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## BTS Data

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### **BTS 10-10**

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### **December 2009 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 10.5 Percent from December 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 10.5 percent higher in December 2009 than in December 2008, with a value of \$58.5 billion, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*). The increase was the first over the same month of the previous year since September 2008 but the value of trade in December still remained 4.0 percent below the value in December 2007.

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico fell 0.8 percent in December 2009 from November 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 85 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves by land modes.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in December was up 12.3 percent compared to December 2004, and up 36.6 percent compared to December 1999, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in December were up 37.0 percent compared to December 1999, while exports were up 36.2 percent.

### **U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada**

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$35.4 billion in December, up 7.8 percent compared to December 2008 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 2.3 percent lower in December 2009 compared to December 2008, while the value of exports carried by truck increased 11.2 percent during this period.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in December with \$4.7 billion (*Table 5*).

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### U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$23.0 billion in December, up 15.0 percent compared to December 2008 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 15.5 percent higher in December 2009 than December 2008 while the value of exports carried by truck was 10.4 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in December with \$7.9 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. December TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Feb. 16.

The news release and summary tables can be found at [www.bts.gov](http://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 a summary of annual TransBorder data on March 18 and January TransBorder numbers on March 30.

**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	61,400	-2.1	-15.5
November	70,352	60,661	58,922	-13.8	-2.9
<b>December</b>	<b>60,902</b>	<b>52,910</b>	<b>58,465</b>	<b>-13.1</b>	<b>10.5</b>
<b>Annual</b>	<b>797,303</b>	<b>829,875</b>	<b>636,695</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>-23.3</b>

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb. 22, 2010.

**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		December	November	December	Percent	Percent
		2008	2009	2009	Change Nov. 2009 – Dec. 2009	Change December 2008-2009
All Surface Modes	Imports	28,908	31,693	32,030	1.1	10.8
	Exports	24,002	27,229	26,435	-2.9	10.1
	Total	52,910	58,922	58,465	-0.8	10.5
Truck	Imports	18,042	20,236	19,223	-5.0	6.5
	Exports	18,576	21,225	20,600	-2.9	10.9
Rail	Imports	5,263	6,126	6,451	5.3	22.6
	Exports	3,010	3,480	3,317	-4.7	10.2
Pipeline	Imports	4,384	4,187	5,125	22.4	16.9
	Exports	261	281	373	32.9	42.7

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb. 22, 2010.

**NOTE:** 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, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the “Data Fields” Section of the TransBorder web page: [http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

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

Compared to December in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2008	10.8	10.1	10.5
2007	-7.2	0.1	-4.0
2006	-5.5	5.2	-1.0
2005	-7.2	7.6	-1.1
2004	8.0	18.0	12.3
2003	23.5	35.7	28.7
2002	35.8	53.7	43.3
2001	47.0	60.7	52.9
2000	25.0	38.1	30.6
1999	37.0	36.2	36.6

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb. 22, 2010.

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

Mode		December 2008	November 2009	December 2009	Percent Change Nov. 2009 – Dec. 2009	Percent Change December 2008-2009
All Surface Modes	Imports	17,821	18,168	18,926	4.2	6.2
	Exports	15,072	16,880	16,521	-2.1	9.6
	Total	32,893	35,048	35,447	1.1	7.8
Truck	Imports	9,047	9,299	8,836	-5.0	-2.3
	Exports	11,488	13,026	12,776	-1.9	11.2
Rail	Imports	3,484	3,923	4,121	5.0	18.3
	Exports	1,679	1,899	1,825	-3.9	8.7
Pipeline	Imports	4,378	4,172	5,107	22.4	16.7
	Exports	217	208	251	21.0	15.9

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb. 22, 2010.

**NOTE:** 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, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the “Data Fields” Section of the TransBorder web page: [http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

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

Rank	State	December 2009
1	Michigan	4,703
2	Illinois	3,517
3	California	2,206
4	Ohio	2,155
5	New York	2,002
6	Texas	1,721
7	Washington	1,695
8	Pennsylvania	1,283
9	Indiana	1,194
10	Tennessee	917

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb. 22, 2010.

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

<b>Mode</b>		<b>December 2008</b>	<b>November 2009</b>	<b>December 2009</b>	<b>Percent Change Nov. 2009 – Dec. 2009</b>	<b>Percent Change December 2008-2009</b>
All Surface Modes	Imports	11,086	13,525	13,104	-3.1	18.2
	Exports	8,931	10,349	9,914	-4.2	11.0
	Total	20,017	23,875	23,018	-3.6	15.0
Truck	Imports	8,996	10,937	10,387	-5.0	15.5
	Exports	7,088	8,199	7,824	-4.6	10.4
Rail	Imports	1,779	2,203	2,330	5.8	31.0
	Exports	1,332	1,580	1,491	-5.6	12.0
Pipeline	Imports	6	15	18	21.6	197.9
	Exports	45	73	122	66.5	172.7

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb.22, 2010.

**NOTE:** 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, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the “Data Fields” Section of the TransBorder web page: [http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html)

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

<b>Rank</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>December 2009</b>
1	Texas	7,892
2	California	3,648
3	Michigan	2,709
4	Arizona	800
5	Illinois	673
6	Ohio	546
7	Tennessee	459
8	North Carolina	397
9	Indiana	391
10	Wisconsin	330

**SOURCE:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on TransBorder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of Feb.22, 2010.

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