



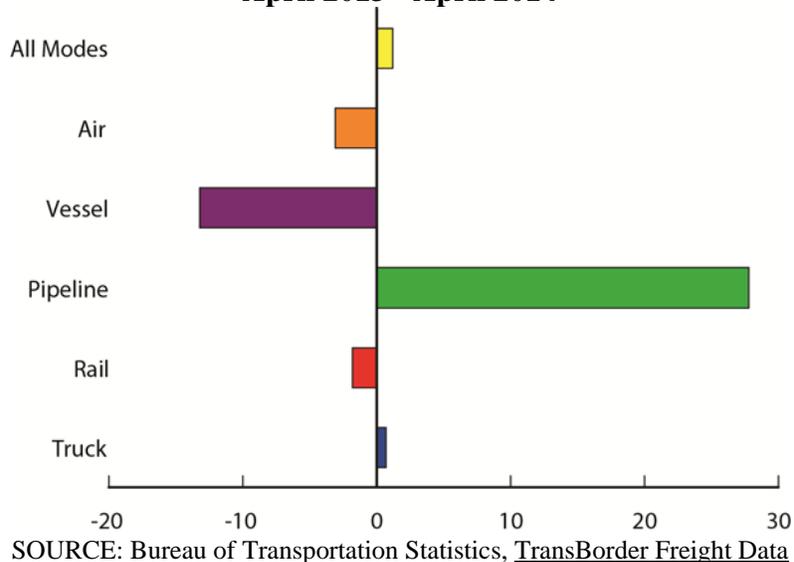
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
<http://www.dot.gov/briefingroom>

BTS Data

BTS 31-14
Thursday, June 26, 2014
Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

April 2014 North American Freight Numbers

**Figure 1. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode:
April 2013 - April 2014**



Two of five transportation modes – pipeline and trucks – carried more U.S.-NAFTA trade in April 2014 than in April 2013 as U.S.-NAFTA trade value rose to \$100.1 billion, according to the TransBorder freight data released today by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) (Figure 1, Table 2).

The increases came in two modes that combined carry more than two-thirds of total U.S.-NAFTA trade. Trucks, at 60.3 percent of the April trade, and pipeline, at 8.6 percent, carried a total of 69.0 percent of the trade.

A 4.2 percent increase in imports by truck offset a 2.5 percent decline in exports from year-to-year. Imports from Canada and Mexico both increased while exports by truck on each of the borders decreased. An increase in both imports and exports by pipeline across the Canadian border pushed pipeline's share of total trade to 8.6 percent from 6.8 percent in April 2013 (Table 2, 4, 6).

The April 2014 trade total was a 1.2 percent increase from April 2013 (Table 2). U.S.-NAFTA trade has increased from the same month of the previous year in nine of the last 10 months, interrupted by a 0.2 percent decrease in January. The January decline reflected the severe weather in the northern states and along the U.S.-Canada border.

Trade by Mode

In April, commodities moving by pipeline grew the most of any mode, 27.8 percent. Truck freight increased 0.7 percent, rail declined 1.8 percent followed by declines in air at 3.1 and vessel at 13.2 (Figure 1, Table 2). The increase in the value of freight carried by pipelines reflects both a rise in the volume and prices for oil and other petroleum products, the primary commodity transported by pipelines.

Trucks carry three-fifths of U.S.-NAFTA trade and are the most heavily utilized mode for moving goods to and from both U.S.-NAFTA partners. Trucks carried 60.3 percent of U.S.-NAFTA trade in April 2014, accounting for \$30.6 billion of exports and \$29.8 billion of imports.

Although the value of freight carried by rail decreased from year to year, rail remained the second largest mode moving 14.7 percent of all U.S.-NAFTA trade, followed by pipeline at 8.6 percent, vessel at 7.9 percent and air at 3.7 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.7 percent of the total U.S.-NAFTA freight flows (Table 2).

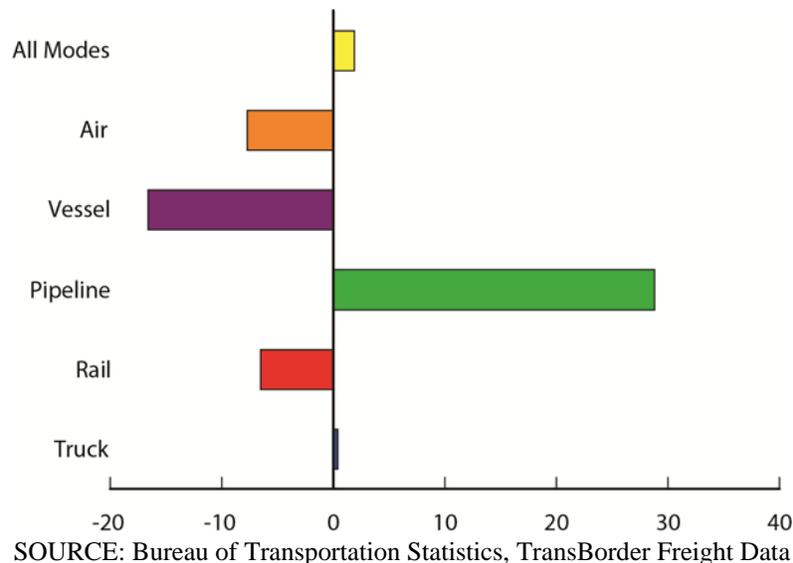
Trade with Canada

Year-to-year, the value of U.S.-Canada trade by pipeline increased the most of any mode, growing 28.8 percent. U.S.-Canada pipeline trade comprised 95.3 percent of total U.S.-NAFTA pipeline trade in April. Vessel freight exports to Canada increased 18.5 percent while imports declined 33.3 percent; a total vessel trade decline of 16.6 percent.

Trade using trucks rose by 0.4 percent while air freight declined 7.7 percent. U.S.-Canada trade by rail declined 6.5 percent, with an 11.3 percent fall in imports, due in part to a decrease in trade of vehicles and parts (Figure 2, Tables 2, 4).

Trucks carried 54.4 percent of the \$55.8 billion of freight to and from Canada, followed by rail at 15.8 percent, pipeline at 14.8 percent, vessel at 4.9 percent and air at 4.2 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 84.9 percent of the total U.S.-Canada freight flows (Table 4).

**Figure 2. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode:
April 2013 - April 2014**

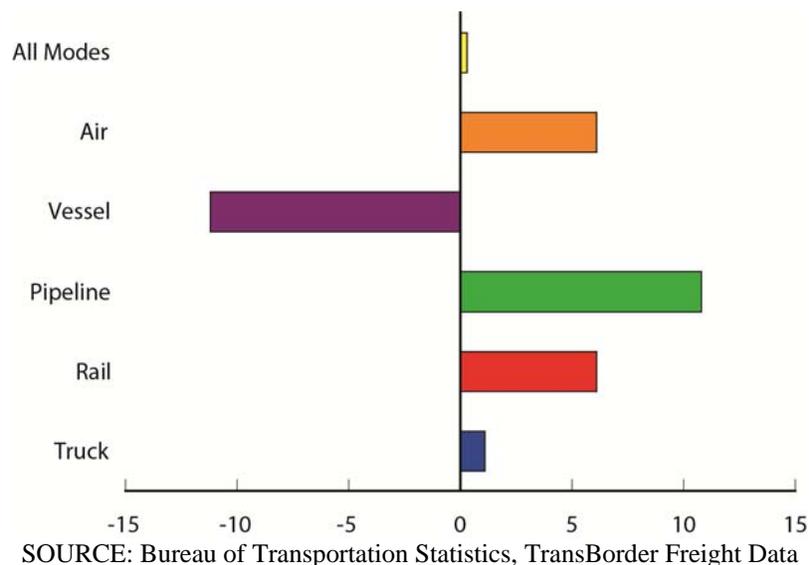


Trade with Mexico

Year-to-year, the value of trade by pipeline increased the most of any mode, growing 10.8 percent, but pipeline trade remained less than 1 percent of total U.S.-Mexico trade and the smallest of the modes based on value (Table 6). Trade with Mexico by truck rose 1.1 percent and rail freight rose 6.1 percent. Air freight also rose 6.1 percent while freight moved by vessel declined 11.2 percent (Figure 3).

Trucks carried 67.8 percent of the \$44.4 billion of freight to and from Mexico, followed by rail at 13.4 percent, vessel at 11.7 percent, air at 3.0 percent and pipeline at 0.9 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 82.1 percent of the total U.S.-Mexico freight flows (Table 6).

**Figure 3. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode:
April 2013 - April 2014**



Commodities

In April 2014, the top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada was mineral fuels, of which \$8.2 billion, or 64.2 percent, moved by pipeline (Table 5). The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico in April 2014 was electrical machinery, of which \$7.3 billion, or 91.7 percent, moved by trucks (Table 7).

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 May TransBorder numbers for July 24.

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

Month	2012	2013	2014	Percent Change 2012-2013	Percent Change 2013-2014
January	87,490	90,512	90,326	3.5	-0.2
February	89,385	88,449	89,557	-1.0	1.3
March	99,510	95,566	101,478	-4.0	6.2
April	92,199	98,984	100,141	7.4	1.2
May	96,840	98,577		1.8	
June	94,200	93,483		-0.8	
July	87,691	93,192		6.3	
August	94,593	96,526		2.0	
September	89,875	94,350		5.0	
October	98,632	103,089		4.5	
November	94,877	96,120		1.3	
December	84,695	90,083		6.4	
Year-to-date	368,584	373,511	381,502	1.3	2.1
Annual	1,109,988	1,138,931		2.6	

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)

Mode		April 2013	April 2014	Percent Change April 2013-2014
All Modes	Imports	52,925	53,694	1.5
	Exports	46,060	46,447	0.8
	Total	98,984	100,141	1.2
All Surface Modes	Imports	44,042	45,874	4.2
	Exports	37,669	37,898	0.6
	Total	81,711	83,771	2.5
Truck	Imports	28,569	29,796	4.3
	Exports	31,384	30,606	-2.5
	Total	59,953	60,402	0.7
Rail	Imports	9,572	9,174	-4.2
	Exports	5,410	5,540	2.4
	Total	14,983	14,713	-1.8
Pipeline	Imports	5,900	6,904	17.0
	Exports	875	1,753	100.4
	Total	6,775	8,656	27.8
Vessel	Imports	5,918	4,589	-22.5
	Exports	3,178	3,309	4.2
	Total	9,095	7,898	-13.2
Air	Imports	1,652	1,607	-2.7
	Exports	2,143	2,069	-3.4
	Total	3,795	3,676	-3.1

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

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

April 2014 Compared to April in...	Percent Change					
	Truck	Rail	Pipeline	Air	Vessel	All Modes
2013	0.7	-1.8	27.8	-3.1	-13.2	1.2
2012	9.4	5.4	27.2	7.9	-12.3	8.6
2011	18.5	15.6	33.4	-0.5	-18.0	15.0
2010	30.8	30.9	63.3	8.5	16.8	31.8
2009	68.1	99.8	159.3	25.7	92.4	76.4
2008	22.4	17.6	4.9	3.7	-7.1	16.0
2007	33.4	29.9	79.3	30.8	41.5	36.4
2006	40.6	37.2	96.1	26.8	27.5	41.4
2005	46.7	46.1	135.3	41.0	70.8	52.8
2004	58.1	58.4	197.1	32.3	123.9	68.3

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

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

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

Mode		April 2013	April 2014	Percent Change April 2013-2014
All Modes	Imports	28,591	29,213	2.2
	Exports	26,158	26,559	1.5
	Total	54,749	55,772	1.9
All Surface Modes	Imports	24,564	25,633	4.4
	Exports	21,434	21,719	1.3
	Total	45,998	47,352	2.9
Truck	Imports	12,303	13,082	6.3
	Exports	17,895	17,239	-3.7
	Total	30,198	30,320	0.4
Rail	Imports	6,382	5,663	-11.3
	Exports	3,015	3,124	3.6
	Total	9,396	8,787	-6.5
Pipeline	Imports	5,879	6,889	17.2
	Exports	525	1,357	158.5
	Total	6,404	8,246	28.8
Vessel	Imports	2,209	1,473	-33.3
	Exports	1,052	1,246	18.5
	Total	3,261	2,720	-16.6
Air	Imports	971	940	-3.2
	Exports	1,564	1,399	-10.5
	Total	2,535	2,339	-7.7

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

Table 5. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Canada for Each Mode of Transportation, April 2014

(millions of current dollars)

Mode	Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
All Modes	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	3,128	9,671	12,799
Truck	Vehicles Other than Railway	3,207	2,738	5,946
Rail	Vehicles Other than Railway	963	1,881	2,844
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	1,347	6,864	8,211
Vessel	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	1,093	1,232	2,325
Air	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	320	151	472

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

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

Table 6. Value of Monthly U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)

Mode		April 2013	April 2014	Percent Change April 2013-2014
All Modes	Imports	24,334	24,481	0.6
	Exports	19,901	19,888	-0.1
	Total	44,235	44,370	0.3
All Surface Modes	Imports	19,478	20,240	3.9
	Exports	16,235	16,179	-0.3
	Total	35,712	36,419	2.0
Truck	Imports	16,266	16,715	2.8
	Exports	13,489	13,367	-0.9
	Total	29,756	30,082	1.1
Rail	Imports	3,191	3,511	10.0
	Exports	2,395	2,416	0.9
	Total	5,586	5,927	6.1
Pipeline	Imports	21	15	-29.6
	Exports	350	396	13.2
	Total	371	411	10.8
Vessel	Imports	3,708	3,115	-16.0
	Exports	2,126	2,063	-3.0
	Total	5,834	5,178	-11.2
Air	Imports	681	667	-2.0
	Exports	579	670	15.7
	Total	1,260	1,337	6.1

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

Table 7. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Mexico for Each Mode of Transportation, April 2014

(millions of current dollars)

Mode	Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
All Modes	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	3,163	4,766	7,929
Truck	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	2,844	4,424	7,267
Rail	Vehicles Other than Railway	502	2,564	3,067
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	396	15	410
Vessel	Mineral Fuels; Oils and Waxes	1,123	2,365	3,488
Air	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	238	175	413

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

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