



U.S Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov/affairs/briefing.htm

BTS Data

BTS 55-09

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

Contact: Dave Smallen

Tel: 202-366-5568

September 2009 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Fell 20.2 Percent from September 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 20.2 percent lower in September 2009 than in September 2008, dropping to \$57.3 billion, 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 5.6 percent in August 2009 from September 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 September was up 4.3 percent compared to September 2004, and up 32.1 percent compared to September 1999, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in September were up 27.2 percent compared to September 1999, while exports were up 38.4 percent.

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$34.8 billion in September, down 25.7 percent compared to September 2008 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 24.5 percent lower in September 2009 compared to September 2008, while the value of exports carried by truck was 15.1 percent lower during this period.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in September with \$4.5 billion (*Table 5*).

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

ADD ONE

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$22.5 billion in September, down 10.0 percent compared to September 2008 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 7.0 percent lower in September 2009 than September 2008 while the value of exports carried by truck was 9.0 percent lower.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in September with \$7.8 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. September TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Nov. 13.

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 October TransBorder numbers on Jan 6, 2010.

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	47,459	7.4	-27.2
February	59,667	69,406	47,938	16.3	-30.9
March	69,768	70,787	51,055	1.5	-27.9
April	65,015	74,317	49,729	14.3	-33.1
May	69,423	74,128	47,881	6.8	-35.4
June	69,526	74,139	50,753	6.6	-31.5
July	61,823	71,628	51,545	15.9	-28.0
August	69,158	72,254	54,254	4.5	-24.9
September	66,771	71,801	57,294	7.5	-20.2
October	74,249	72,683		-2.1	
November	70,352	60,661		-13.8	
December	60,902	52,910		-13.1	
Year-to-date	591,799	643,620	457,908	8.8	-28.9
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.

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD TWO

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

Mode		September 2008	August 2009	September 2009	Percent Change August 2009 - September 2009	Percent Change September 2008-2009
All Surface Modes	Imports	40,304	28,862	30,817	6.8	-23.5
	Exports	31,497	25,392	26,476	4.3	-15.9
	Total	71,801	54,254	57,294	5.6	-20.2
Truck	Imports	23,896	18,380	20,017	8.9	-16.2
	Exports	24,175	20,065	21,057	4.9	-12.9
Rail	Imports	7,327	5,350	5,648	5.6	-22.9
	Exports	4,423	3,074	3,169	3.1	-28.3
Pipeline	Imports	7,430	4,130	4,161	0.8	-44.0
	Exports	505	147	185	26.0	-63.3

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. September 2009 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with September of Prior Years

Compared to September in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2008	-23.5	-15.9	-20.2
2007	-18.0	-9.3	-14.2
2006	-14.9	-2.2	-9.5
2005	-13.2	3.1	-6.3
2004	-2.0	12.9	4.3
2003	9.7	27.5	17.2
2002	17.7	35.1	25.1
2001	25.9	47.1	34.9
2000	10.1	25.0	16.5
1999	27.2	38.4	32.1

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

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD THREE

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

Mode		September 2008	August 2009	September 2009	Percent Change August 2009 - September 2009	Percent Change September 2008-2009
All	Imports	26,708	16,955	18,154	7.1	-32.0
Surface	Exports	20,069	15,971	16,612	4.0	-17.2
Modes	Total	46,778	32,925	34,766	5.6	-25.7
Truck	Imports	12,611	8,511	9,527	11.9	-24.5
	Exports	15,354	12,423	13,028	4.9	-15.1
Rail	Imports	5,408	3,589	3,776	5.2	-30.2
	Exports	2,658	1,783	1,838	3.1	-30.8
Pipeline	Imports	7,416	4,115	4,148	0.8	-44.1
	Exports	206	100	99	-0.5	-51.8

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

Rank	State	September 2009
1	Michigan	4,491
2	Illinois	3,228
3	California	2,484
4	Ohio	2,357
5	New York	2,005
6	Texas	1,584
7	Pennsylvania	1,416
8	Washington	1,414
9	Indiana	1,118
10	Tennessee	954

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

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FOUR

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

Mode		September 2008	August 2009	September 2009	Percent Change August 2009 - September 2009	Percent Change September 2008-2009
All	Imports	13,596	11,907	12,663	6.3	-6.9
Surface	Exports	11,427	9,421	9,864	4.7	-13.7
Modes	Total	25,023	21,328	22,527	5.6	-10.0
Truck	Imports	11,285	9,869	10,490	6.3	-7.0
	Exports	8,821	7,641	8,029	5.1	-9.0
Rail	Imports	1,919	1,761	1,872	6.3	-2.5
	Exports	1,765	1,291	1,331	3.1	-24.6
Pipeline	Imports	14	15	14	-6.9	-4.2
	Exports	299	47	86	81.8	-71.2

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

Rank	State	September 2009
1	Texas	7,792
2	California	3,784
3	Michigan	2,264
4	Illinois	708
5	Arizona	606
6	Ohio	587
7	Tennessee	494
8	Pennsylvania	395
9	North Carolina	378
10	Indiana	373

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

-end-