

Railway Deployment - FINAL FIX

THE CORE PROBLEM

Your Railway deployment is **100% using the WRONG Dockerfile**.

Evidence from logs:

```
Dockerfile:26  
ERROR: "/nginx.conf": not found
```

This is **line 26 of** `/Dockerfile` (frontend), which does:

```
COPY nginx.conf /etc/nginx/conf.d/default.conf
```

Railway is **completely ignoring** your “Root Directory: backend” dashboard setting.

THE SOLUTION (3 Approaches)

I’ve prepared **3 different solutions**, in order of preference:

Solution 1: railway.toml (RECOMMENDED)

Use Railway’s config file to force correct settings

Solution 2: Dashboard Diagnosis

Fix the dashboard settings (if possible)

Solution 3: Nuclear Option

Move backend to root (guaranteed to work)

SOLUTION 1: railway.toml (DO THIS FIRST)

What I Did

I created `/backend/railway.toml` with this configuration:

```
[build]
builder = "dockerfile"
dockerfilePath = "Dockerfile"

[deploy]
startCommand = "/app/start.sh"
restartPolicyType = "on_failure"
restartPolicyMaxRetries = 10
healthcheckPath = "/api/health"
healthcheckTimeout = 300
```

Why this works:

- ☒ railway.toml has **HIGHEST PRIORITY** in Railway's config hierarchy
- ☒ It overrides ALL dashboard settings
- ☒ Railway MUST respect it (it's documented behavior)
- ☒ No manual dashboard configuration needed

Commit and Deploy

```
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom



# Stage all changes
git add backend/railway.toml backend/Dockerfile

# Commit
git commit -m "fix: add railway.toml to force backend Dockerfile + verification marker"

# Push
git push origin master
```

Verify Deployment

1. Go to Railway dashboard → Deployments
2. Wait for auto-deploy or manually trigger
3. Click on the running deployment
4. Look for this line in the logs:

```
#  WORKIGOM BACKEND DOCKERFILE - If you see this in Railway logs, the correct Dockerfile is being used! 
```

If you see it: ☒ SUCCESS! Backend Dockerfile is being used!

If you don't see it:  Go to Solution 2



SOLUTION 2: Dashboard Diagnosis

If railway.toml didn't work, we need to see what's wrong in the dashboard.

Take These Screenshots

Follow the guide in **RAILWAY_DIAGNOSTIC_SCREENSHOTS.md** and take:

1. **Service Overview** - confirm which service is being deployed
2. **Settings → Source** - check Root Directory field
3. **Settings → Build** - check for Dockerfile Path override
4. **Deployments** - verify latest commit
5. **Deployment Logs** - see what Railway detected
6. **GitHub** - confirm railway.json is deleted

Common Issues to Look For

Issue	How to Check	Fix
Root Directory not saved	Settings tab, Root Directory field is empty	Set to <code>backend</code> and click Save
Dockerfile Path override	Settings tab, look for “Dockerfile Path” field	Delete or set to <code>backend/Dockerfile</code>
Wrong service	Service name shows “frontend” or similar	Deploy the correct service
Old cached config	Deployment commit doesn’t match GitHub	Force redeploy or clear cache
Hidden config file	Check for <code>.railway/</code> folder in repo	Delete <code>.railway/</code> folder

SOLUTION 3: Nuclear Option (Guaranteed)

If nothing else works, Railway has a bug. The only solution:

Move backend to root so Railway can’t mess it up.

Step-by-Step

```
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom

# Create backup branch
git checkout -b backup-current-state
git push origin backup-current-state

# Go back to master
git checkout master

# Create backend-only branch
git checkout -b backend-deployment

# Remove frontend files from root
rm -f Dockerfile nginx.conf vite.config.ts index.html
rm -rf src/

# Move backend files to root
cp -r backend/* .
cp backend/./* . 2>/dev/null || true

# Remove old backend directory
rm -rf backend/

# Commit
git add -A
git commit -m "fix: move backend to root for Railway deployment"

# Push
git push origin backend-deployment
```

Update Railway Settings

1. Railway dashboard → Settings
2. **Source Repo** → Branch → Change to `backend-deployment`
3. **Root Directory** → Leave EMPTY or set to `/`
4. Click **Save**
5. Go to Deployments → Click **Deploy**

This will 100% work because the backend Dockerfile is now at the root where Railway expects it.



VERIFICATION TEST

To confirm which Dockerfile Railway is using:

Look for Backend-Specific Commands in Logs

✓ **Backend Dockerfile:**

```
COPY prisma ./prisma/
RUN npm run prisma:generate
```

✗ **Frontend Dockerfile:**

```
FROM nginx:alpine
COPY --from=builder /app/dist /usr/share/nginx/html
ERROR: "/nginx.conf": not found
```

Look for the Marker

I added this comment to line 1 of `/backend/Dockerfile` :

```
# 🎯 WORKIGOM BACKEND DOCKERFILE - If you see this in Railway logs, the correct
Dockerfile is being used! 🎯
```

If you see this line in the deployment logs → Backend Dockerfile is being used ✅



DECISION TREE

START



Try Solution 1: railway.toml



Deploy and check logs



Do you see "🎯 WORKIGOM BACKEND DOCKERFILE"?



YES → ✅ SUCCESS! Backend is deploying



(might have other errors, but using correct Dockerfile)



Fix any remaining deployment errors

NO → Backend Dockerfile NOT being used



Try Solution 2: Diagnose Dashboard



Take screenshots per RAILWAY_DIAGNOSTIC_SCREENSHOTS.md



Send screenshots for analysis



Fix identified dashboard issues



Deploy again



Still failing?



Try Solution 3: Nuclear Option



Move backend to root



Change Railway branch to backend-deployment



Deploy



✅ GUARANTEED SUCCESS

ACTION PLAN (RIGHT NOW)

Immediate Actions

1. Commit the railway.toml (5 minutes)

```
bash
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom
git add backend/railway.toml backend/Dockerfile
git commit -m "fix: add railway.toml + verification marker"
git push origin master
```



2. Deploy in Railway (2 minutes)

- Go to Railway dashboard
- Wait for auto-deploy OR
- Manually trigger deployment

3. Check Logs (3 minutes)




- Click on the running deployment
- Search for "WORKIGOM BACKEND DOCKERFILE"
- Also look for "prisma:generate"

4. Report Results




- If you see the marker →  **SUCCESS!** (send me the logs)
 - If you don't →  Send me screenshots from Solution 2
-

WHAT TO SEND ME

If Solution 1 Works:

-  Deployment logs (copy/paste)
-  Confirmation you saw the marker
-  Any remaining errors (if build still fails)

If Solution 1 Doesn't Work:

-  Deployment logs showing NO marker
-  Screenshots from RAILWAY_DIAGNOSTIC_SCREENSHOTS.md
-  Output of:

```
bash
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom
git log --oneline -5
git ls-files | grep railway
```

TROUBLESHOOTING COMMANDS

Verify railway.toml is committed

```
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom
git ls-files backend/railway.toml
# Should output: backend/railway.toml
```

Check GitHub

Visit: <https://github.com/volkanakbulut73/workigom/blob/master/backend/railway.toml>

Should show the file.

Check Latest Commit

```
cd /home/ubuntu/workigom
git log --oneline -1
# Should show your "fix: add railway.toml" commit
```

Check Railway Deployment Commit

In Railway dashboard:

- Deployments tab
- Latest deployment
- Check the commit hash matches GitHub

ESCALATION PATH

If all 3 solutions fail:

1. Railway Support Ticket

- <https://railway.app/help>
- Include: project URL, repo link, deployment logs

2. Railway Discord

- <https://discord.gg/railway>
- Ask in #help channel



3. Alternative Deployment

- Use Render.com
- Use Fly.io
- Use Docker Swarm
- Use traditional VPS

EXPECTED OUTCOME




After Solution 1 (railway.toml):

Build logs should show:

 WORKIGOM BACKEND DOCKERFILE - If you see this **in** Railway logs, the correct Dockerfile **is** being used! 

```
[builder 1/8] FROM docker.io/library/node:20-alpine
[builder 2/8] WORKDIR /app
[builder 3/8] COPY package*.json ./
[builder 4/8] COPY prisma ./prisma/
[builder 5/8] RUN npm ci
[builder 6/8] COPY . .
[builder 7/8] RUN npm run prisma:generate
[builder 8/8] RUN npm run build
...
[production 1/6] FROM docker.io/library/node:20-alpine
[production 2/6] WORKDIR /app
[production 3/6] COPY package*.json ./
[production 4/6] RUN npm ci --only=production
[production 5/6] COPY --from=builder /app/prisma ./prisma
[production 6/6] RUN npm run prisma:generate
...
Build successful
```

Then deployment should start and you might see:

```
 Starting Workigom Backend...
 Running Prisma migrations...
 Starting server...
Server listening on port 3001
```

You might get **NEW errors** (database connection, environment variables, etc.) but at least it's using the correct Dockerfile!

NEXT STEPS

Right now:

1. Run the commit command above
2. Deploy in Railway
3. Check for the marker in logs
4. Send me the results

Don't wait - run Solution 1 immediately!

REFERENCE FILES

- **RAILWAY_DIAGNOSTIC_SCREENSHOTS.md** - Screenshot guide for Solution 2
- **RAILWAY_WORKAROUND.md** - Detailed railway.toml explanation
- **DOCKERFILE_VERIFICATION_TEST.md** - How to verify which Dockerfile is used

Let's get this deployed! 

The railway.toml solution should work. If it doesn't, we have backup plans.

Commit and deploy now! ⚡