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BTS Data

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July 2009 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Fell 28 Percent from July 2008 (State Rankings in Tables 5 and 7)

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico was 28 percent lower in July 2009 than in July 2008, dropping to \$51.5 billion in the seventh consecutive month with a year-to-year decline of greater than 27 percent, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*).

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 1.6 percent in July 2009 from June 2009 (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

Surface transportation consists largely of freight movements by truck, rail and pipeline. About 88 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in July was up 7.2 percent compared to July 2004, and up 38.1 percent compared to July 1999, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in July were up 30.1 percent compared to July 1999, while exports were up 48.6 percent.

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$31.0 billion in July, down 33.8 percent compared to July 2008 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 29.0 percent lower in July 2009 compared to July 2008, while the value of exports carried by truck was 24.3 percent lower during this period.

Illinois led all states in surface trade with Canada in July with \$3.1 billion (*Table 5*).

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U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$20.5 billion in July, down 17.1 percent compared to July 2008 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 13.7 percent lower in July 2009 than July 2008 while the value of exports carried by truck was 14.7 percent lower.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in July with \$7.3 billion (*Table 7*).

The TransBorder Freight Data are a unique subset of official U.S. foreign trade statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau. New data are tabulated monthly and historical data are not adjusted for inflation. July TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Sept. 10.

The news release and summary tables can be found at www.bts.gov. More information on TransBorder Freight Data and data from previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>. BTS will release August TransBorder numbers on Oct. 29.

Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico
(millions of dollars)

Month 2007	2008	2009	Percent Change 2007-2008	Percent Change 2008-2009
January	60,649	65,160	7.4	-27.2
February	59,667	69,406	16.3	-30.9
March	69,768	70,787	1.5	-27.9
April	65,015	74,317	14.3	-33.1
May	69,423	74,128	6.8	-35.4
June	69,526	74,139	6.6	-31.5
July	61,823	71,628	15.9	-28.0
August	69,158	72,254	4.5	
September	66,771	71,801	7.5	
October	74,249	72,683	-2.1	
November	70,352	60,661	-13.8	
December	60,902	52,910	-13.1	
Year-to-date	455,870	499,565	9.6	-30.7
Annual	797,303	829,875	4.1	

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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Table 2. U.S. Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico by Mode of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

Mode		July 2008	June 2009	July 2009	Percent Change June 2009 - July 2009	Percent Change July 2008-2009
All Surface Modes	Imports	40,241	26,932	27,611	2.5	-31.4
	Exports	31,387	23,820	23,934	0.5	-23.7
	Total	71,628	50,753	51,545	1.6	-28.0
Truck	Imports	23,038	17,902	18,102	1.1	-21.4
	Exports	23,762	18,913	18,829	-0.4	-20.8
Rail	Imports	6,981	4,348	4,239	-2.5	-39.3
	Exports	4,598	2,731	2,681	-1.8	-41.7
Pipeline	Imports	8,551	3,760	4,225	12.4	-50.6
	Exports	612	219	259	17.9	-57.8

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html.

Table 3. July 2009 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with July of Prior Years

Compared to July in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2008	-31.4	-23.7	-28.0
2007	-21.4	-10.3	-16.6
2006	-13.9	0.2	-7.9
2005	-3.8	14.1	3.7
2004	-1.9	20.0	7.2
2003	12.0	33.4	21.0
2002	14.7	38.0	24.5
2001	14.4	43.1	26.1
2000	14.3	33.7	22.5
1999	30.1	48.6	38.1

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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Table 4. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Canada by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

Mode		July 2008	June 2009	July 2009	Percent Change June 2009 - July 2009	Percent Change July 2008-2009
All	Imports	26,794	15,971	16,317	2.2	-39.1
Surface	Exports	20,068	15,037	14,703	-2.2	-26.7
Modes	Total	46,862	31,008	31,020	0.0	-33.8
Truck	Imports	11,623	8,322	8,252	-0.8	-29.0
	Exports	14,952	11,709	11,313	-3.4	-24.3
Rail	Imports	5,292	3,235	3,060	-5.4	-42.2
	Exports	2,730	1,560	1,471	-5.7	-46.1
Pipeline	Imports	8,527	3,745	4,208	12.3	-50.7
	Exports	477	166	166	-0.3	-65.2

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html.

Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada
by Surface Modes of Transportation
Ranked by July 2009 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	July 2009
1	Illinois	3,096
2	Michigan	2,713
3	California	2,033
4	New York	1,918
5	Ohio	1,867
6	Texas	1,591
7	Washington	1,481
8	Pennsylvania	1,454
9	Indiana	921
10	Tennessee	828

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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Table 6. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Mexico by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

Mode		July 2008	June 2009	July 2009	Percent Change June 2009 - July 2009	Percent Change July 2008-2009
All Surface Modes	Imports	13,447	10,962	11,294	3.0	-16.0
	Exports	11,319	8,783	9,230	5.1	-18.5
	Total	24,766	19,745	20,524	3.9	-17.1
Truck	Imports	11,416	9,579	9,850	2.8	-13.7
	Exports	8,810	7,204	7,516	4.3	-14.7
Rail	Imports	1,689	1,114	1,178	5.8	-30.2
	Exports	1,868	1,171	1,210	3.3	-35.2
Pipeline	Imports	24	15	18	15.7	-25.9
	Exports	136	53	93	74.4	-31.8

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html.

Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico
by Surface Modes of Transportation
Ranked by July 2009 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	July 2009
1	Texas	7,342
2	California	3,601
3	Michigan	1,376
4	Illinois	699
5	Arizona	641
6	Ohio	519
7	Tennessee	395
8	North Carolina	388
9	Pennsylvania	362
10	Wisconsin	339

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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