



U.S Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov/affairs/briefing.htm

BTS Data

BTS 27-10

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

Contact: Dave Smallen

Tel: 202-366-5568

March 2010 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 37.0 Percent from March 2009 (State Rankings in Tables 5 and 7)

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico was 37.0 percent higher in March 2010 than in March 2009, reaching \$69.9 billion, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*). The 37.0 percent increase from March 2009 to March 2010 is the largest year-over-year rise on record but freight value in March 2010 still remained 1.2 percent less than the value in March 2008, two years earlier (*Table 2*).

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 17.6 percent in March 2010 from February 2010 (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

Surface transportation consists largely of freight movements by truck, rail and pipeline. In March, 86.9 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved on land.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in March was up 17.7 percent compared to March 2005, and up 33.6 percent compared to March 2000, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in March were up 31.8 percent compared to March 2000, while exports were up 35.8 percent.

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$42.1 billion in March, up 35.6 percent compared to March 2009 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 19.4 percent higher in March 2010 compared to March 2009, while the value of exports carried by truck was 30.4 percent higher during this period.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in March with \$ 5.8 billion (*Table 5*).

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

ADD ONE

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$27.8 billion in March, up 39.1 percent compared to March 2009 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 39.0 percent higher in March 2010 than March 2009 while the value of exports carried by truck was 31.6 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in March with \$9.6 billion, the largest amount of trade between Texas and Mexico on record, exceeding the previous high of \$9.0 billion in October 2008 (*Table 7*).

The TransBorder Freight Data are a unique subset of official U.S. foreign trade statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau. New data are tabulated monthly and historical data are not adjusted for inflation. March TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of May 12.

The news release and summary tables can be found at www.bts.gov. More information on TransBorder Freight Data and data from previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>. BTS will release April TransBorder numbers on June 29.

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

Month	2008	2009	2010	Percent Change 2008-2009	Percent Change 2009-2010
January	65,160	47,459	56,697	-27.2	19.5
February	69,406	47,938	59,492	-30.9	24.1
March	70,787	51,055	69,943	-27.9	37.0
April	74,317	49,729		-33.1	
May	74,128	47,881		-35.4	
June	74,139	50,753		-31.5	
July	71,628	51,545		-28.0	
August	72,254	54,254		-24.9	
September	71,801	57,294		-20.2	
October	72,683	61,400		-15.5	
November	60,661	58,922		-2.9	
December	52,910	58,465		10.5	
Year-to-date	205,353	146,453	186,132	-28.7	27.1
Annual	829,875	636,695		-23.3	

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

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

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD TWO

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

Mode		March 2009	February 2010	March 2010	Percent Change February - March 2010	Percent Change March 2009 - 2010
All Surface Modes	Imports	27,171	32,545	38,014	16.8	39.9
	Exports	23,884	26,947	31,929	18.5	33.7
	Total	51,055	59,492	69,943	17.6	37.0
Truck	Imports	18,707	19,865	24,177	21.7	29.2
	Exports	18,931	20,894	24,772	18.6	30.9
Rail	Imports	4,613	6,764	7,716	14.1	67.2
	Exports	2,746	3,583	4,283	19.5	56.0
Pipeline	Imports	2,907	4,979	5,219	4.8	79.5
	Exports	285	341	603	77.0	111.2

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may 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 refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page:

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

Table 3. March 2010 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with March of Prior Years

Compared to March in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2009	39.9	33.7	37.0
2008	-5.2	4.0	-1.2
2007	-4.8	6.9	0.3
2006	-1.1	7.2	2.5
2005	13.0	23.7	17.7
2004	18.7	31.7	24.3
2003	32.5	54.4	41.7
2002	45.1	64.5	53.4
2001	33.3	47.1	39.3
2000	31.8	35.8	33.6

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD THREE

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

Mode		March 2009	February 2010	March 2010	Percent Change February - March 2010	Percent Change March 2009 - 2010
All	Imports	15,942	19,226	22,007	14.5	38.0
Surface	Exports	15,106	17,047	20,098	17.9	33.0
Modes	Total	31,048	36,273	42,105	16.1	35.6
Truck	Imports	9,323	9,076	11,136	22.7	19.4
	Exports	11,715	13,004	15,273	17.5	30.4
Rail	Imports	3,020	4,563	5,073	11.2	68.0
	Exports	1,609	2,067	2,608	26.1	62.1
Pipeline	Imports	2,900	4,964	5,205	4.8	79.5
	Exports	247	280	475	69.8	92.7

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may 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 refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page:

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

Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada
by Surface Modes of Transportation
Ranked by March 2010 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	March 2010
1	Michigan	5,800
2	Illinois	3,860
3	Ohio	2,765
4	New York	2,548
5	California	2,548
6	Texas	2,275
7	Pennsylvania	1,660
8	Washington	1,601
9	Indiana	1,506
10	Tennessee	1,118

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

--more--

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FOUR

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

Mode		March 2009	February 2010	March 2010	Percent Change February - March 2010	Percent Change March 2009 - 2010
All	Imports	11,230	13,319	16,007	20.2	42.5
Surface	Exports	8,778	9,900	11,831	19.5	34.8
Modes	Total	20,007	23,219	27,838	19.9	39.1
Truck	Imports	9,383	10,789	13,042	20.9	39.0
	Exports	7,216	7,890	9,499	20.4	31.6
Rail	Imports	1,593	2,201	2,643	20.1	65.9
	Exports	1,137	1,515	1,675	10.5	47.4
Pipeline	Imports	7	14	14	-3.7	87.4
	Exports	39	61	127	109.9	228.5

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may 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 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 Surface Modes of Transportation
Ranked by March 2010 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	March 2010
1	Texas	9,633
2	California	4,287
3	Michigan	3,060
4	Arizona	1,027
5	Illinois	966
6	Ohio	728
7	Tennessee	545
8	Indiana	456
9	North Carolina	445
10	Wisconsin	425

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

-end-