



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 14-13
Wednesday, March 27, 2013
Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

North American Trade Numbers by Mode of Transportation for January

Trucks carried 59.3 percent of the \$90.5 billion in trade in January 2013 between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, Canada and Mexico, followed by rail at 14.3 percent, vessels at 9.8 percent pipelines at 8.1 percent and air at 3.8 percent, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (Table 2). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 81.7 percent of the total NAFTA trade.

BTS, a part of the Department's Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that in January 2013, for trade between the United States and Canada, trucks carried 53.1 percent of the \$51.0 billion in trade, followed by rail at 16.2 percent, pipelines at 13.9 percent and vessels at 6.1 percent and air at 4.4 percent (Figure 3A and Table 4). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 83.1 percent of the total U.S.-Canada trade.

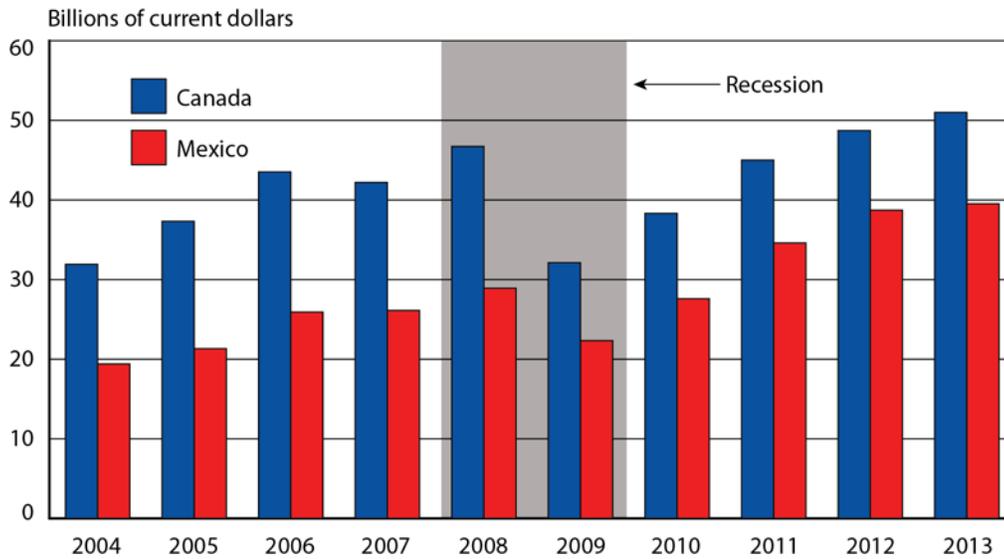
In U.S. trade with Mexico in January 2013, trucks carried 67.4 percent of the \$39.5 billion in trade, followed by vessels at 14.5 percent, rail at 11.8 percent, air at 3.1 percent and pipelines at 0.7 percent (Figure 3B and Table 7). The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 79.9 percent of the total U.S.-Mexico trade.

BTS monthly TransBorder press releases, beginning with January 2013 data, now contain data for air and vessel. Previous press releases defined surface modes as: truck, rail, pipeline, and other and unknown modes. Beginning with this press release, "other and unknown" modes are not being grouped with surface transportation. Data on surface modes can be found in Figure 3 and in Tables 2, 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.

-more-

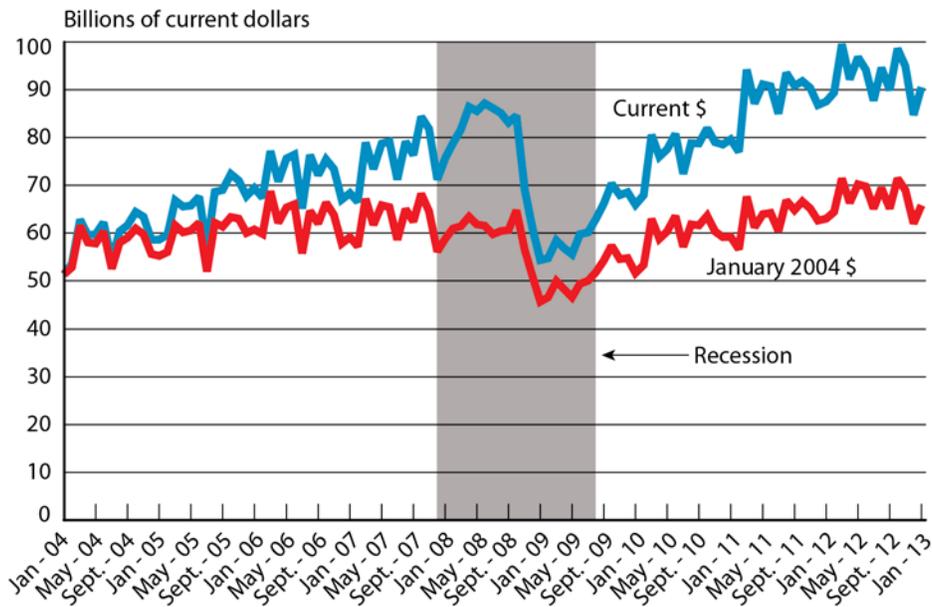
NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD ONE

Figure 1: U.S. Trade with NAFTA Partners by All Modes of Transportation, January 2004 - January 2013



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

Figure 2: Trade Between the U.S. and NAFTA Partners, January 2004- January 2013



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

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE ADD TWO

The value of U.S. trade with its NAFTA partners by all modes of transportation in January rose 66.6 percent from January 2009, during the last recession (*Table 3*). Data in this press release are not adjusted for inflation, except for the monthly totals illustrated in *Figure 2* for comparison.

From January 2004, the first month that TransBorder freight data included air and vessel modes, the value of U.S. trade by all modes of transportation with its NAFTA partners increased by 76.5 percent to January 2013. Imports in January 2013 were up 66.5 percent since January 2004, while exports were up 90.3 percent (*Figure 2* and *Table 3*).

All modes of transportation include freight movements by truck, rail, vessel, pipeline, air, other and unknown modes of transport. Figures 3a and 3b below provide a breakdown by value and percentage of each mode of freight transportation used in trade with Canada and Mexico for January. The shaded slices represent surface modes, which accounted for 83.2 percent of total trade with Canada and 79.9 percent of total trade with Mexico. By value, truck is the most heavily utilized mode for trade with both U.S.-NAFTA partners, accounting for \$25.7 billion of imports and \$28.0 billion of exports.

Figure 3a. Canada Freight by Mode, January 2013

Current dollars

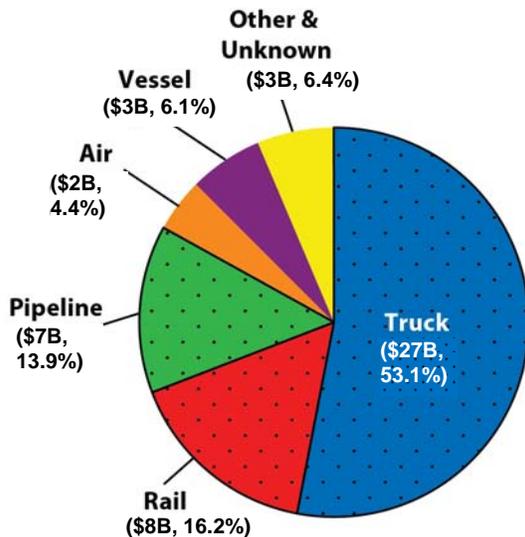
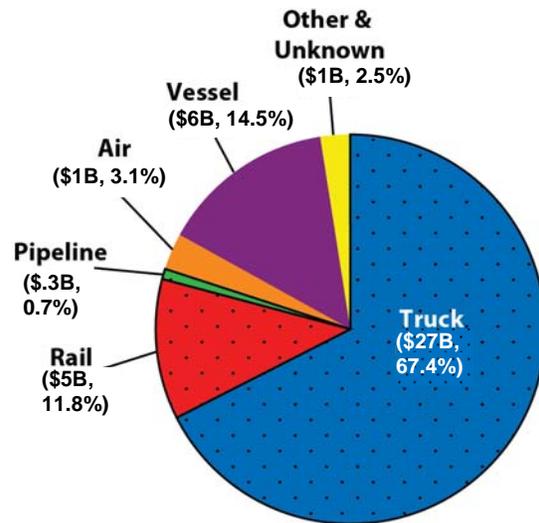


Figure 3b. Mexico Freight by Mode, January 2013

Current dollars



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

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE ADD THREE

The value of U.S. trade by all modes of transportation with its NAFTA partners increased 6.9 percent in January 2013 from December 2012 (Table 2). Freight flows moving across the border by truck increased by 11.8 percent, while freight moving by rail decreased by 5.8 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 January 2012 to January 2013, the value of freight carried by truck rose by 3.0 percent while the value of freight carried by rail increased 4.8 percent. For trade statistics by mode and individual NAFTA partner, see Table 4 for Canada and Table 7 for Mexico.

In January, Michigan led all states in trade with Canada, at \$5.7 billion (Table 5). In addition, New York had the largest year-to-year percentage increase among the top 10 states, at 12.0 percent. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by pipeline in January was mineral fuels, valued at \$7.1 billion (Table 6).

Texas continued to lead all states in trade with Mexico by all modes of transportation at \$15.9 billion (Table 8). In addition, Ohio had the largest year-to-year percentage increase among the top 10 states, at 19.1 percent. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico by truck in January was electrical machinery with \$6.9 billion in trade (Table 9).

Additional data adjusted for inflation and exchange rates can be found at 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 example, index values released in January 2012 were subject to revision in February, March and April of that year.

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 February 2013 TransBorder numbers for May 1.

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD FOUR

**Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Trade with NAFTA Partners
(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		16.1	
March	94,228	99,510		5.6	
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	79,608	87,490	90,512	9.9	3.5
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.

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD FIVE

**Table 2. U.S. Trade with NAFTA Partners by All Modes of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)**

Mode		January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percent Change December 2012 - January 2013	Percent Change January 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	48,266	46,103	49,513	7.4	2.6
	Exports	39,224	38,591	40,999	6.2	4.5
	Total	87,490	84,695	90,512	6.9	3.5
All Surface Modes	Imports	39,754	37,346	40,548	8.6	2.0
	Exports	32,138	30,100	33,417	11.0	4.0
	Total	71,892	67,446	73,965	9.7	2.9
Truck	Imports	25,280	23,239	25,684	10.5	1.6
	Exports	26,866	24,796	28,014	13.0	4.3
	Total	52,146	48,035	53,698	11.8	3.0
Rail	Imports	7,754	9,006	8,386	-6.9	8.2
	Exports	4,562	4,697	4,518	-3.8	-1.0
	Total	12,316	13,703	12,904	-5.8	4.8
Pipeline	Imports	6,720	5,101	6,478	27.0	-3.6
	Exports	710	607	885	45.9	24.8
	Total	7,430	5,708	7,363	29.0	-0.9
Vessel	Imports	5,930	5,628	5,809	3.2	-2.0
	Exports	2,624	3,492	3,020	-13.5	15.1
	Total	8,554	9,120	8,829	-3.2	3.2
Air	Imports	1,383	1,591	1,497	-5.9	8.2
	Exports	2,019	2,097	1,955	-6.7	-3.2
	Total	3,402	3,688	3,452	-6.4	1.5

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 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, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD SIX

**Table 3. January 2013 Trade with NAFTA Partners
Compared with January of Prior Years**

Compared to January in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Trade
2012	2.6	4.5	3.5
2011	12.3	15.4	13.7
2010	33.1	43.0	37.4
2009	66.4	66.8	66.6
2008	14.4	27.0	19.8
2007	24.2	44.2	32.5
2006	19.4	47.0	30.5
2005	46.4	65.5	54.5
2004	66.5	90.3	76.5

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

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD SEVEN

**Table 4. U.S. Trade with Canada by All Modes of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)**

Mode		January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percent Change December 2012 - January 2013	Percent Change January 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	26,773	25,798	27,963	8.4	4.4
	Exports	21,969	22,191	23,049	3.9	4.9
	Total	48,742	47,989	51,013	6.3	4.7
All Surface Modes	Imports	23,265	21,115	23,570	11.6	1.3
	Exports	18,183	17,810	18,822	5.7	3.5
	Total	41,448	38,925	42,392	8.9	2.3
Truck	Imports	10,985	10,130	11,294	11.5	2.8
	Exports	15,435	14,803	15,774	6.6	2.2
	Total	26,420	24,933	27,068	8.6	2.5
Rail	Imports	5,580	5,903	5,816	-1.5	4.2
	Exports	2,303	2,664	2,431	-8.7	5.6
	Total	7,883	8,567	8,247	-3.7	4.6
Pipeline	Imports	6,700	5,082	6,460	27.1	-3.6
	Exports	445	343	617	80.1	38.6
	Total	7,145	5,425	7,077	30.5	-1.0
Vessel	Imports	1,958	2,472	2,209	-10.6	12.8
	Exports	478	937	891	-4.9	86.3
	Total	2,436	3,409	3,100	-9.1	27.3
Air	Imports	736	950	893	-6.0	21.3
	Exports	1,434	1,504	1,353	-10.0	-5.7
	Total	2,170	2,454	2,246	-8.5	3.5

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

NOTES: 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, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD EIGHT

Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada by All Modes of Transportation
Ranked by January 2013 Trade Value
(millions of current dollars)

State	January 2012		January 2013		Percent Change January 2012- 2013
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Michigan	5,786	1	5,676	1	-1.9
Illinois	5,099	2	5,059	2	-0.8
Texas	3,119	4	3,222	3	3.3
Ohio	2,904	5	3,221	4	10.9
California	3,208	3	3,026	5	-5.7
New York	2,603	6	2,915	6	12.0
Washington	1,876	8	1,979	7	5.5
Pennsylvania	1,987	7	1,938	8	-2.5
Indiana	1,439	11	1,609	9	11.8
Minnesota	1,576	9	1,512	10	-4.1

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.

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

Mode	Commodity	Exports	Imports	Total
Truck	Computer Related Machinery and Parts	2,996	1,396	4,392
Rail	Vehicles and Vehicle Parts, Other than Railway	582	2,286	2,848
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels	617	6,439	7,056
Vessel	Mineral Fuels	701	2,021	2,722
Air	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	305	131	436

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

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

-more-

NORTH AMERICAN TRADE BY TRANSPORTATION MODE
ADD NINE

Table 7. U.S. Trade with Mexico by All Modes of Transportation
(millions of current dollars)

Mode		January 2012	December 2012	January 2013	Percent Change December 2012 - January 2013	Percent Change January 2012 - 2013
All Modes	Imports	21,494	20,305	21,550	6.1	0.3
	Exports	17,255	16,401	17,949	9.4	4.0
	Total	38,748	36,705	39,499	7.6	1.9
All Surface Modes	Imports	16,488	16,231	16,977	4.6	3.0
	Exports	13,954	12,290	14,596	18.8	4.6
	Total	30,442	28,521	31,573	10.7	3.7
Truck	Imports	14,295	13,110	14,389	9.8	0.7
	Exports	11,431	9,993	12,241	22.5	7.1
	Total	25,726	23,103	26,630	15.3	3.5
Rail	Imports	2,173	3,102	2,570	-17.2	18.2
	Exports	2,259	2,033	2,087	2.6	-7.6
	Total	4,432	5,135	4,657	-9.3	5.1
Pipeline	Imports	20	19	18	-5.1	-11.9
	Exports	264	264	268	1.5	1.4
	Total	284	283	286	1.1	0.7
Vessel	Imports	3,972	3,157	3,600	14.0	-9.4
	Exports	2,145	2,555	2,129	-16.7	-0.7
	Total	6,117	5,712	5,729	0.3	-6.3
Air	Imports	647	641	604	-5.8	-6.7
	Exports	585	593	602	1.6	3.0
	Total	1,232	1,234	1,206	-2.3	-2.1

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

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD TEN

Table 8. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico by All Modes of Transportation
Ranked by January 2013 Trade Value
(millions of current dollars)

State	January 2012		January 2013		Percent Change January 2012- 2013
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Texas	15,604	1	15,887	1	1.8
California	4,975	2	4,748	2	-4.6
Michigan	3,147	3	3,540	3	12.5
Illinois	1,219	4	1,335	4	9.5
Arizona	1,141	5	1,216	5	6.5
Ohio	851	7	1,013	6	19.1
Louisiana	1,050	6	859	7	-18.2
Tennessee	726	8	790	8	8.8
Georgia	513	13	576	9	12.2
Indiana	572	10	572	10	-0.02

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

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

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

Mode	Commodity	Exports	Imports	Total
Truck	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	2,863	4,056	6,920
Rail	Vehicles and Vehicle Parts, Other than Railway	444	1,926	2,370
Pipeline	Mineral Fuels	268	18	286
Vessel	Mineral Fuels	1,240	3,248	4,489
Air	Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	208	163	371

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

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

--End--