



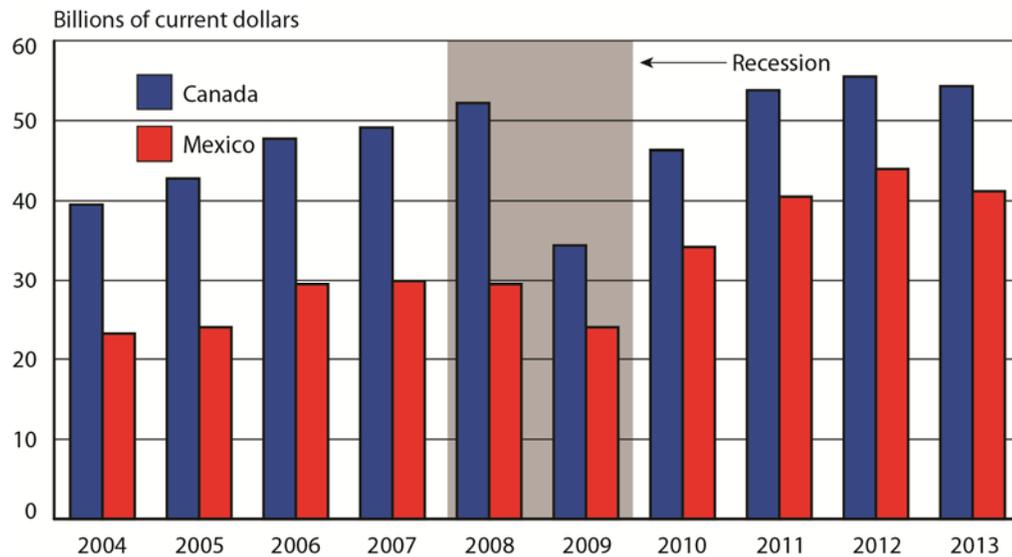
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BTS Data

BTS 25-13
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BTS Releases North American Freight Numbers for March Trucks Transported 60% of U.S.-NAFTA Trade in March 2013

**Figure 1. March U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by All Modes of Transportation
2004-2013
(March of each year)**



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

Trucks carried 60.0 percent of the \$95.6 billion of freight moved in March 2013 between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, Canada and Mexico, followed by rail at 16.5 percent, vessels at 8.1 percent, pipelines at 7.0 percent and air at 3.7 percent, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (Figure 3). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.5 percent of the total NAFTA freight flows.

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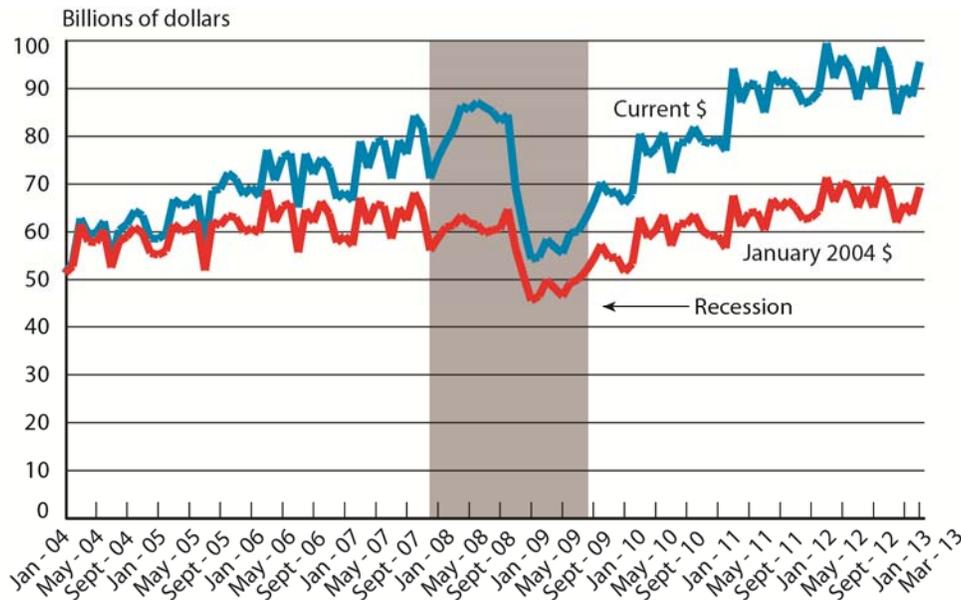
NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS ADD ONE

BTS, a part of the Department's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that in March, for freight flows with Canada, trucks carried 55.1 percent of the \$54.3 billion, followed by rail at 17.9 percent, pipelines at 11.6 percent, vessels at 4.6 percent and air at 4.4 percent (Table 4). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 84.6 percent of the total U.S.-Canada freight flows.

For freight flows with Mexico in March, trucks carried 66.5 percent of the \$41.2 billion, followed by rail at 14.8 percent, vessel at 12.7 percent, air at 2.7 percent and pipelines at 0.8 percent (Table 7). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 82.0 percent of the total U.S.-Mexico freight flows.

Beginning with January 2013, BTS monthly TransBorder press releases contain data for all modes of transportation. Press releases and the [BTS website](#) now define surface transportation modes as truck, rail and pipeline. Data on surface modes can be found in Figure 3 and in Tables 2, 3, 4 and 7. See [North American TransBorder Freight Data](#) on the BTS website for additional data for surface modes since 1995 and all modes since 2004.

**Figure 2. Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows
January 2004- March 2013**



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

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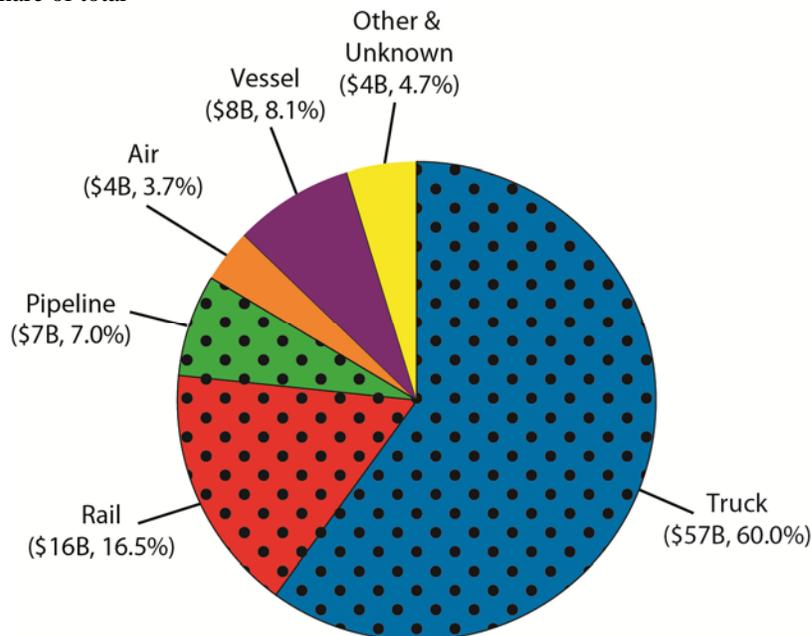
NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS ADD TWO

The value of goods moving between the U.S. and its NAFTA partners by all modes of transportation decreased by 4.0 percent from March 2012 and rose 63.7 percent from March 2009 (Table 3). Goods moving by truck, pipeline, vessel, and air each declined, while rail freight increased from the same month last year. Data in this press release are not adjusted for inflation, except for the monthly totals illustrated in Figure 2 for comparison.

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. Figure 3 below provides a breakdown by value and percentage of each mode of freight transportation used in moving goods between the U.S. and its NAFTA partners in March. The dotted slices represent surface modes, which accounted for 83.5 percent of the total. By value, truck is the most heavily utilized mode for moving goods to and from both U.S.-NAFTA partners, accounting for \$29.6 billion of exports and \$27.7 billion of imports.

Figure 3. U.S.-NAFTA Freight by Mode, March 2013

Current dollars, Share of total



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

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS ADD THREE

Freight flows on all modes of transportation between the U.S. and its NAFTA partners increased 8.0 percent in March 2013 from February 2013, measured in current dollars (Table 2). Freight moving across the border by truck increased by 9.7 percent, while freight moving by rail increased by 17.0 percent from one month prior. Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal factors such as the number of days in each month.

From March 2012 to March 2013, the value of freight carried by truck fell by 4.1 percent while the value of freight carried by rail increased 7.8 percent. For statistics by mode and individual NAFTA partner, see Table 4 for Canada and Table 7 for Mexico.

In March, Michigan led all states in goods transported to and from Canada, at \$6.5 billion (Table 5). Washington had the largest year-to-year percentage increase among the top 10 states, at 25.6 percent. Illinois had the largest year-to-year decrease at 16.0 percent. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada in March was vehicles (other than railway) moved by truck, valued at \$6.0 billion, of which \$3.6 billion was exported (Table 6).

Texas continued to lead all states in goods transported to and from Mexico by all modes of transportation at \$15.7 billion (Table 8). Louisiana had the largest year-to-year percentage increase among the top 10 states, at 25.0 percent. California had the largest year-to-year decrease at 11.7 percent. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico in March was electrical machinery moved by truck, valued at \$7.0 billion, of which \$4.4 billion was imported (Table 9).

Additional 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 individual state data. BTS has scheduled the release of April TransBorder numbers for June 26.

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD FOUR

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

Month	2011	2012	2013	Percent Change 2011-2012	Percent Change 2012-2013
January	79,608	87,490	90,512	9.9	3.5
February	77,015	89,385	88,449	16.1	-1.0
March	94,228	99,510	95,566	5.6	-4.0
April	87,097	92,199		5.9	
May	91,126	96,840		6.3	
June	90,663	94,200		3.9	
July	84,952	87,691		3.2	
August	93,450	94,593		1.2	
September	90,771	89,875		-1.0	
October	91,837	98,632		7.4	
November	90,401	94,877		5.0	
December	86,775	84,695		-2.4	
Year-to-date	250,852	276,386	274,527	10.2	-0.7
Annual	1,057,924	1,109,988		4.9	

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.

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD FIVE

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

Mode		March 2012	February 2013	March 2013	Percent Change February 2013- March 2013	Percent Change March 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	54,356	47,648	51,542	8.2	-5.2
	Exports	45,155	40,801	44,024	7.9	-2.5
	Total	99,510	88,449	95,566	8.0	-4.0
All Surface Modes	Imports	44,684	39,573	43,845	10.8	-1.9
	Exports	37,028	33,009	35,954	8.9	-2.9
	Total	81,712	72,582	79,799	9.9	-2.3
Truck	Imports	28,932	25,008	27,711	10.8	-4.2
	Exports	30,826	27,239	29,619	8.7	-3.9
	Total	59,758	52,247	57,330	9.7	-4.1
Rail	Imports	9,352	8,770	10,377	18.3	11.0
	Exports	5,313	4,751	5,438	14.5	2.4
	Total	14,665	13,521	15,815	17.0	7.8
Pipeline	Imports	6,400	5,795	5,757	-0.7	-10.0
	Exports	889	1,018	897	-11.9	0.9
	Total	7,289	6,813	6,654	-2.3	-8.7
Vessel	Imports	6,536	5,401	4,608	-14.7	-29.5
	Exports	3,206	3,199	3,142	-1.8	-2.0
	Total	9,742	8,600	7,750	-9.9	-20.4
Air	Imports	1,688	1,378	1,432	3.9	-15.2
	Exports	2,254	1,849	2,089	13.0	-7.3
	Total	3,942	3,227	3,521	9.1	-10.7

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

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD SIX

Table 3. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode

March 2013 Compared to March in...	Percent Change					
	Truck	Rail	Pipeline	Air	Vessel	All Modes
2012	-4.1	7.8	-8.7	-10.7	-20.4	-4.0
2011	1.4	20.0	-0.4	-15.0	-16.3	1.4
2010	17.1	31.8	14.3	-3.8	12.8	18.8
2009	52.3	114.9	108.4	2.2	99.8	63.7
2008	21.5	28.1	-9.2	-1.1	7.4	17.2
2007	16.8	26.7	45.1	8.9	31.1	21.1
2006	18.5	36.1	40.2	5.7	40.6	24.0
2005	35.6	53.8	70.2	19.4	75.8	43.1
2004	40.2	62.6	129.5	21.2	116.1	52.3

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

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

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD SEVEN

**Table 4. Value of Monthly U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)**

Mode		March 2012	February 2013	March 2013	Percent Change February 2013-March 2013	Percent Change March 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	29,262	25,733	28,299	10.0	-3.3
	Exports	26,200	23,141	26,044	12.5	-0.6
	Total	55,461	48,874	54,343	11.2	-2.0
All Surface Modes	Imports	24,845	22,215	24,258	9.2	-2.4
	Exports	22,134	19,195	21,716	13.1	-1.9
	Total	46,979	41,410	45,975	11.0	-2.1
Truck	Imports	12,271	10,779	11,983	11.2	-2.3
	Exports	18,620	15,807	17,944	13.5	-3.6
	Total	30,891	26,586	29,927	12.6	-3.1
Rail	Imports	6,199	5,663	6,538	15.5	5.5
	Exports	2,939	2,648	3,194	20.6	8.7
	Total	9,138	8,311	9,732	17.1	6.5
Pipeline	Imports	6,376	5,773	5,737	-0.6	-10.0
	Exports	574	739	578	-21.7	0.7
	Total	6,950	6,512	6,315	-3.0	-9.1
Vessel	Imports	2,350	1,758	1,913	8.8	-18.6
	Exports	406	809	614	-24.2	51.2
	Total	2,756	2,567	2,526	-1.6	-8.3
Air	Imports	949	850	901	6.0	-5.1
	Exports	1,633	1,277	1,514	18.6	-7.3
	Total	2,581	2,127	2,415	13.6	-6.5

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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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD EIGHT

Table 5. Top 10 State Freight Flows with Canada by All Modes of Transportation
Ranked by March 2013 Trade Value
(millions of current dollars)

State	March 2012		March 2013		Percent Change March 2012- 2013
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Michigan	6,427	1	6,482	1	0.8
Illinois	5,611	2	4,714	2	-16.0
California	3,909	3	3,829	3	-2.0
Texas	3,570	4	3,413	4	-4.4
Ohio	3,168	5	3,176	5	0.3
New York	2,735	6	2,707	6	-1.0
Washington	1,837	8	2,307	7	25.6
Pennsylvania	2,019	7	1,853	8	-8.2
Indiana	1,776	9	1,755	9	-1.2
Minnesota	1,553	11	1,493	10	-3.8

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.

Table 6. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Canada for Each Mode of Transportation, March 2013
(millions of current dollars)

Mode	Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Truck	Vehicles Other than Railway	3,632	2,383	6,015
Rail	Vehicles Other than Railway	1,045	2,587	3,632
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	578	5,735	6,314
Vessel	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	573	1,752	2,325
Air	Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	424	147	571

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

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD NINE

**Table 7. Value of Monthly U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)**

Mode		March 2012	February 2013	March 2013	Percent Change February 2013- March 2013	Percent Change March 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	25,094	21,915	23,243	6.1	-7.4
	Exports	18,955	17,660	17,980	1.8	-5.1
	Total	44,049	39,574	41,224	4.2	-6.4
All Surface Modes	Imports	19,839	17,358	19,587	12.8	-1.3
	Exports	14,894	13,814	14,238	3.1	-4.4
	Total	34,733	31,172	33,824	8.5	-2.6
Truck	Imports	16,662	14,229	15,728	10.5	-5.6
	Exports	12,206	11,432	11,675	2.1	-4.3
	Total	28,867	25,660	27,403	6.8	-5.1
Rail	Imports	3,154	3,107	3,838	23.5	21.7
	Exports	2,373	2,103	2,244	6.7	-5.4
	Total	5,527	5,210	6,083	16.7	10.1
Pipeline	Imports	24	22	20	-10.6	-16.2
	Exports	315	279	319	14.3	1.2
	Total	339	301	339	12.4	-0.1
Vessel	Imports	4,186	3,642	2,695	-26.0	-35.6
	Exports	2,800	2,390	2,528	5.8	-9.7
	Total	6,986	6,032	5,223	-13.4	-25.2
Air	Imports	739	529	531	0.5	-28.1
	Exports	621	572	575	0.5	-7.4
	Total	1,360	1,101	1,106	0.5	-18.7

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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NORTH AMERICAN FREIGHT FLOWS
ADD TEN

Table 8. Top 10 State Freight Flows with Mexico by All Modes of Transportation
Ranked by March 2013 Trade Value
(millions of current dollars)

State	March 2012		March 2013		Percent Change March 2012- 2013
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Texas	17,459	1	15,667	1	-10.3
California	5,656	2	4,992	2	-11.7
Michigan	4,243	3	4,439	3	4.6
Illinois	1,255	5	1,498	4	19.4
Arizona	1,300	4	1,336	5	2.8
Louisiana	859	7	1,074	6	25.0
Ohio	981	6	1,070	7	9.0
Tennessee	813	8	796	8	-2.1
North Carolina	643	11	626	9	-2.7
Georgia	602	12	615	10	2.2

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

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

Table 9. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Mexico for Each Mode of Transportation, March 2013
(millions of current dollars)

Mode	Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Truck	Electrical Machinery	2,540	4,423	6,963
Rail	Vehicles Other than Railway	579	2,964	3,543
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	319	20	338
Vessel	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	1,559	2,201	3,760
Air	Electrical Machinery	209	165	374

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

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

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