



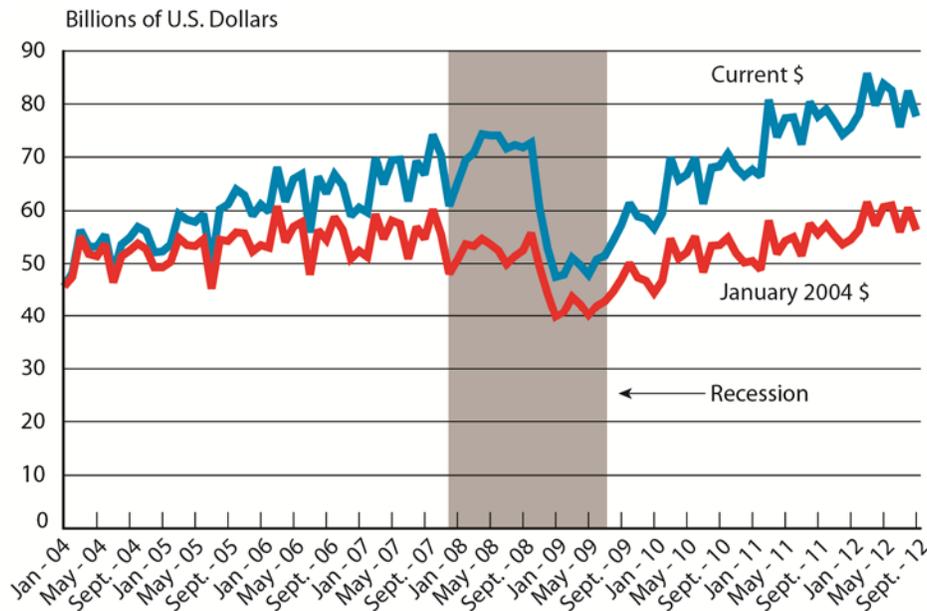
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BTS Data

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September 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Fell 0.1 Percent From September 2011

Figure 1: Trade Among the U.S. and NAFTA Countries, January 2004-September 2012
Unadjusted and Adjusted for Inflation and Exchange Rate Fluctuations



SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>
U.S. export data adjusted based on Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), [U.S. Exports by End Use Category for All Commodities](#). U.S. imports adjusted based on BLS [U.S. Import Price Indexes for Canada and Mexico](#).
January 2004 = 100. See Technical Note in press release text.

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, Canada and Mexico, was 0.1 percent lower in September 2012 than in September 2011, totaling \$77.7 billion, unadjusted for inflation (*Table 1 and Figure 1*), according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation. This is the first year over year decrease since November 2009. Adjusted for inflation and exchange rates, the September 2012 total was \$56.3 billion in 2004 dollars, up 1.4 percent from September 2011.

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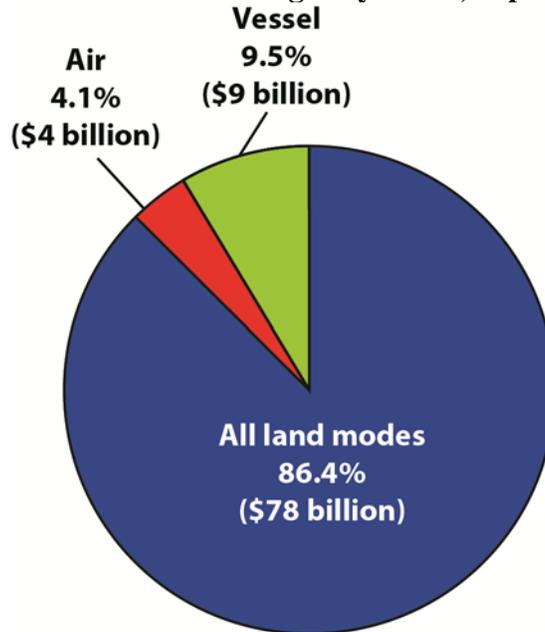
NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD ONE

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the September 2012 value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 35.6 percent from September 2009, shortly after the end of the last recession (*Table 3*). Data in the press release are not adjusted for inflation, except for monthly totals in Figure 1.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in September increased by 69.6 percent compared to September 2002, a period of 10 years. Imports in September were up 57.4 percent since September 2002, while exports were up 85.9 percent (*Figure 2* and *Table 3*). See [Transborder Press Releases](#) for historical data.

Surface transportation includes freight movements by truck, rail, pipeline, mail, [other](#) modes of transport, and goods moving into Foreign Trade Zones. In September, 86.4 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved via land, 9.5 percent moved by vessel, and 4.1 percent moved by air (*Figure 3*).

Figure 2: North American Freight by Mode, September 2012



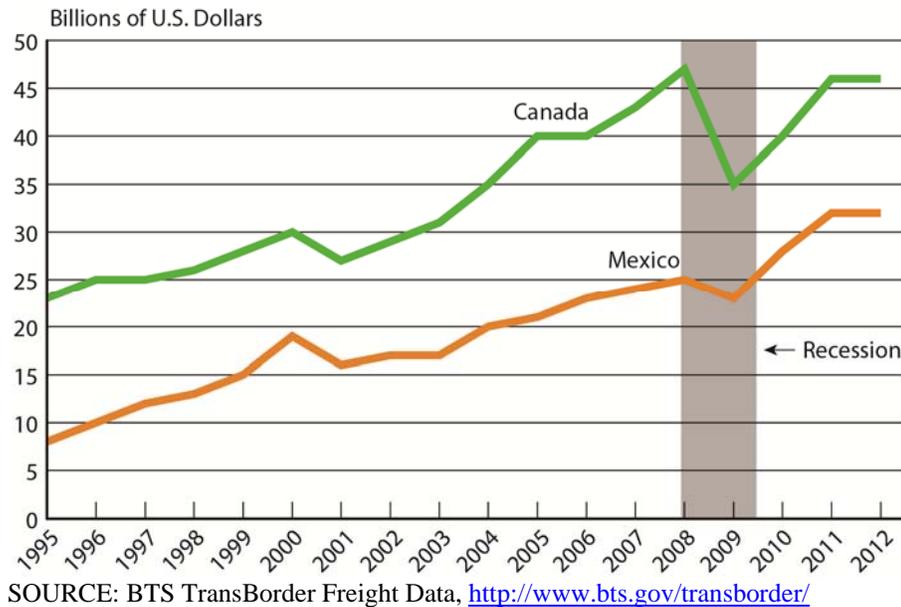
SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico decreased 5.8 percent in September 2012 from August 2012 (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations, the number of days in each month, and other factors.

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NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD TWO

Figure 3: U.S. Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico, Month of September 1995-2012
Unadjusted for Inflation and Exchange Rate Fluctuations



U.S.-Mexico September 2012 trade reached \$32.0 billion, a 1.2 percent increase from September 2011, while U.S.-Canada trade was \$45.7 billion, a 0.9 percent decrease due to a decrease in imports from Canada (*Figure 3*). For trade statistics by mode, see Table 4 for Canada and Table 6 for Mexico. For the 12-month period ending in September 2012, U.S. trade by surface transportation with Mexico has increased, while U.S. trade with Canada decreased.

In September, Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada, at \$6.1 billion, a 2.9 percent increase from September 2011 (*Table 5*). Of the top 10 states by value in trade with Canada, six of them had a year-to-year decrease in trade, led by Pennsylvania with a 17.2 percent decrease, primarily due to declines of more than 25 percent in trade in iron and steel, paper, pharmaceutical products, and oil and gas.

The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by surface modes of transportation in September was vehicles, valued at \$8.9 billion (*Table 8*).

Texas continued to lead all states in surface trade with Mexico at \$11.6 billion, a 4.5 percent increase from September 2011. Of the top 10 states by value in trade with Mexico, Michigan had the biggest percentage increase, 10.5 percent, and California had the largest percentage decrease, 13.1 percent (*Table 7*). The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico by surface modes of transportation in September was electrical machinery with \$7.1 billion in trade (*Table 9*).

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Technical Note: The BLS indexes used in the Figure 1 adjustment 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 September TransBorder numbers for Nov. 27.

Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico (millions of dollars)

| Month | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | Percent Change 2010-2011 | Percent Change 2011-2012 |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| January | 56,697 | 67,734 | 75,534 | 19.5 | 11.5 |
| February | 59,492 | 66,534 | 78,135 | 11.8 | 17.4 |
| March | 69,943 | 80,822 | 85,827 | 15.6 | 6.2 |
| April | 65,831 | 73,767 | 79,784 | 12.1 | 8.2 |
| May | 66,805 | 77,318 | 83,770 | 15.7 | 8.3 |
| June | 69,859 | 77,521 | 82,601 | 11.0 | 6.6 |
| July | 61,260 | 72,363 | 75,694 | 18.1 | 4.6 |
| August | 67,964 | 80,406 | 82,480 | 18.3 | 2.6 |
| September | 68,324 | 77,725 | 77,680 | 13.8 | -0.1 |
| October | 70,565 | 79,040 | | 12.0 | |
| November | 68,060 | 76,672 | | 12.7 | |
| December | 66,530 | 74,230 | | 11.6 | |
| Year-to-date | 586,175 | 674,190 | 721,505 | 15.0 | 7.0 |
| Annual | 791,329 | 904,133 | | 14.3 | |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FOUR

Table 2. U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

| Mode | | September 2011 | August 2012 | September 2012 | Percent Change | Percent Change |
|-------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | August 2012 - September 2012 | September 2011 - 2012 |
| All Surface Modes | Imports | 41,914 | 43,673 | 41,238 | -5.6 | -1.6 |
| | Exports | 35,811 | 38,808 | 36,442 | -6.1 | 1.8 |
| | Total | 77,725 | 82,480 | 77,680 | -5.8 | -0.1 |
| Truck | Imports | 26,250 | 27,464 | 25,523 | -7.1 | -2.8 |
| | Exports | 27,824 | 29,905 | 27,647 | -7.5 | -0.6 |
| Rail | Imports | 8,597 | 9,245 | 8,979 | -2.9 | 4.4 |
| | Exports | 4,688 | 5,401 | 5,052 | -6.5 | 7.8 |
| Pipeline | Imports | 5,917 | 5,384 | 4,977 | -7.6 | -15.9 |
| | Exports | 767 | 632 | 988 | 56.2 | 28.9 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Table 3. September 2012 Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with September of Prior Years

| Compared to September in... | Percent Change | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------|---------------------|
| | Imports | Exports | Total Surface Trade |
| 2011 | -1.6 | 1.8 | -0.1 |
| 2010 | 12.8 | 14.8 | 13.7 |
| 2009 | 33.8 | 37.6 | 35.6 |
| 2008 | 2.3 | 15.7 | 8.2 |
| 2007 | 9.8 | 24.8 | 16.3 |
| 2006 | 13.8 | 34.7 | 22.7 |
| 2005 | 16.2 | 41.9 | 27.0 |
| 2004 | 31.1 | 55.4 | 41.5 |
| 2003 | 46.8 | 75.5 | 59.0 |
| 2002 | 57.4 | 85.9 | 69.6 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FIVE

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

| Mode | | September 2011 | August 2012 | September 2012 | Percent Change August 2012 - September 2012 | Percent Change September 2011 - 2012 |
|----------|---------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | All Surface Modes | Imports | 24,482 | 24,298 | 23,572 |
| | Exports | 21,637 | 22,695 | 22,120 | -2.5 | 2.2 |
| | Total | 46,119 | 46,993 | 45,692 | -2.8 | -0.9 |
| Truck | Imports | 11,965 | 11,753 | 11,294 | -3.9 | -5.6 |
| | Exports | 16,712 | 17,311 | 16,598 | -4.1 | -0.7 |
| Rail | Imports | 5,730 | 5,971 | 5,856 | -1.9 | 2.2 |
| | Exports | 2,553 | 3,061 | 2,804 | -8.4 | 9.8 |
| Pipeline | Imports | 5,884 | 5,366 | 4,964 | -7.5 | -15.6 |
| | Exports | 432 | 282 | 695 | 146.7 | 60.7 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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:

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Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada by All Surface Modes of Transportation

Ranked by September 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

| State | September 2011 | | September 2012 | | Percent Change September 2011-2012 |
|--------------|----------------|------|----------------|------|------------------------------------|
| | Value | Rank | Value | Rank | |
| Michigan | 5,958 | 1 | 6,128 | 1 | 2.9 |
| Illinois | 4,423 | 2 | 4,617 | 2 | 4.4 |
| California | 2,798 | 4 | 3,030 | 3 | 8.3 |
| Texas | 2,623 | 6 | 2,743 | 4 | 4.6 |
| Ohio | 2,892 | 3 | 2,728 | 5 | -5.7 |
| New York | 2,634 | 5 | 2,251 | 6 | -14.6 |
| Washington | 1,732 | 8 | 1,605 | 7 | -7.3 |
| Pennsylvania | 1,905 | 7 | 1,577 | 8 | -17.2 |
| Minnesota | 1,610 | 9 | 1,515 | 9 | -5.9 |
| Indiana | 1,477 | 10 | 1,460 | 10 | -1.1 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD SIX

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

| Mode | | | | | Percent Change August 2012 - September 2012 | Percent Change September 2011 - 2012 |
|-------------------|---------|----------------|-------------|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | September 2011 | August 2012 | September 2012 | | |
| All Surface Modes | Imports | 17,432 | 19,375 | 17,667 | -8.8 | 1.3 |
| | Exports | 14,174 | 16,113 | 14,322 | -11.1 | 1.0 |
| | Total | 31,606 | 35,487 | 31,989 | -9.9 | 1.2 |
| Truck | Imports | 14,284 | 15,711 | 14,229 | -9.4 | -0.4 |
| | Exports | 11,113 | 12,593 | 11,049 | -12.3 | -0.6 |
| Rail | Imports | 2,866 | 3,274 | 3,123 | -4.6 | 8.9 |
| | Exports | 2,134 | 2,340 | 2,248 | -3.9 | 5.3 |
| Pipeline | Imports | 33 | 18 | 13 | -25.6 | -59.2 |
| | Exports | 334 | 351 | 293 | -16.5 | -12.3 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico by All Surface Modes of Transportation

Ranked by September 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

| State | September 2011 | | September 2012 | | Percent Change September 2011-2012 |
|----------------|----------------|------|----------------|------|------------------------------------|
| | Value | Rank | Value | Rank | |
| Texas | 11,068 | 1 | 11,569 | 1 | 4.5 |
| California | 4,825 | 2 | 4,194 | 2 | -13.1 |
| Michigan | 3,636 | 3 | 4,017 | 3 | 10.5 |
| Illinois | 1,017 | 4 | 1,089 | 4 | 7.1 |
| Arizona | 834 | 6 | 867 | 5 | 4.0 |
| Ohio | 867 | 5 | 858 | 6 | -1.0 |
| Tennessee | 653 | 7 | 709 | 7 | 8.6 |
| Indiana | 607 | 8 | 560 | 8 | -7.7 |
| North Carolina | 518 | 10 | 559 | 9 | 7.9 |
| Georgia | 430 | 12 | 433 | 10 | 0.9 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD SEVEN

Table 8. Top Five Commodities Transported between the U.S. and Canada by All Surface Modes of Transportation, September 2012
(millions of dollars)

| Commodities | Exports | Imports | Total |
|---|---------|---------|-------|
| Vehicles Other than Railway | 3,996 | 4,918 | 8,914 |
| Oil and Gas | 1,257 | 6,268 | 7,524 |
| Computer-Related Machinery and Parts | 3,654 | 1,562 | 5,217 |
| Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts | 2,005 | 519 | 2,524 |
| Plastics | 1,045 | 830 | 1,875 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Table 9. Top Five Commodities Transported between the U.S. and Mexico by All Surface Modes of Transportation, September 2012
(millions of dollars)

| Commodities | Exports | Imports | Total |
|---|---------|---------|-------|
| Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts | 2,491 | 4,585 | 7,076 |
| Vehicles Other than Railway | 1,650 | 4,168 | 5,819 |
| Computer-Related Machinery and Parts | 2,656 | 3,031 | 5,687 |
| Plastics | 1,114 | 285 | 1,399 |
| Measuring and Testing Instruments | 379 | 795 | 1,174 |

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

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