



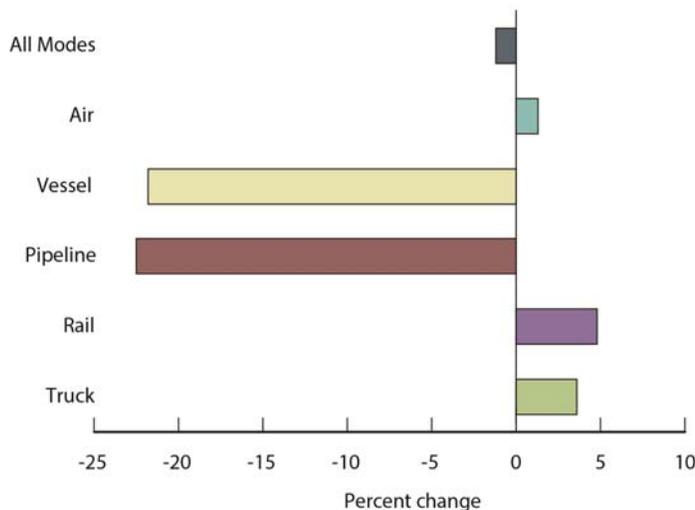
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Office of Public Affairs  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
<http://www.dot.gov/briefingroom>

## BTS Data

BTS 16-15  
Tuesday, March 31, 2015  
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### January 2015 North American Freight Numbers

Figure 1. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode:  
January 2014 - January 2015



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

U.S.-NAFTA freight totaled \$89.3 billion in January 2015 as three out of five transportation modes – rail, truck, and air – carried more U.S.-NAFTA freight than in January 2014, according to the TransBorder Freight Data released today by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) (Figure 1, Table 1). Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-NAFTA freight flows by all modes decreased by 1.2 percent. The value of NAFTA trade by pipeline and vessel declined in January due to the reduced unit price of mineral fuel shipments.

## Freight by Mode

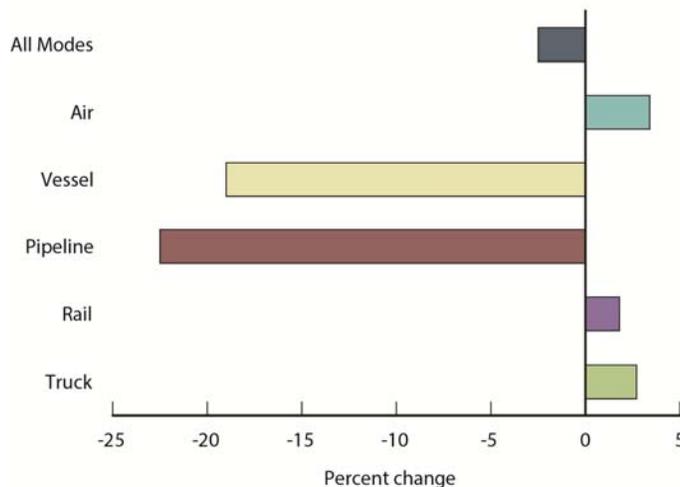
In January 2015 compared to January 2014, the value of commodities moving by rail grew by the largest percentage of any mode, 4.8 percent. Truck freight increased by 3.6 percent and air rose by 1.3 percent (Figure 1, Table 2). Vessel freight decreased by 21.8 percent and pipeline freight decreased by 22.5 percent mainly due to lower unit price of mineral fuel shipments.

Trucks carried 62.3 percent of U.S.-NAFTA freight and are the most heavily utilized mode for moving goods to and from both U.S.-NAFTA partners. Trucks accounted for \$27.4 billion of the \$47.5 billion of imports (57.7 percent) and \$28.2 billion of the \$41.8 billion of exports (67.6 percent) (Table 2).

Rail remained the second largest mode, moving 14.5 percent of all U.S.-NAFTA freight, followed by vessel, 7.8 percent; pipeline, 6.6 percent; and air, 3.9 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.4 percent of the total U.S.-NAFTA freight flows (Table 2).

## U.S.-Canada Freight

Figure 2. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode: January 2014 - January 2015



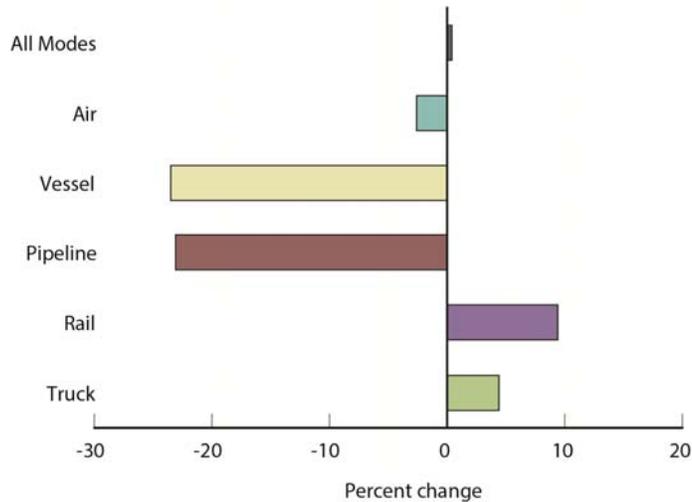
SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

U.S.-Canada freight totaled \$48.1 billion in January 2015 as three out of five transportation modes –air, truck, and rail– carried more U.S.-Canada freight than in January 2014. Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-Canada trade by air increased the most of any mode, growing by 3.4 percent. Truck freight increased by 2.7 percent and rail rose by 4.8 percent. Vessel freight decreased by 19.0 percent and pipeline decreased by 22.5 percent, mainly due to lower mineral fuel prices (Figure 2, Table 3).

Trucks carried 55.0 percent of the \$48.1 billion of freight to and from Canada, followed by rail, 15.7 percent; pipeline, 11.6 percent; vessel, 5.8 percent and air, 4.8 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 82.4 percent of the total U.S.-Canada freight flows (Table 3).

## U.S.-Mexico Freight

Figure 3. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode: January 2014 - January 2015



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

U.S.-Mexico freight totaled \$41.2 billion in January 2015 as two out of five transportation modes –rail and truck– carried more U.S.-Mexico freight than in January 2014. Year-over-year, the value of U.S.-Mexico rail freight rose 9.4 percent, the largest percentage increase of any mode. Freight carried by truck increased by 4.4 percent. Air freight decreased by 2.6 percent. Pipeline freight decreased by 23.1 percent and vessel freight decreased by 23.5 percent, mainly due to lower mineral fuel prices (Figure 3, Table 5).

Trucks carried 70.8 percent of the \$41.2 billion of freight to and from Mexico, followed by rail, 13.1 percent; vessel, 10.1 percent; air, 2.8 percent; and pipeline, 0.7 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 84.6 percent of the total U.S.-Mexico freight flows (Table 5).

### Commodities

In January 2015, the top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada was mineral fuels, of which \$5.6 billion, or 56.5 percent, moved by pipeline (Table 4). The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico in January 2015 was electrical machinery, of which \$7.0 billion, or 92.2 percent, moved by trucks (Table 6).

## Reporting Notes

Press releases and the BTS website define surface transportation modes as truck, rail and pipeline. See [North American TransBorder Freight Data](#) on the BTS website for additional data for surface modes since 1995 and all modes since 2004. The category of all modes of transportation cited in the following tables includes freight movements by truck, rail, vessel, pipeline, air, [other](#) and unknown modes of transport.

Data in this press release are not adjusted for inflation. Additional summary data adjusted for inflation and exchange rates can be found on the BTS website under [TransBorder Indexed Freight Flow Data](#). The BLS indexes used in the adjustments for inflation and exchange rates may be revised in each of the three months after original publication. For more information, see [TransBorder Press Releases](#) for previous press releases and summary tables. See [TransBorder Freight Data](#) for data from previous months, and more state, port, or commodity data. BTS has scheduled the release of February TransBorder numbers for April 23.

**Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows**  
(millions of current dollars)

| Month               | 2013             | 2014             | 2015          | Percent Change<br>2013-2014 | Percent Change<br>2014-2015 |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| January             | 90,766           | 90,326           | 89,258        | -0.5                        | -1.2                        |
| February            | 88,894           | 89,557           |               | 0.7                         |                             |
| March               | 95,757           | 101,478          |               | 6.0                         |                             |
| April               | 98,956           | 100,141          |               | 1.2                         |                             |
| May                 | 98,742           | 103,942          |               | 5.3                         |                             |
| June                | 93,502           | 102,978          |               | 10.1                        |                             |
| July                | 93,080           | 101,075          |               | 8.6                         |                             |
| August              | 96,426           | 100,624          |               | 4.4                         |                             |
| September           | 94,465           | 102,245          |               | 8.2                         |                             |
| October             | 103,140          | 108,243          |               | 4.9                         |                             |
| November            | 96,136           | 96,252           |               | 0.1                         |                             |
| December            | 90,906           | 95,811           |               | 5.4                         |                             |
| <b>Year-to-date</b> | <b>90,766</b>    | <b>90,326</b>    | <b>89,258</b> | <b>-0.5</b>                 | <b>-1.2</b>                 |
| <b>Annual</b>       | <b>1,140,770</b> | <b>1,192,671</b> |               | <b>4.5</b>                  |                             |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

**Table 2. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation**  
(millions of current dollars)

| <b>Mode</b>             |         | <b>January<br/>2014</b> | <b>January<br/>2015</b> | <b>Percent Change<br/>January<br/>2014-2015</b> |
|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| All<br>Modes            | Imports | 48,611                  | 47,467                  | -2.4  |
|                         | Exports | 41,715                  | 41,792                  | 0.2   |
|                         | Total   | 90,326                  | 89,258                  | -1.2  |
| All<br>Surface<br>Modes | Imports | 40,287                  | 40,690                  | 1.0   |
|                         | Exports | 33,369                  | 33,789                  | 1.3   |
|                         | Total   | 73,656                  | 74,479                  | 1.1   |
| Truck                   | Imports | 25,683                  | 27,405                  | 6.7   |
|                         | Exports | 28,022                  | 28,234                  | 0.8   |
|                         | Total   | 53,705                  | 55,638                  | 3.6   |
| Rail                    | Imports | 8,045                   | 8,380                   | 4.2   |
|                         | Exports | 4,321                   | 4,582                   | 6.0   |
|                         | Total   | 12,366                  | 12,962                  | 4.8   |
| Pipeline                | Imports | 6,559                   | 4,905                   | -25.2   |
|                         | Exports | 1,027                   | 974                     | -5.1  |
|                         | Total   | 7,585                   | 5,878                   | -22.5   |
| Vessel                  | Imports | 5,203                   | 3,725                   | -28.4   |
|                         | Exports | 3,683                   | 3,227                   | -12.4   |
|                         | Total   | 8,886                   | 6,953                   | -21.8   |
| Air                     | Imports | 1,398                   | 1,435                   | 2.6   |
|                         | Exports | 2,014                   | 2,022                   | 0.4   |
|                         | Total   | 3,413                   | 3,456                   | 1.3   |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

[http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR\\_DataFields.html](http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html)

**Table 3. Value of Monthly U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation**  
(millions of current dollars)

| <b>Mode</b>       |         | <b>January 2014</b> | <b>January 2015</b> | <b>Percent Change January 2014-2015</b> |
|-------------------|---------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| All Modes         | Imports | 26,707              | 25,405              | -4.9                                    |
|                   | Exports | 22,568              | 22,648              | 0.4                                     |
|                   | Total   | 49,276              | 48,053              | -2.5                                    |
| All Surface Modes | Imports | 22,600              | 21,634              | -4.3                                    |
|                   | Exports | 17,789              | 17,971              | 1.0                                     |
|                   | Total   | 40,388              | 39,605              | -1.9                                    |
| Truck             | Imports | 10,782              | 11,370              | 5.5                                     |
|                   | Exports | 14,962              | 15,078              | 0.8                                     |
|                   | Total   | 25,744              | 26,448              | 2.7                                     |
| Rail              | Imports | 5,277               | 5,372               | 1.8                                     |
|                   | Exports | 2,155               | 2,193               | 1.8                                     |
|                   | Total   | 7,433               | 7,566               | 1.8                                     |
| Pipeline          | Imports | 6,541               | 4,892               | -25.2                                   |
|                   | Exports | 671                 | 700                 | 4.3                                     |
|                   | Total   | 7,212               | 5,591               | -22.5                                   |
| Vessel            | Imports | 1,924               | 1,601               | -16.8                                   |
|                   | Exports | 1,543               | 1,209               | -21.7                                   |
|                   | Total   | 3,467               | 2,810               | -19.0                                   |
| Air               | Imports | 888                 | 941                 | 6.0                                     |
|                   | Exports | 1,322               | 1,344               | 1.7                                     |
|                   | Total   | 2,210               | 2,285               | 3.4                                     |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

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**Table 4. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Canada for Each Mode of Transportation, January 2015**

(millions of current dollars)

| <b>Mode</b> | <b>Commodities</b>             | <b>Exports</b> | <b>Imports</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| All Modes   | Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes  | 2,163          | 7,679          | 9,842        |
| Truck       | Vehicles Other than Railway    | 2,388          | 2,234          | 4,622        |
| Rail        | Vehicles Other than Railway    | 595            | 1,986          | 2,580        |
| Pipeline    | Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes  | 682            | 4,876          | 5,559        |
| Vessel      | Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes  | 1,069          | 1,333          | 2,402        |
| Air         | Aircraft; Spacecraft and Parts | 254            | 212            | 466          |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.

**Table 5. Value of Monthly U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation**  
(millions of current dollars)

| <b>Mode</b>       |         | <b>January 2014</b> | <b>January 2015</b> | <b>Percent Change January 2014-2015</b> |
|-------------------|---------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| All Modes         | Imports | 21,903              | 22,062              | 0.7                                     |
|                   | Exports | 19,147              | 19,144              | 0.0                                     |
|                   | Total   | 41,050              | 41,205              | 0.4                                     |
| All Surface Modes | Imports | 17,687              | 19,056              | 7.7                                     |
|                   | Exports | 15,581              | 15,818              | 1.5                                     |
|                   | Total   | 33,268              | 34,874              | 4.8                                     |
| Truck             | Imports | 14,902              | 16,034              | 7.6                                     |
|                   | Exports | 13,060              | 13,156              | 0.7                                     |
|                   | Total   | 27,962              | 29,190              | 4.4                                     |
| Rail              | Imports | 2,768               | 3,008               | 8.7                                     |
|                   | Exports | 2,165               | 2,388               | 10.3                                    |
|                   | Total   | 4,933               | 5,396               | 9.4                                     |
| Pipeline          | Imports | 18                  | 13                  | -27.3                                   |
|                   | Exports | 355                 | 274                 | -22.9                                   |
|                   | Total   | 373                 | 287                 | -23.1                                   |
| Vessel            | Imports | 3,279               | 2,124               | -35.2                                   |
|                   | Exports | 2,140               | 2,019               | -5.6                                    |
|                   | Total   | 5,419               | 4,143               | -23.5                                   |
| Air               | Imports | 510                 | 493                 | -3.2                                    |
|                   | Exports | 692                 | 678                 | -2.1                                    |
|                   | Total   | 1,202               | 1,171               | -2.6                                    |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

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**Table 6. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Mexico for Each Mode of Transportation, January 2015**

(millions of current dollars)

| <b>Mode</b> | <b>Commodities</b>                        | <b>Exports</b> | <b>Imports</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|-------------|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| All Modes   | Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts | 3,298          | 4,324          | 7,621        |
| Truck       | Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts | 2,977          | 4,046          | 7,023        |
| Rail        | Vehicles Other than Railway               | 501            | 2,144          | 2,645        |
| Pipeline    | Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes             | 274            | 13             | 287          |
| Vessel      | Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes             | 1,272          | 1,478          | 2,751        |
| Air         | Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts | 221            | 140            | 362          |

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, [TransBorder Freight Data](#)

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.