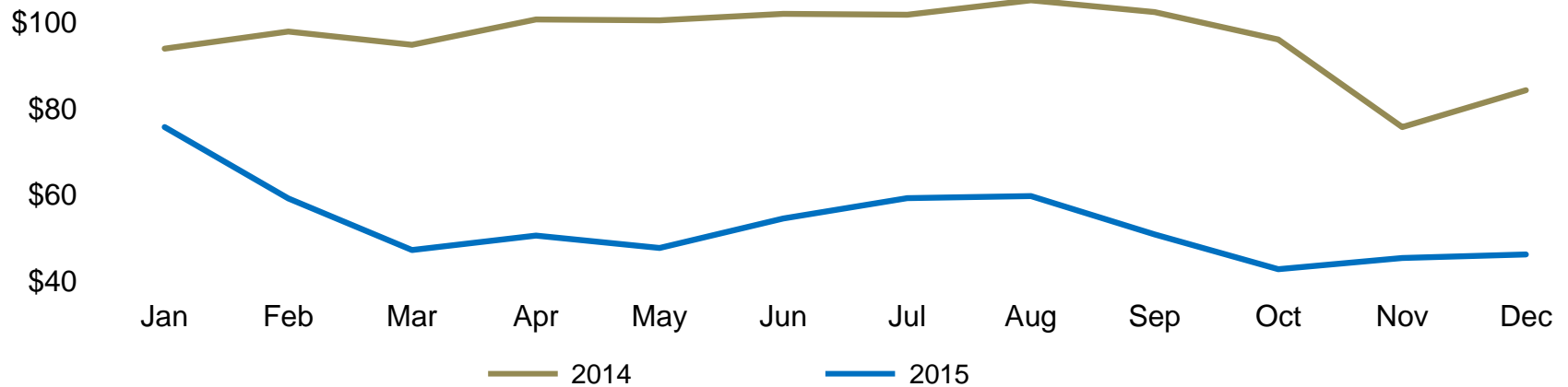
## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

*Results reflect lower fuel revenue and volume as well as restructuring costs*

	2015	2014	\$	%
Railway operating revenues	\$ 2,518	\$ 2,870	\$ (352)	(12%)
Railway operating expenses	1,876	1,979	103	5%
Income from railway operations	\$ 642	\$ 891	\$ (249)	(28%)
Railway operating ratio	74.5	69.0	(5.5)	(8%)
Adjusted railway operating ratio <sup>(1)</sup>	72.5	69.0	(3.5)	(5%)
			(Unfavorable)	
			Favorable	

1. Excluding effects of Triple Crown restructuring and Roanoke relocation, please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# WTI per Barrel and Net Fuel Price Impact 2015 vs. 2014

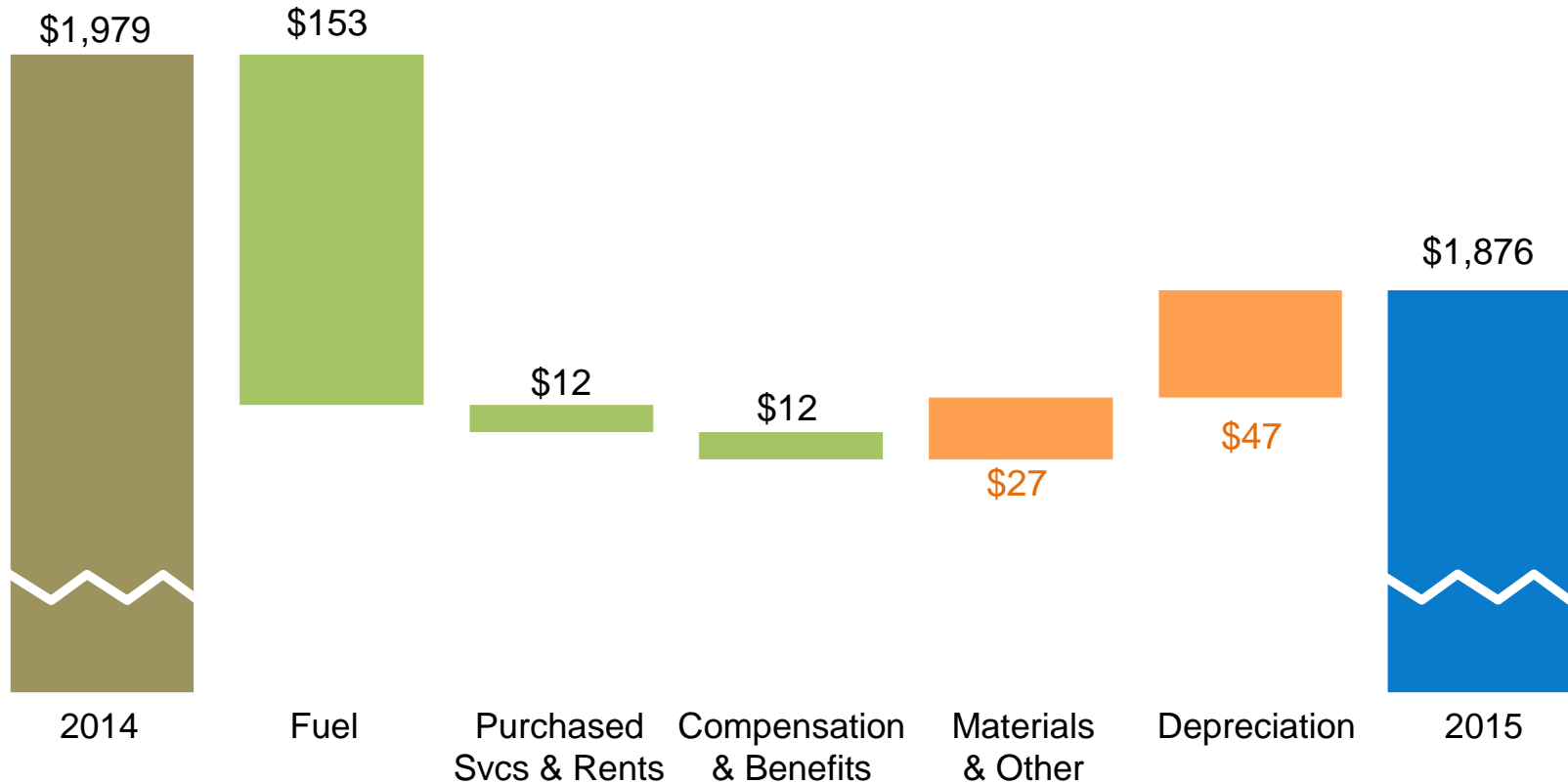


(\$ in millions)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2015
Change in fuel revenue	\$ (132)	\$ (239)	\$ (255)	\$ (226)	\$ (852)
Change in fuel price	161	143	159	137	600
Net change in operating income	\$ 29	\$ (96)	\$ (96)	\$ (89)	\$ (252)
	<b>Favorable (Unfavorable)</b>				

# Railway Operating Expenses

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Net decrease of \$103 / 5%



# Restructuring Costs

Fourth Quarter 2015 (\$ millions except per share)

	Triple Crown Restructuring		Roanoke Closure		Total
<b>Accelerated depreciation</b>	\$	37	\$	–	\$ 37
<b>Moving and other costs</b>		8		4	12
<b>Effect on Operating Expenses</b>	\$	45	\$	4	\$ 49
<b>Effect on Net Income</b>					\$ 31
<b>Effect on Earnings per Share</b>					\$ 0.10

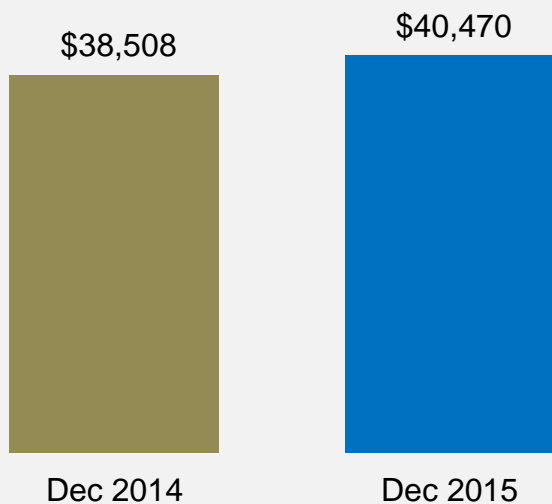
# Depreciation

Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Increase of \$47 / 20%

- TCS restructuring
- Increased capital base

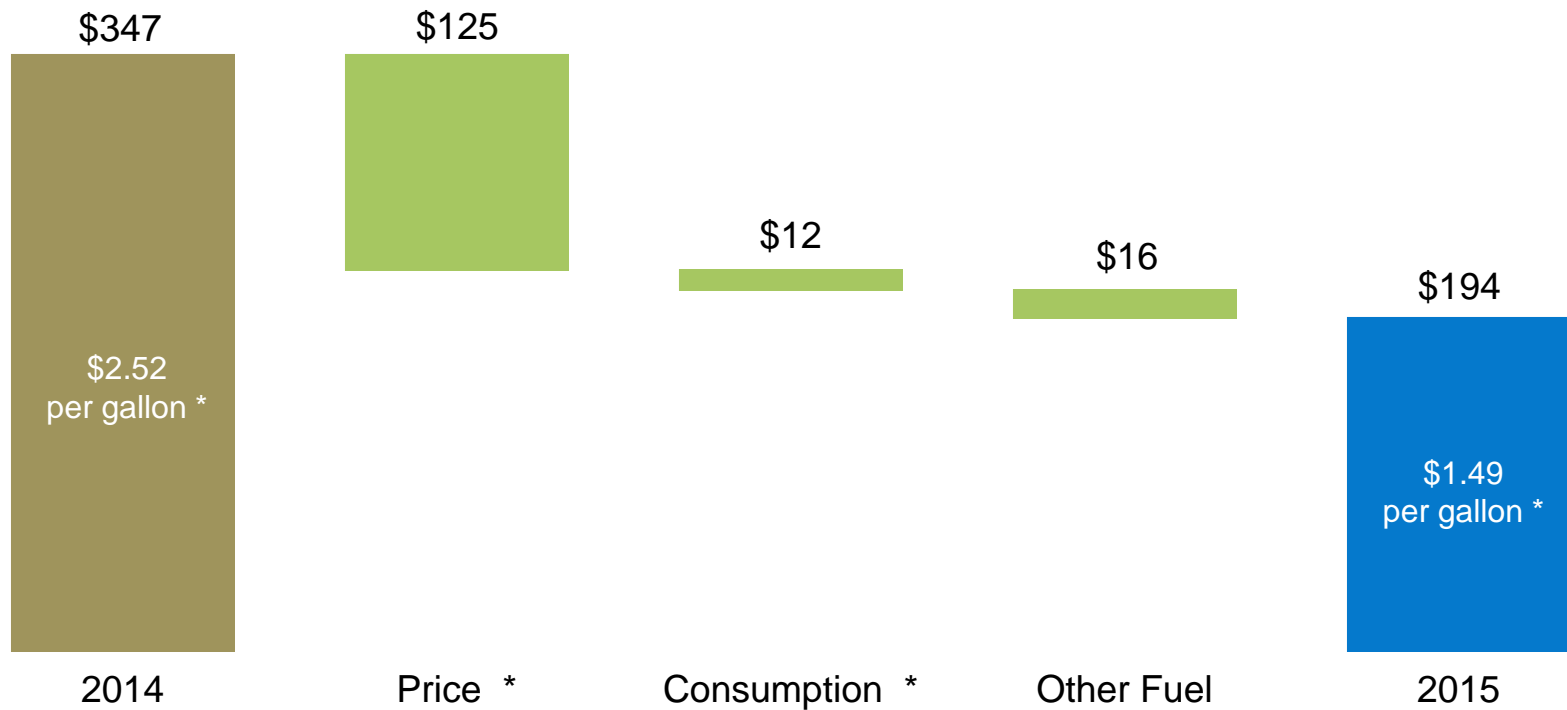
## Properties Balance



# Fuel

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Total decrease of \$153 / 44%



\* Reflects locomotive fuel only



# Purchased Services and Rents

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Net decrease of \$12 / 3%

- Net TCS restructuring-related savings
- Roanoke relocation costs
- Higher equipment rents

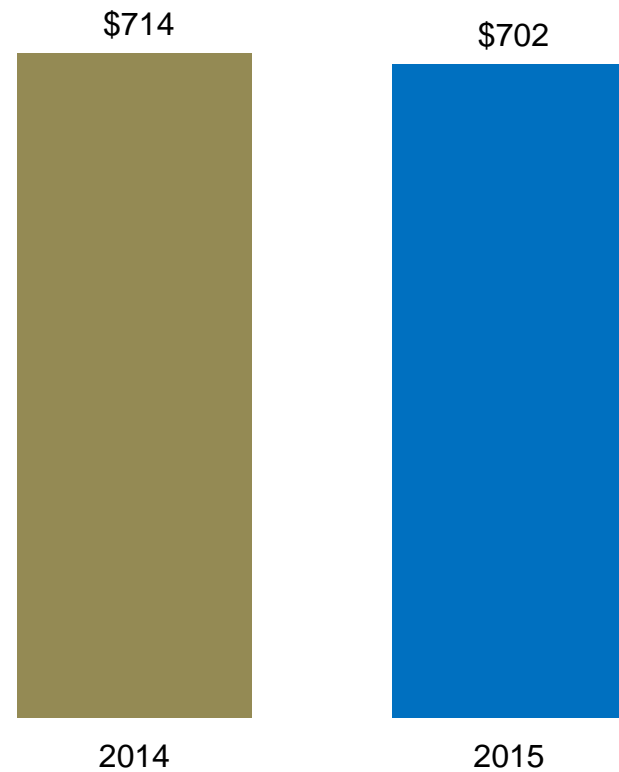


# Compensation and Benefits

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Net decrease of \$12 / 2%

- Lower incentive compensation
- Reduced overtime
- Increased pay rates
- Labor agreement lump sum payment
- TCS restructuring costs



# Materials and Other

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Net increase of \$27 / 12%

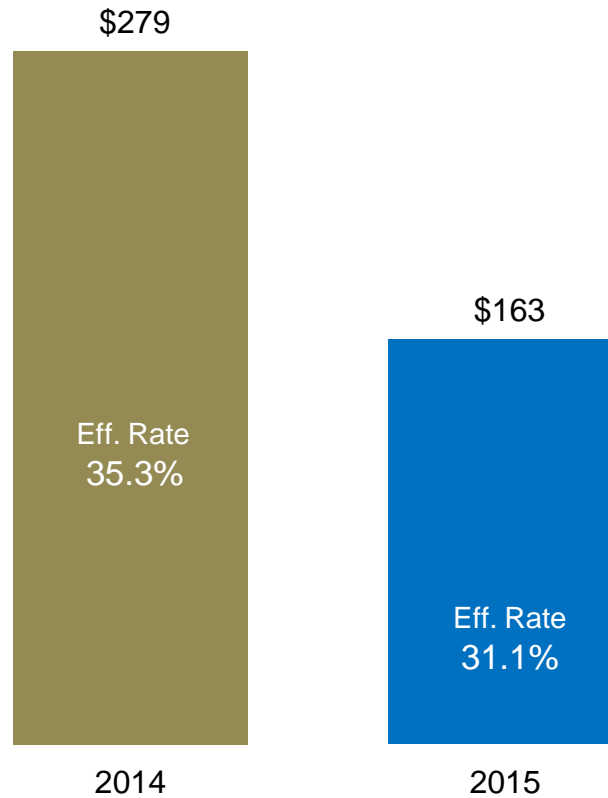
- Less favorable personal injury development
- Case specific accruals in 2015



# Income Taxes

Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

Effective tax rate for the quarter was 31.1%



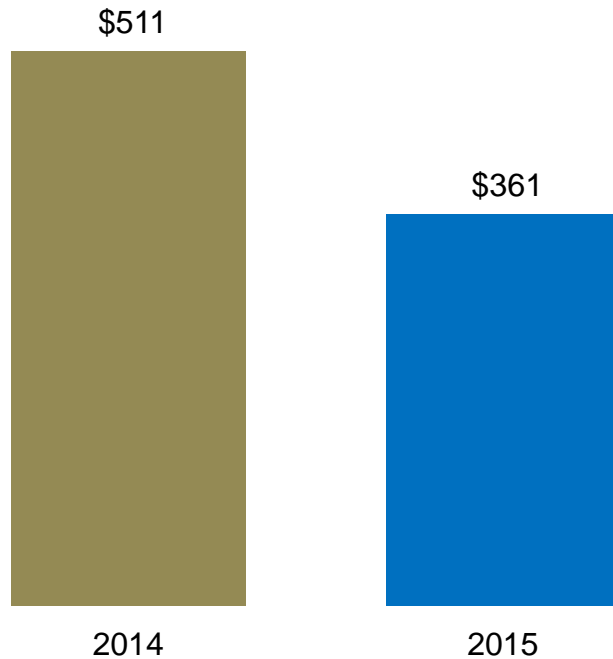
# Net Income and Diluted Earnings per Share

## Fourth Quarter 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions except per share)

Decline of \$150 million or 44 cents per share

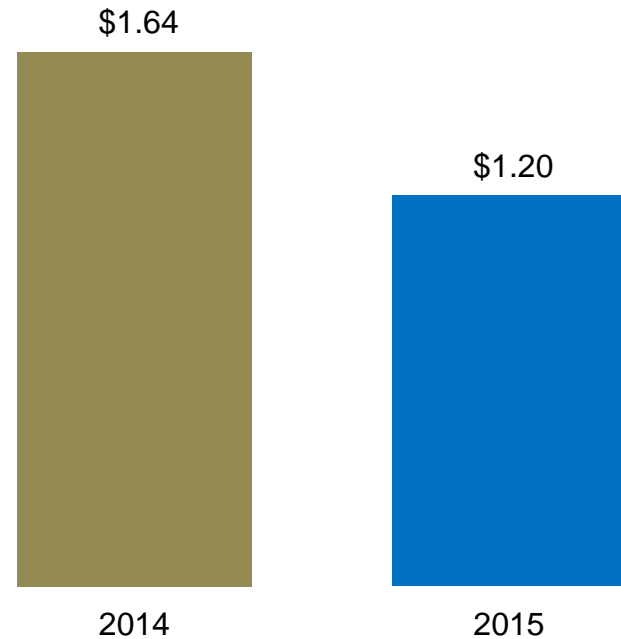
### Net Income

Change vs. Prior Period: (29%)



### Diluted Earnings per Share

Change vs. Prior Period: (27%)



2015 results included expenses associated with restructuring the company's Triple Crown Services subsidiary and closing its Roanoke, Va., office, which together reduced net income by \$31 million, or \$0.10 per diluted share.

# Condensed Income Statement

## Year (\$ millions except per share)

	2015	2014	\$	%
<b>Railway operating revenues</b>	\$ 10,511	\$ 11,624	\$ (1,113)	(10%)
<b>Railway operating expenses</b>	7,627	8,049	422	5%
<b>Income from railway operations</b>	2,884	3,575	(691)	(19%)
<b>Non-operating expense – net</b>	442	441	(1)	- %
<b>Income before income taxes</b>	2,442	3,134	(692)	(22%)
<b>Income taxes</b>	886	1,134	248	22%
<b>Net income</b>	\$ 1,556	\$ 2,000	\$ (444)	(22%)
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	\$ 5.10	\$ 6.39	\$ (1.29)	(20%)
<b>Railway operating ratio</b>	72.6	69.2	(3.4)	(5%)
<b>Adjusted railway operating ratio <sup>(1)</sup></b>	71.7	69.2	(2.5)	(4%)
			<b>Favorable</b>	
			<b>(Unfavorable)</b>	

1. Excluding effects of Triple Crown restructuring and Roanoke relocation, please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# Cash Flows and Balances

## 2015 vs. 2014 (\$ millions)

*Free cash flow of \$0.5 billion and \$1.8 billion returned to shareholders*

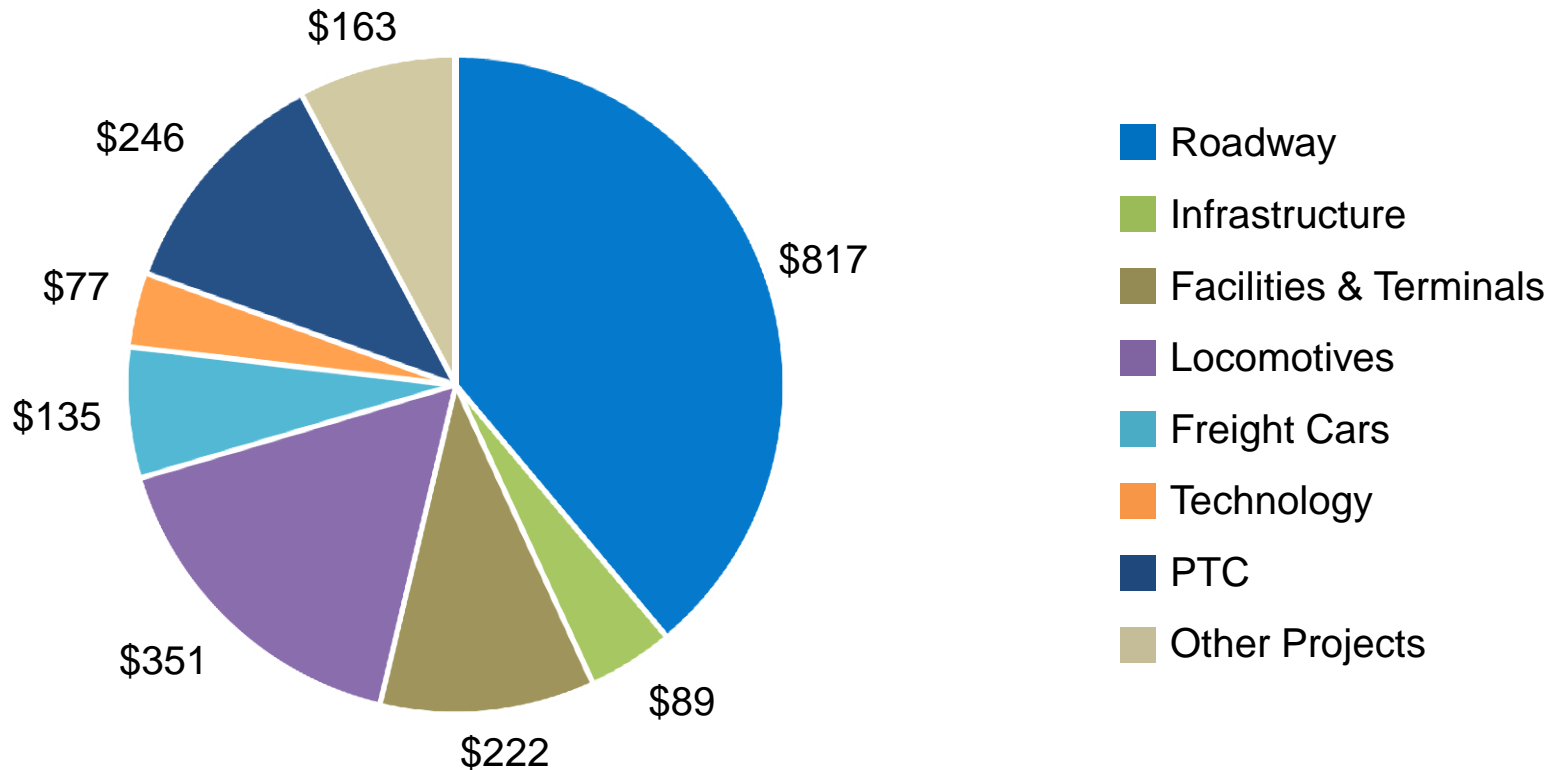
	2015	2014
<b>Cash from operating activities</b>	\$ 2,877	\$ 2,852
<b>Capital expenditures</b>	(2,385)	(2,118)
<b>Free cash flow <sup>(1)</sup></b>	\$ 492	\$ 734
<b>Returns to shareholders:</b>		
<b>Share repurchases</b>	\$ (1,075)	\$ (318)
<b>Dividends</b>	\$ (713)	\$ (687)

1. Please see reconciliation to GAAP posted on our website.

# 2016 Capital Improvement Budget

(\$ millions)

Total Spending = \$2.1 billion





Thank You

